



JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

NDIS participant experience in rural, regional and remote Australia

Public Hearing in Darwin - 16 April 2024

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (JSC NDIS) will travel to the Northern Territory to conduct a public hearing in Darwin on Tuesday 16 April 2024, as part of its inquiry into the NDIS participant experience in rural, regional and remote Australia.

As part of its role to oversight the NDIS and make recommendations to improve the scheme, the JSC NDIS is inquiring into the experience of NDIS participants in rural, regional and remote communities including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants, participants from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and participants from low socio-economic backgrounds.

The hearing in Darwin will be the committee's first public hearing for this important inquiry. It will enable the committee to hear directly from NDIS participants living in these communities about their experiences with the NDIS. During the full-day hearing, the committee will also hear evidence from the Northern Territory Government, community legal services, local health organisations, remote community organisations, and disability service providers.

The Chair of the JSC NDIS, Ms Libby Coker MP said:

We know that there are nearly 6,000 people in the Northern Territory benefiting from the NDIS. The NDIS was designed to give participants choice and control over supports and services regardless of where they live in Australia. For some in the Northern Territory, the NDIS has been life changing. For others, there remain significant geographical, language, cultural and other barriers to accessing and securing adequate services and supports. The committee looks forward to hearing about these challenges as well as local initiatives and solutions. These hearings will help the committee to form its recommendations with the aim to improve access and supports in rural and remote areas.

Further information on the inquiry and committee's work can be found on its [website](#).

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