Terms of Reference

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) was established on 2 December 2013 when the Senate agreed to a resolution from the House of Representatives, passed on 21 November 2013. The committee is composed of six Members and six Senators.

The committee is tasked with:

- a. reviewing the implementation of the NDIS;
- b. reviewing the administration and expenditure of the NDIS;
- c. reviewing any matter in relation to the NDIS referred to the committee by a resolution of either House of the Parliament;

The committee's focus is therefore on the **implementation** and **administration** of the scheme. Unless otherwise stated, the committee will only accept submissions and correspondence that are directly and principally related to the implementation and administration of the NDIS.

The committee has **not** been established to inquire into the case for having the NDIS. These issues have already been addressed by the Community Affairs Legislation Committee as part of its inquiry into the NDIS Bill 2012.

The committee does not have the ability to examine, advise on, or advocate for individual cases. People with concerns about these matters should contact the National Disability Advocacy Program.

After 30 June each year, the committee has been asked to present an annual report to the Parliament on the activities of the committee during the year. The report should include reference to the National Disability Insurance Scheme Board quarterly and annual reports provided by the Standing Council on Disability Reform.

Table of Contents

Committee Membershipi	
Terms of Reference	V
Abbreviations	xi
Executive Summary	xiii
Recommendations	xvii
Chapter 1	1
Introduction	1
The first 12 months	1
The committee's report to the Parliament	2
The composition of the committee	3
The committee's activities	3
The committee's focus	4
Structure of this report	5
The context of this report	5
NDIS governance structure	8
Figure 1.1 NDIS governance structure	9
Who is the NDIS for?	10
Figure 1.2 The three tiers of the National Disability population estimates	
Conclusion	11
Chapter 2	13
The Barwon trial site	13
The public hearings	13
Progress of the Barwon trial site	13

Table 2.1: Key statistics of the Barwon trial site (after 9 months))14
Table 2.2: Transition arrangements in the Barwon trial site	15
Achievements of the Barwon site to date	15
Table 2.3—Participant feedback	18
Challenges in the Barwon trial site	20
Table 2.4: NDIA staff numbers and former employers	30
Committee View	43
Chapter 3	45
The Tasmanian trial site	45
The public hearings	45
Progress of the Tasmanian trial site	45
Table 3.1: Key statistics of the Tasmanian trial site (after 9 mon	ths)46
Table 3.2: Phasing arrangements in the Tasmanian site	47
Table 3.3—Participant feedback	48
Achievements of the Tasmanian trial site to date	49
Challenges for the Tasmanian trial site to date	55
Committee view	73
Chapter 4	75
The Hunter trial site	75
The public hearings	75
Progress of the Hunter trial site	75
Table 4.1: Key statistics of the Hunter trial site (after 9 months)	76
Table 4.2: Transition arrangements in the Hunter trial site	76
Achievements of the Hunter trial site	77
Table 4.3—Participant feedback	77
Challenges of the Hunter trial site	81
Table 4.4: NDIS plan management arrangement	89
Committee view	102

Chapter 5	103
The South Australian trial site	103
The public hearings	103
Progress of the South Australian trial site	103
Table 5.1: Key statistics of the South Australian site (after 9 months)	103
Table 5.2: Transition arrangements in the South Australian trial site	104
Achievements of the South Australian trial site to date	104
Table 5.3—Participant feedback	105
Table 5.4: NDIS plan management arrangement	108
Challenges for the South Australian trial site to date	108
Figure 5.1: South Australian annualised package costs	123
Committee view	129
Chapter 6	131
Challenges facing the Agency and the Scheme	131
The challenges facing the National Disability Insurance Agency	131
The challenges facing the National Disability Insurance Scheme	145
Committee conclusion	158
Appendix 1	161
Public Hearings	161
Witnesses at Geelong, 14 April 2014	161
Witnesses at Geelong, 15 April 2014	162
Witnesses at Hobart, 16 April 2014	162
Witnesses at Hobart, 17 April 2014	163
Witnesses at Newcastle, 5 May 2014	163
Witnesses at Newcastle, 6 May 2014	164
Witnesses at Brooklyn Park, Adelaide, 7 May 2014	165
Witnesses at Brooklyn Park, Adelaide, 8 May 2014	166
Witnesses at Canberra, 14 May 2014	166

Appendix 2	167
Correspondence and Tabled Documents	167
Correspondence Received	167
Tabled Documents	168
Appendix 3	169
Responses to Questions on Notice from National Disability Insura Agency	
Responses received on 16 June 2014	169
Responses received on 8 July 2014	222
Appendix 4	237
Responses to request for additional information from Nationa Insurance Scheme Actuary	_
Appendix 5	245
Answers to questions on notice provided by state governments agencies	
Ageing Disability and Home Care, NSW Department of Family and Services, 29 May 2014	•
Victorian Department of Human Services, 19 June 2014	260
Victorian Department of Human Services, 14 July 2014	265
Department of Health and Human Services, Tasmania, 23 June 2014	267
Insurance Council of Australia, 23 June 2014	276