# Disability Sector Update – 7 March 2025

## Legislation update

### New rules for plan management and plan changes

The government has introduced new rules under the NDIS Act to enhance clarity and consistency in decision making regarding plan management and plan changes.

* Section 44(5) was registered in December 2024. It confirms that the NDIA can set or change a participant’s plan management type if there is an unavoidable risk that funding won't be spent in accordance with a participant’s plan.
* Sections 44(3) and 74(6) were registered on 4 March 2025 and reinforce that a risk is only considered unreasonable if there are no supports, strategies, or safeguards that could help manage it. The NDIA will always look at ways to support participants in managing their funding in a way that works for them before making any changes.
* Sections 47A and 48 were registered on 4 March 2025 and clarify when and how the NDIA can vary or reassess a participant’s plan. Plan variations allow for quick updates when a participant’s support needs change, especially in urgent situations, without requiring a full reassessment. Reassessments provide a more detailed review to ensure funding and supports continue to meet a participant’s needs over time.

These updates reflect existing guidance and provide more transparency around plan management decisions and plan changes. The NDIA will continue to work with participants, providers, and staff to make sure everyone understands what these rules mean in practice.

## NDIS Reform Advisory Committee Expressions of Interest now open

Expressions of interest (EOI) to join the NDIS Reform Advisory Committee are now open.

The Committee will advise Government to help implement reforms to the NDIS in a way that benefits, and amplifies the voices of, people with disability, their families and carers.

Find out more at [DSS Engage](https://engage.dss.gov.au/). Applications close **Monday, 24 March 2025**.

If you have any questions about the EOI process, please don’t hesitate to contact the NDIS Reform Advisory Committee Secretariat at [NDISRACenquiries@dss.gov.au](mailto:NDISRACenquiries@dss.gov.au).

## Key website updates

15 February:

* Media release: [NDIS data highlights further improvement to Scheme sustainability and participant outcomes](https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/10608-ndis-data-highlights-further-improvement-scheme-sustainability-and-participant-outcomes).

21 February:

* Leaving Our Guideline pages updated: [Leaving the NDIS | NDIS](https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/home/becoming-participant/leaving-ndis).

27 February:

* Specialist disability accommodation Our Guideline document and landing page updated on the our guidelines microsite: [Specialist disability accommodation | NDIS](https://ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/supports-you-can-access-menu/home-and-living-supports/specialist-disability-accommodation).

28 February:

* Senate Order 13 for Entity Contracts: [Senate Order 13 for Entity Contracts | NDIS](https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/policies/senate-order-13-entity-contracts).

## Resources for NDIS participants living in shared supported settings

In collaboration with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, The Housing Hub have developed resources to help NDIS participants living in Supported Disability Accommodation and shared support arrangements and those who work with them.

These resources include roles and responsibilities sheets, escalation charts and knowledge builders.

The Housing Hub is also hosting a series of Webinars across March and April 2025 focused on understanding this information and how it can be used to solve problems in NDIS housing.

* [Wednesday, 12 March, 1pm to 1:30pm AEST](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevents.humanitix.com%2Fsolving-problems-in-ndis-housing-march-12-2025&data=05%7C02%7CLaura.Freak%40ndis.gov.au%7Cd596aa844dd940185ad608dd5a2800ab%7Ccd778b65752d454a87cfb9990fe58993%7C0%7C0%7C638765850033874653%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=e2U%2BBlFiFV0UdZ0UN1uvlJg9EHOr36picLkIgfza%2F%2Fk%3D&reserved=0)
* [Tuesday, 18 March, 12pm to 12:30pm AEST](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevents.humanitix.com%2Fsolving-problems-in-ndis-housing-march-18-2025&data=05%7C02%7CLaura.Freak%40ndis.gov.au%7Cd596aa844dd940185ad608dd5a2800ab%7Ccd778b65752d454a87cfb9990fe58993%7C0%7C0%7C638765850033895686%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xYJSADtrNxDkuzsQ%2FX%2BemMvD3XQoHi32%2F06fDcGvh0Q%3D&reserved=0)
* [Monday, 14 April, 11am to 12pm AEST](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fevents.humanitix.com%2Fsolving-problems-in-ndis-housing&data=05%7C02%7CLaura.Freak%40ndis.gov.au%7Cd596aa844dd940185ad608dd5a2800ab%7Ccd778b65752d454a87cfb9990fe58993%7C0%7C0%7C638765850033906707%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=kw32cHagf9ofWtY5DF62RNLcgSZD%2FEHupjQZyPbxq9A%3D&reserved=0)

You can view the resources and webinar information on the [Housing Hub](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.housinghub.org.au%2Fresources%2Farticle%2Fsolving-problems-in-ndis-housing&data=05%7C02%7CLaura.Freak%40ndis.gov.au%7Cd596aa844dd940185ad608dd5a2800ab%7Ccd778b65752d454a87cfb9990fe58993%7C0%7C0%7C638765850033917366%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=k6Hnh0NGcrojPHQH%2B869G7l2NfRbGG22k6lmwOScgEY%3D&reserved=0) website.

## Supporting participants affected by Cyclone Alfred

We’re closely monitoring the impact of Tropical Cyclone Alfred in south-east Queensland and northern New South Wales.

Our priority is to support participants, their families and carers to continue to access their NDIS supports and services. We have already activated our emergency response protocols and ready to assist.

Earlier this week, we communicated with registered providers in the impacted areas that we will support with any reasonable additional costs that personal support providers incur. We recognise providers may need to provide additional support beyond an individual’s current plan to ensure their safety and security. This might be needed before, during or after an emergency event.

Our NDIS National Contact Centre will also prioritise all requests from affected participants.

The National Contact Centre can also support with any urgent repairs or replacement of assistive technology, amongst other urgent requests.

This weekend, our National Contact Centre will be open from 9am – 5pm for affected participants.

To keep participants and their nominees informed, we have already shared this messaging across different channels, including website, social media, emails, and text messages.

As we move towards recovery, we may implement further measures to support participants. We encourage you to visit the [NDIS website](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ndis.gov.au%2F&data=05%7C02%7CNicholas.Lee%40ndis.gov.au%7Cd0a4213d1f0d4c47f23708dd5d332b01%7Ccd778b65752d454a87cfb9990fe58993%7C0%7C0%7C638769196536162384%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YRHoO9WdZTvKvSEJ3U3OTRvtIepr1BBtDzMnqJUGYbw%3D&reserved=0) for the latest information, including temporary office closures.