



The Hon Bill Shorten MP

**Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme
Minister for Government Services**

Ref: MS24-000389

Ms Libby Coker MP
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Coker,

Please find enclosed a copy of the Australian Government Response to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) final report to the inquiry on the NDIS Workforce.

The Government thanks the Joint Standing Committee for conducting the inquiry. The Government also thanks individuals or organisations who contributed to the inquiry, providing greater depth to our understanding of the issues surrounding NDIS Workforce in Australia. In doing so, I note that similar matters were considered by the Independent Review of the NDIS (Review). The Government is considering the final report of the Review and will respond to it in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Shorten MP

15/05/2024

Enc. Australian Government Response to the Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS's final report on the inquiry into the NDIS Workforce



Australian Government

Australian Government Response to the
Inquiry into National Disability Insurance Scheme Workforce
Final Report of the Joint Standing Committee on the
National Disability Insurance Scheme

May 2024

Introduction

The Australian Government notes the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme's (NDIS; the Committee's) final report to the Inquiry into NDIS Workforce (the final report).

The final report makes 8 recommendations covering:

- increased workforce data collection,
- enhanced employment opportunities for people with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people,
- increased student placement opportunities,
- appropriately resourced training and upskilling initiatives, and
- governance and reporting on the NDIS National Workforce Plan: 2021-25 (the NDIS Workforce Plan).

The Government notes all eight recommendations made in the Committee's final report.

Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Workforce

Recommendations made by the Committee

1. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government facilitate the collection of data to support better understanding about new working models being employed in the National Disability Insurance Scheme, including online and platform-based services.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

2. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government ensure that workers in the National Disability Insurance Scheme and their representatives, as well as other stakeholders, are consulted in all regular pricing review processes and processes to review the Cost Model for Disability Support Workers.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

3. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government, through co-design with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations, develop and report on specific outcomes for initiatives in the *NDIS National Workforce Plan 2021-2025* to support the growth and development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander NDIS workforce.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

4. The Committee recommends the Australian Government implement a targeted strategy to improve employment opportunities for people with disability within the NDIS workforce specifically, that is co-designed by people with disability and peak bodies.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

5. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government address the funding and resource implications of any new training and upskilling initiatives, in relation to NDIS service providers and individual disability support workers within the sector.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

6. The Committee recommends the Australian Government develop and implement a robust strategy to increase and improve opportunities for student placements in the NDIS workforce. The strategy should include strong partnerships with NDIS service providers, universities, TAFEs and other training institutions, and be co-designed by people with disability and peak bodies.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

7. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government, in consultation with NDIS participants and their advocates, the disability and allied health sectors, and NDIS workers and their representatives, develop and publish clear and measurable outcomes for each of the initiatives in the *NDIS National Workforce Plan 2021-2025*.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.

8. The Committee recommends that the Australian Government develop and publish a comprehensive consultation strategy for the implementation of measures under the *NDIS National Workforce Plan 2021-2025*.

Noted

The Government notes this recommendation. However, given the passage of time since this report was tabled, a substantive Government response is no longer appropriate.