



NDIS Quality
and Safeguards
Commission

Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS

COVID-19

Answer to Question on Notice

Reference: SQ20-000040

Question on Notice: Management and Operational Plan for COVID-19

Briefing: 17 April 2020

Hansard Page: N/A

Asked by: Senator Carol Brown

Question 1:

On how many occasions were NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission personnel briefed on the Management and Operational Plan for COVID-19 for People with Disability (the Plan)? Could dates and attendees of briefings be provided?

Answer:

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) is represented on the Advisory Group responsible for guiding the development and implementation of the Plan. The NDIS Commission's Registrar has attended all meetings of the Advisory Group to date, 3 April, 6 April, 14 April, 21 April and 29 April 2020. The NDIS Commission also participated in a Roundtable of key stakeholders convened by the Department of Health to consult on the plan on 7 April 2020.

Further, together with officials from the Department of Health, the Department of Social Services and the National Disability Insurance Agency, the NDIS Commission has been directly involved in the development of the Plan.

Question2:

What steps have been taken by the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission to implement the Plan? If timeframes for implementation have been set, can details be provided to the Committee?

Answer:

The Department of Health is the lead agency responsible for implementation of the Plan. The NDIS Commission is a member of the Advisory Group guiding implementation of the Plan, including prioritisation of activities under the Plan.

The NDIS Commission is providing regular updates and guidance to registered NDIS providers and workers, including through [Provider Alerts about COVID-19](#), which is consistent with the advice of the Chief Medical Officer and the Australian Health Sector Emergency Response Plan for Coronavirus and the [Management and Operational Plan for People with Disability](#).

The NDIS Commission is also providing information to NDIS participants in a range of accessible formats on what they can expect from the NDIS providers that support them during this period, and what to do if they have concerns about the support being provided to them. This advice links with advice to people with disability available through the Department of Social Services, the National Disability Insurance Agency Advice and the Department of Health.

There is now a dedicated section on the Department of Health website for people with disability on COVID-19 - [COVID-19 advice for people with disability](#).