



KEEPING YOU INFORMED: HUME AND THE **NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS)**

What is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)?

The NDIS is a new, Australian-wide way of funding services and supports for people living with a disability. It is a move toward a nationally consistent scheme and will increase overall funding for disability services.

The most significant and far reaching change under the NDIS is that it will provide individualised funding to people with a disability based on their needs. This gives individuals far greater choice and control over the 'how, when, what and where' of accessing the services you need or want.

How will the NDIS work?

If you are eligible, you will be involved in developing your own plan, tailored to your needs and designed to help you achieve your goals.

You will receive funding on an annual basis to buy the services, aids and equipment that you have been assessed as needing – all from a service provider/s of your choice.

If you choose to manage your own NDIS funding, these will be paid into your nominated bank account. Alternatively, you can ask the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), which administers the NDIS, to manage your funding for you.

When will the NDIS become available in Hume City?

It will be available in Hume in March 2018.

Who can access the NDIS?

The NDIS will support an estimated 7,500 residents in the Hume-Moreland Region who have a permanent and significant disability that affects their ability to take part in everyday activities.

To be eligible, individuals must be:

- Aged less than 65 years when they first access the NDIS; and
- An Australian citizen, permanent residents or a New Zealand citizen with a Protected Special Category Visa.

How will the NDIS impact on my Disability Support Pension?

The NDIS does not change anything in relation to the Disability Support Pension. This, along with other income supports and payments, such as Carer Payments, Carer Supplements, Carer Allowance and the Child Disability Assistance Payment are entirely separate from the NDIS.

If I have a job, does the income I get from it affect my eligibility for NDIS funding?

No it doesn't. There is no income or asset testing for NDIS services.



What services will the NDIS support?

The NDIS will help provide supports and services that will help individuals to:

- Achieve their goals
- Become as independent as possible
- Develop skills for day-to-day living
- Participate in the community
- Work and earn money.

These services and supports can take many forms. They may be based around enhancing mobility, communication, self-care and self-management and capacity for economic and social participation.

When an individual develops their NDIS plan, they should consider all their daily activities and the aids, equipment, training and/or support that would make life easier, whether or not they currently receive these.

How will I be assessed for the NDIS?

There are two assessment processes: an eligibility assessment to determine whether you are eligible for funding; and, if you are, a planning assessment to determine your goals and aspirations and to help design a support package tailored to your needs and goals.

When will the NDIA contact me about the NDIS?

If you are eligible for the NDIS, you should be contacted by the NDIA as they roll-out the scheme in Hume City. However, you are also able to contact the NDIA to record your interest. It is expected to take up to 12 months for eligible people with a disability to enter the NDIS, once roll-out starts in Hume in March 2018. Individuals will continue to receive services from Council until they start their plans with the NDIS.



Where can I get more information about the NDIS?

There is a lot of useful information, including stories and videos of people's experiences on the NDIS website www.ndis.gov.au

Hume City Council also wants to ensure that your transition to the NDIS is as smooth as possible and is here to answer your questions or to provide further information.

Please contact: Andrew Tranter, Metro Access Project Officer on (03) 9205 2200 or andrewtr@hume.vic.gov.au



www.ndis.vic.gov.au

www.hume.vic.gov.au/ndis