



# Getting Queensland providers ready for the NDIS

## Opportunities for growth

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will commence in Queensland from July 2016, with full scheme implementation by July 2019.

By 2019, more than 90,000 Queenslanders with disability are expected to be accessing the NDIS, injecting around \$4 billion per year into the Queensland economy, and creating an estimated 15,900 to 19,400 additional jobs.

This is an incredible opportunity for Queensland businesses and the government is working with the disability sector and mainstream businesses to ensure they have the capacity to deliver the supports participants want and need in a new, consumer-driven market.

## Providing supports in the NDIS environment

The NDIS will enable people with disability to exercise choice and control over the supports they receive and have access to a wider range of quality services and supports.

To ensure the scheme operates effectively it will need to consist of informed consumers (participants), a diverse range of sustainable suppliers, and a skilled and diverse workforce in place to meet demand.

The national *Integrated Market, Sector and Workforce Strategy*, available at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au), supports participants and providers in their preparations for the NDIS.

This strategy outlines how governments, people with disability, the NDIA and the sector and workforce can work together to develop an effective NDIS market.

The national strategy builds on the Queensland Government's actions to support participants, providers and the workforce to be prepared for the NDIS, as well as the opportunities it will bring.

## Key changes for existing Queensland providers in the NDIS environment

Providers are encouraged to understand and respond to the business and operational impacts of the NDIS to ensure they are able to operate in a more competitive market.

Some of the key changes for providers include:

- participants will choose who provides their supports, where and when those supports are provided as well as directly engaging providers to deliver the supports in their individual plan
- participants may choose to purchase different types of supports to those available now
- funding will be on an individual fee-for-service basis, and will be paid to providers in arrears rather than in advance through block funding arrangements

- prices for supports will be set by the NDIA
- providers will be paid for supports that are provided to participants, either directly by the participant or by the NDIA
- providers will need to be registered as a provider with the NDIA in order to receive payments for a participant's support from the NDIA
- more providers will enter the market place, including those that have not traditionally delivered disability support services.

### Quality and Safeguards

- Queensland's existing quality and safeguards system will apply to all NDIS providers registered to deliver specialist disability services in Queensland. The existing system will apply during the transition to the NDIS or until a national quality and safeguards system is implemented.
- For information and guidance on qualifications, experience, capacity and approvals required to provide specialist disability services in Queensland, refer to the NDIA Provider Guide to Suitability at [www.ndis.gov.au/providers/suitability](http://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/suitability)

### Support for provider readiness

The Queensland Government is committed to supporting existing providers to be ready to transition to the NDIS, including by providing:

- an online Business Development Package, available at [www.communitydoor.org.au](http://www.communitydoor.org.au)
- a suite of tools and resources to help providers to respond to consumer demand in the NDIS, available at [www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis)
- a resource kit to help small rural and remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities develop local approaches to delivering supports under the NDIS, available at [www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis)

The Queensland Government will also work in partnership with the NDIA to develop and coordinate provider readiness activities throughout the transition.

### For more information

- [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) for further information on the NDIS and to sign-up for the NDIS e-newsletter or call the **NDIS Hotline 1800 800 110**
- [www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/ndis) for information on Queensland's NDIS transition, the Queensland NDIS events calendar and to sign up to the Queensland NDIS e-blast
- [www.qld.gov.au/disability](http://www.qld.gov.au/disability) for information about current services for Queenslanders with disability or call **13 QGOV (13 74 68)**
- follow us on **Twitter @NDIS** and **@disabilityQLD**
- for people with hearing or speech loss **TTY 1800 555 677**
- speak and listen **1800 555 727**
- for people who need help with English **TIS 131 450**



May 2016