

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

Capability and Culture of the NDIA Inquiry

Public Hearings in Tasmania

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (JSC NDIS) will travel to Tasmania on Wednesday, 30 August 2023 to conduct two days of public hearings as part of its inquiry into the Capability and Culture of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The committee will hold a public hearing in Launceston on 30 August to hear about autism services, disability employment services and supported accommodation. The committee will also hear from the Office of the Public Guardian, the Public Trustee and the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. The Chair of the JSC NDIS, Ms Libby Coker MP said it was important for the committee to hear evidence on guardianship and trustee orders, which affect thousands of NDIS participants around the country. "NDIS participants are some of the most vulnerable Australians. When people with disability need help with decision making, the committee wants to make sure that their wishes are respected", Ms Coker said.

The committee will then travel to Burnie for a public hearing on Thursday 31 August, where it will hear about early childhood intervention services for children with disability and developmental delays, well as disability advocacy and education initiatives.

Tasmanian Senator Anne Urquhart, a member of the ten-member committee, welcomed the committee's visit to her home state. "The NDIS is now supporting over 13,000 Tasmanians with disability, including over 8,500 who are receiving support for the first time. Tasmania is also hosting the real time testing of the NDIA's new PACE system, which has been designed to be more user-friendly and make it easier for NDIA staff and partners to do their job", Senator Urquhart said.

The committee will hear evidence on issues raised in its <u>interim report</u>, including respite services for families and carers; support for primary and secondary disabilities; outreach programs for remote, underserved and hard-to-reach communities.

Further information on the inquiry and committee's work can be found on its website.

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