



Position Statement:
**The NDIS and People with Intellectual Disability
who Live on Society's Fringe**

The design of the National Disability Insurance Scheme needs to carefully consider the circumstances of all people with disability.

It would be easy to overlook people who lack self advocacy skills, family advocates and existing links with the disability service system. This is the case for a large number of people with intellectual disability who:

- Come into contact with the criminal justice system
- Lead superficially independent but at risk lifestyles
- Are parents, or
- Also have a mental disorder.

Many people have multiple of these characteristics.

People in these groups tend to live on society's fringe and often:

- Have histories of abuse and neglect
- Lack informal networks of support
- Are socially isolated and distrustful of service agencies
- Have very high support needs in relation to key life activities like decision making, control of their behaviour, dealing with personal crises, healthy lifestyles, avoiding personal and financial exploitation, dealing with the criminal justice system and caring for children.

Many people on society's fringe will need a funded package of support under the NDIS.

NSW CID calls upon the government authorities designing and implementing the NDIS to ensure equitable access to the NDIS by people with intellectual disability who live on society's fringe. This

requires that the NDIS includes:

1. An active process of engagement with individuals on the fringe so as to gain their trust and understanding of the benefit of support services.
2. Individual assessment and planning systems that accommodate the complex and dynamic needs of people on the fringe.
3. Flexibility in the kinds of supports that can be funded to accommodate the disparate supports needed by people on the fringe.
4. A robust workforce development strategy.

Endorsements

John Walsh AM

Partner Price Waterhouse Coopers;
Associate Commissioner on the
Productivity Commission Inquiry into
Disability Care & Support

Ian Harper

Economist, Partner
Deloitte Access Economics

Peter Abelson

Economist, formerly Professor Macquarie
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Richard Madden

Professor of Health Statistics and Director,
National Centre for Classification in Health
Chair, House with No Steps

Martin Laverty

Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Health
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Mike Sprange

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Chairperson, Intellectual Disability Rights
Service

Fiona Stanley AC

Founding Director, Telethon Institute for
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Australian of the Year 2003

Patrick McGorry AO

Psychiatrist
Australian of the Year 2010

Sir Gustav Nossal AC

Scientist
Australian of the Year 2000

Brendan O'Reilly AM

Former Director General, NSW
Departments of Premier & Cabinet,
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Richard Bruggemann

Former CEO, Intellectual Disability
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Australian Council of Social Service

Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability

Children with Disability Australia

Disability Advocacy Network Australia

Endeavour Foundation

First Peoples Disability Network

Mission Australia

Inclusion Australia

National Ethnic Disability Alliance

People with Disability Australia

Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists

St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia

Uniting Care Australia

Women With Disabilities Australia

Robert Strike

Formerly President, Self Advocacy Sydney
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Lifelong Achievement Award, National
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Kevin Cocks AM

Anti-Discrimination Commissioner Qld;
Human Rights Medallist

Bob Debus AM

Former Attorney General NSW &
Minister for Home Affairs Australia

“Those on the fringe must never be left
behind.”

Tim Fischer AC

Colleen Pearce

Public Advocate Victoria

John Brayley

Public Advocate South Australia

Graeme Smith

Public Guardian NSW

Kevin Martin

Adult Guardian Queensland

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Public Advocate Queensland

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The Hon Alastair Nicholson AO RFD QC

Former Chief Justice, Family Court of
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The Hon Paul Stein AM QC

Former President of the NSW Anti
Discrimination Board; Chair of the NSW Law
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The Hon Bill Carter QC

Former Supreme Court Justice Qld &
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Graeme Innes AM

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Wayne Bennett OAM

Rugby League coach

Craig Wing

Rugby league international &
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Chris Masters

Journalist

Stella Young

Disability activist and journalist

Craig Wallace

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Former MD of McGraw-Hill Book Co Australasia Pty Ltd; former Director and Chief Executive of Melbourne University Press

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