

**Community Affairs Legislation Committee: Inquiry into National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. 1) Bill 2024 [Provisions]
Public Hearing**

Public Hearing – 22 May 2024

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Inquiry into National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. 1) Bill 2024 [Provisions]

Question reference number: IQ24-000032

Question asked by: Maria Kovacic

Type of Question: Written. **Hansard Page/s:**

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 05 June 2024

Question:

1. What are “foundation supports”? Can you please define it?

Answer:

The Independent Review into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (the Review) recommended that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS, Scheme) should be one part of a strong, connected and graduated system of supports for all people with disability.

The Review recommended this ecosystem be made up of inclusive and accessible mainstream services, Foundational Supports, and NDIS supports.

The Review proposed two streams of Foundational Supports:

- General Foundational Supports: Disability-specific supports that are available to benefit all people with disability, and where appropriate, their families and carers and people aged over 65. This includes information and advice and peer support.
- Targeted Foundational Supports: Early intervention and low intensity care supports that are primarily for specific groups of people with disability outside the NDIS who are in most need of additional support. Some NDIS participants may prefer targeted foundational supports from supports available as part of their individualised budget. This includes things like home and community care supports (such as shopping and property maintenance) for people with chronic-health related conditions and other disabilities, aids and equipment, early supports for children with development concerns and psychosocial support services.

On 6 December 2023 the National Cabinet agreed to jointly design and fund additional Foundational Supports, to be jointly commissioned by the Commonwealth and the states. The Review’s concept of Foundational Supports guides this joint work, which will also be shaped by further engagement with the disability community and other stakeholders.