



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



Summary of our public consultation on changes to NDIS supports

Department of Social Services



Easy English



Blue words

Some words in this book are **blue**.

We write what the blue words mean.

Help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- understand this book

- find more information.



Contact information is at the end of this book.

About this book



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

This book is from the Department of Social Services.

We are part of the Australian public service.



This book is about the **National Disability Insurance Scheme** or NDIS.

The NDIS gives services and support to people with **permanent disability**.



Permanent disability means a disability that will **not** go away.



The NDIS also gives services and support to people who need **early intervention**.



Early intervention means we work with some people now so they need less support later.



The Australian Government made a new law about the NDIS.

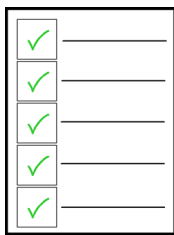


The new law says we can make rules for

- things you can spend NDIS money on

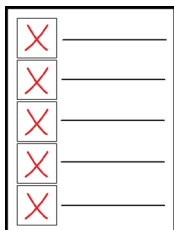


- things you **cannot** spend NDIS money on.



The list of things that you can spend NDIS money on is called **NDIS supports**.

There is also a list of things you **cannot** spend NDIS money on.



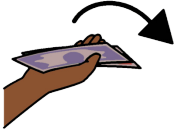
This book is about a **public consultation** we did on our lists.



Public consultation means we ask people what they think.

Why did we make the new rules?

We want to make sure that everyone in the NDIS



ndis	
1	
2	
3	
4	

- spends their NDIS money on the supports in their NDIS plan



- does not run out of NDIS money.



We want to make sure that the NDIS has enough money to last a long time.

Who did we ask about our lists?



We got information from

- people with disability



- family members of people with disability



- carers and support workers of people with disability



- people from organisations that support people with disability

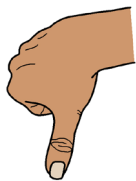
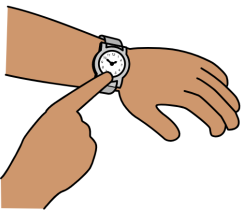


- the community.

What did people say about our consultation?

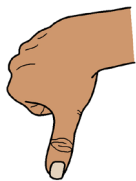


A lot of people were **not** happy about the way we did our consultation.



People with disability said there was

- not enough time for them to tell us what they think about our lists



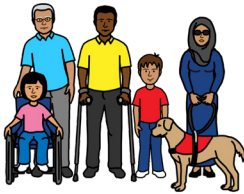
- not enough **accessible information** at the start of our consultation.

Accessible information is information that is easy to understand.



We will do a better consultation next time.

We will give people more time to tell us what they think.

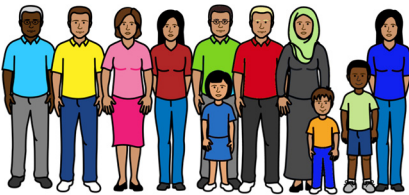


We will make sure we talk to

- disability groups

and

- the community.



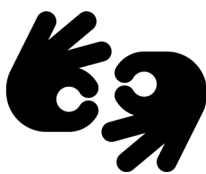
Easy English

We will have information in

- Easy English



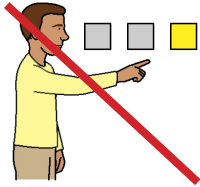
- other languages



- Auslan.

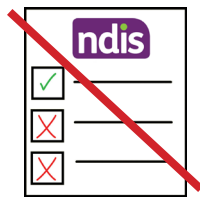
Auslan is the Australian sign language.

What did people say about our lists?

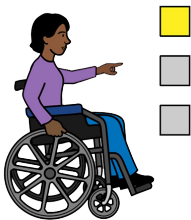


A lot of people said our lists could stop them

- being able to choose what they spend their NDIS money on



- being able to control their NDIS plan.



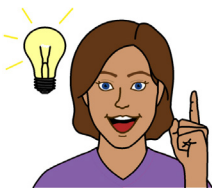
A lot of people told us

- there should be more freedom for people to choose what NDIS supports they get



- some parts of our lists are hard to understand

- we should use **principles** instead of lists to say what can be NDIS supports.



Principles means we use ideas to say what can be NDIS supports.



A lot of people said you should sometimes be allowed to spend NDIS money on

- things that are **not** NDIS supports

- **standard products.**



Standard products are things that have **not** been changed to help people with disability use them.

For example, a dishwasher.



Some people were worried they might buy things that are **not** NDIS supports by accident.



People said they need more time to understand what they **cannot** spend NDIS money on.



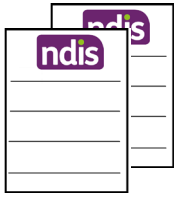
We will do more work to help people understand

- what services and things are NDIS supports



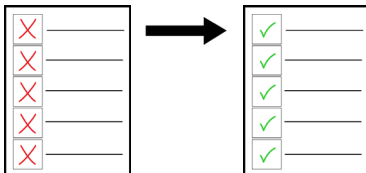
- what services and things are **not** NDIS supports.

