**Tasmanian Disability Services Sector Election Asks**

* Number of Tasmanians with a disability: 140,100
* Active participants: 10,109
* Just 7 per cent are supported by the NDIS
* Number of active NDIS providers: 477
* 1.3 per cent of participants live remote or very remote
* 64.8 per cent of participants live in Hobart or Launceston (Note: Cities with more than 50,000 people in Tasmania)
* 35 per cent of participants are children aged 0-14 years
* $403.7m committed this year
* $261.6m paid
* 35 per cent underutilisation ($140.1m)

# **Disability Sector Asks**

## **Ensure that all Tasmanians with disability receive the services and support they need to live an ordinary life.**

As Australia’s most regionalised population, investigation needs to be undertaken to determine whether the distribution of NDIS plans accurately reflects the population of people with disability or reflects significant NDIS underutilisation in remote or very remote areas. Currently only 1.3 per cent of NDIS participants in Tasmania live in remote or very remote areas.

### **Potential NDIS participants**

Ensure those who are eligible for the NDIS receive NDIS funded services: Only 7 per cent of people with disability in Tasmania are supported by the NDIS. Invest in place-based strategies to assist communities to navigate the NDIS, increase participation and build the capacity of thin markets to ensure strong local service provision.

### **Others with Disability**

Ensure those who are not eligible for NDIS services, but who still require supports, are able to access them where and when they need them. This includes improved access to housing, education, transport and health services. Funding for specialist support groups and advocacy services is also essential to support those outside of NDIS funding.

## **Commit to supplying affordable, accessible housing for people with disability.**

Lack of appropriate housing is a significant issue identified by disability service providers. Commit to create and implement a housing strategy that results in the adequate supply of accessible and affordable housing for Tasmanians with disability.

## **Workforce development**

Fund ongoing workforce development for the disability sector, in particular to assist with the implementation of the National Workforce Strategy and the NDIS Workforce Capability Framework, due for release in 2021.

## **Ongoing peak body funding**

Continue peak body funding for NDS to ensure we can continue working with the State Government to:

* Build a larger, stronger and more sustainable disability sector. A sector that is better able to meet the needs of Tasmanian NDIA participants through improved choice, better control and higher plan utilisation rates.
* Maximise the economic and job growth opportunities that the NDIS presents.

## **Government Procurement**

Social enterprises providing supports in employment for people with disability play a vital role in providing employment opportunities to people with disability across Tasmania. To support the sustainability of this sector and to grow employment opportunities for people with disability in Tasmania, NDS urges utilization of the existing head deed and a commitment that 2% of all applicable Tasmanian Government procurement be made through these social enterprises.

Information sourced from [COAG Disability Reform Council Quarterly Report 31 Dec 2020](https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/quarterly-reports) and [ABS data](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/health/disability/disability-ageing-and-carers-australia-summary-findings/latest-release)