



# Phased implementation of the NDIS in Queensland

**The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will progressively roll out across Queensland over three years from July 2016 to June 2019.**

**The scheme launched early in North Queensland ahead of the three year rollout.**

This fact sheet provides information about Queensland's early launch arrangements and the phased rollout of the NDIS.

## About the NDIS

The NDIS is a new way of providing individualised support for people with permanent disability that affects their ability to take part in everyday activities.

The Scheme is being implemented by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). It connects participants with community and mainstream supports and funds reasonable and necessary supports to assist them to pursue their goals and aspirations, and participate in daily life.

People do not need to be registered with Disability Services, or any other Queensland Government department, to participate in the NDIS.

## Queensland's early launch

Eligible children and young people aged under 18 years in Townsville and Charters Towers, and all eligible people with disability on Palm Island will be the first Queenslanders with disability to access the NDIS as part of the early launch from January 2016.

## Transitioning after the early launch

The Queensland Government has signed a Bilateral Agreement with the Commonwealth Government, detailing Queensland's full transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Under the agreement the NDIS will roll out progressively across the rest of Queensland over three years from July 2016 to June 2019. The NDIS is being introduced in stages according to the funding arrangements in the Bilateral Agreement.

Queensland's transition will occur on a geographic basis, defined by Local Government Area (LGA) boundaries.

## Rollout schedule

Queenslanders will progressively enter the scheme as follows:

Between July 2016 to June 2017:

- Townsville, Hinchinbrook, Burdekin, west to Mount Isa, and up to the gulf
- Mackay, Isaac and Whitsundays
- Toowoomba and west to the borders

Between July 2017 to June 2018:

- Ipswich, Lockyer, Scenic Rim and Somerset.
- Bundaberg
- Rockhampton, Gladstone and west to the border

Between July 2018 to June 2019:

- Logan and Redlands
- Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Tablelands, Croydon, Etheridge, Cape York and Torres Strait
- Brisbane suburbs north of Brisbane River
- Brisbane suburbs south of Brisbane River
- Fraser Coast, North Burnett, South Burnett and Cherbourg
- Gold Coast and Hinterland
- Moreton Bay including Strathpine and Caboolture
- Sunshine Coast, Noosa and Gympie.

You can use the interactive map at [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) to find out when a particular locality will transition.

### Transition for existing clients

People currently receiving support through the Queensland Government will be moving to the NDIS alongside new participants in each area.

There will be opportunities for new people who are eligible and need disability support through the NDIS, to submit access requests to the NDIA as phasing occurs in the area they live.

People do not need to be registered with Disability Services, or any other Queensland Government department, to participate in the NDIS.

The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments have agreed that people who are already receiving disability supports, but who are not eligible for the NDIS, will continue to be supported to achieve similar outcomes.

The Queensland Government will continue to work with the NDIA, service providers and people with disability, their families and carers throughout the transition period to ensure the best possible outcomes for Queenslanders.

### Rationale for rollout phasing

The rollout schedule of the NDIS in Queensland is determined by the Bilateral Agreement between the Queensland Government and the Commonwealth Government.

Rolling out the NDIS by LGA minimises confusion and ensures that Queenslanders experience a smooth transition.

It also allows for the number of people transitioning to the NDIS each year to match the funding available in each of those years. Lessons from both the early launch and the phased rollout will inform the rest of the rollout across Queensland.

### Benefits for Queenslanders

Under the NDIS the number of Queenslanders receiving disability supports is expected to grow to more than 90,000 by 2019. This is expected to create up to 13,000 additional jobs and inject approximately \$4 billion per year into the Queensland economy.

### Support until transition

If you need specialist disability support or services before the start of the NDIS in your area or you require changes to the support you currently receive, you can contact Disability Services on 13 QGOV (137 468).

### For more information

- [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) for further information on the NDIS, to find out when a community will transition 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 preparations, 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**