What did people say about the list of NDIS supports?



Most people said more things should be on the list of NDIS supports.

What did people say about the things that are not NDIS supports?



Most people said some of the things that are not NDIS supports should be allowed.

For example, **smart watches**.

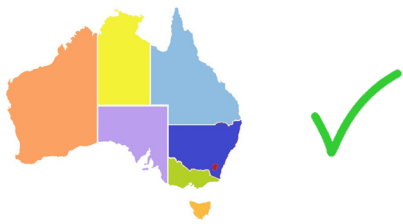
A smart watch is something that

- connects to the internet
- can be worn on your wrist
- can help you communicate.



What did we do after our consultation?

We made our lists easier to understand.



We made our lists match agreements with state and territory governments about

- what they do

and



- what the NDIS does.



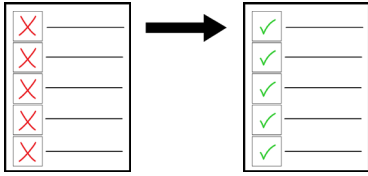
We put cultural activities for **First Nations peoples** in the list of NDIS support.



First Nations peoples are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

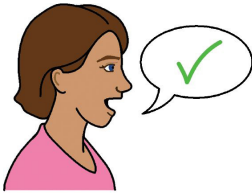
We made 3 changes to our lists after our consultation.

1. We put more things on our list of NDIS supports.



We made a list of **replacement supports**.

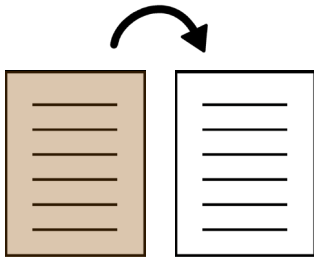
Replacement supports are things you might sometimes be able to spend NDIS money on.



The **National Disability Insurance Agency** must say **yes**.



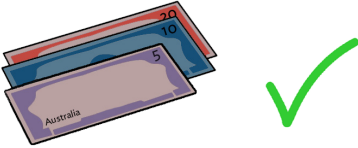
The National Disability Insurance Agency means the people who look after the NDIS.



A replacement support **must**

- replace a support in your plan

and

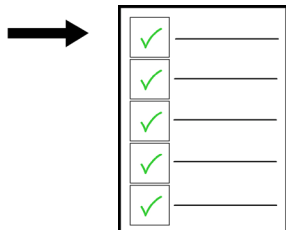


- cost the same or less than the support it replaces

and

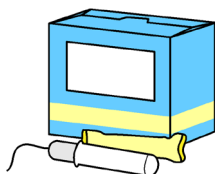


- be the same or better for you than the support it replaces.



We added some things to the list of things you can spend NDIS money on.

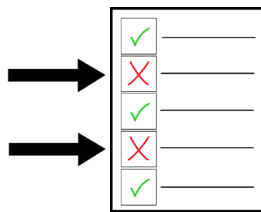
For example, **menstrual products** needed as part of a person's disability support.



Menstrual products can help you chose how to manage your period.



We added hair and nail care for people who need extra help to be clean.



2. We let some people keep things in their plan that are not allowed.

We made special rules to let some people keep things that are not NDIS supports.

The special rules say they can keep things that are **not** NDIS supports until their plan ends.

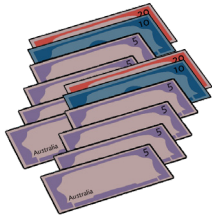


3. We made new rules for when you do not have to pay an NDIS debt.

Debt means you owe someone money.



You might get an NDIS debt if you spend NDIS money on something that is **not** allowed.



The new rule says you might have to pay an NDIS debt if

- the thing that is **not** allowed cost more than \$1500

or



- we have told you two times **not** to buy the thing that is not allowed.

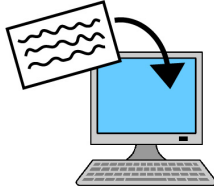


The new rule will go for 1 year.



More information

For more information contact the
Department of Social Services.



Email enquiries@dss.gov.au



Call 1300 653 227

You can read the full report on our website.



Website

engage.dss.gov.au/consultation-on-draft-lists-of-ndis-supports

**You can find the full list of NDIS supports
on the NDIS website**



Website

ourguidelines.ndis.gov.au/would-we-fund-it/what-does-ndis-fund

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Use the free Translating and Interpreting Service or TIS to make a phone call.

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Call 131 450

Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.

If you need help to speak or listen



Use the National Relay Service to make a phone call.

You must sign up to the service first.



Website accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk



Call 1800 555 660

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