

Messaging guide for NDS members

What is Deliver the Promise?

The vision of the NDIS is compelling and remains the right reform for Australia. But the way it is being implemented is placing enormous pressure on all stakeholders.

Disability service providers work with people with disability and their families every day.

We are mostly not-for-profit organisations at the heart of our communities and at the frontline, experiencing firsthand how the NDIS could work better to deliver on its promise.

That's why National Disability Services (NDS) is running the Deliver the Promise campaign and is encouraging all disability service providers to get involved.

Deliver the Promise is a campaign led by National Disability Services (NDS) bringing more than 1000 disability service providers across the country together to make sure the NDIS is on track and the one we all fought so hard for.

What are the main issues with the NDIS?

The NDIS promises a better life for half a million Australians with disability.

But the way it's being implemented means

- 1 in 10 disability service providers discussed closing in 2017;
- 28% of service providers made a loss or deficit; and
- More than ½ of Australian disability providers say they will have to reduce the quality of services under NDIA prices*

Complex processes and red tape are creating roadblocks.

Too many people aren't getting the support they need.

Unrealistic pricing is undermining quality of services and the future of many providers.

If we don't get the NDIS on track now, we risk winding back the clock to the way disability support worked decades ago.

Without disability service providers, the NDIS won't work.

Our election platform and the State of the Disability Sector Report 2018 both outline in more detail the problems providers are experiencing. You can find them at www.deliverthepromise.org.au/resources.

What are we campaigning for?

1. Independent Pricing by July 2019

Pricing set by an independent body to reflect the real cost of supporting people with disability in every corner of Australia.

2. Less red tape

Less red tape so the focus of the NDIS is on people not government processes.

3. Better NDIS planning

NDIS plans that are flexible, allow local decision-making and properly reflect the supports participants say they need.

4. Real sector safeguards

To support a dynamic, diverse disability sector that provides the choice and quality of supports the NDIS promises.

5. A focus on employment and a National Workforce Strategy

A greater focus on employment in NDIS plans AND development of a national workforce strategy that will ensure our sector can deliver the quality services needed under the NDIS.

Our full election platform is at www.deliverthepromise.org.au/resources

* NDS State of the Disability Sector Report 2018

How can you get involved?

There's a range of ways to participate – whether that's hosting a visit from your local MP, sharing the campaign on social media, or printing out campaign materials to help spread the word in your organisation and local community.

1. Take part in the National Day of Action

On 3 May, NDS will take part in the Every Australian Counts National Day of Action – with events and activities across the country.

As a founding partner of Every Australian Counts we all need to get behind the National Day of action in our local communities.

You can take part in activities that are being organised by others or create a campaign activity that's appropriate to your organisation.

Find more information on the **Deliver the Promise** and **Every Australian Counts** websites:

www.deliverthepromise.org.au/take-action and www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au

2. Invite your local MP or candidates to visit

We need to use our local representatives to advocate on our behalf in Parliament. That means, with an election campaign around the corner, we have a chance to make the case with our sitting local MPs and our local candidates.

We've put together resources that will help you talk your local MP through the changes needed for the NDIS to deliver the promise – but every provider has their own experiences to share, so make sure you personalise the experience.

Here's a few things to think about:

1. Show your continued support for the NDIS – it's a huge reform that disability service providers were instrumental in campaigning for. We all want to make it work. We just need to work together to get it right and on track.
2. Use stories and examples from your own experience as much as you can. They're real examples of how the NDIS needs to be better implemented so it can work for everyone.
3. If they have never visited your organisation before, show your MP or candidate around and introduce them to key staff members. It's an opportunity to showcase the role disability service providers play in their local communities.
4. You could think about sharing photos on social media during the visit. Ask your local MP or candidate to do the same. We need to show we're working together with our leaders to get the NDIS right.

3. Share the campaign

Promote the campaign on your organisation's social media platforms, newsletters and website. You can find all campaign resources at www.deliverthepromise.org.au/resources.