

The NDIS and CTSP's: what are the options?

Community Transport Organisation
2017 Annual Conference

John Carrigan

Key points

- NDS's current understanding of transport supports
 - Not provider travel
- What this means for CT Service Providers (CTSP's)
- How CTSP's can respond

Transport in the NDIS

- NDIA makes a distinction between costs
 - Labour
 - Vehicle
- Some costs can be reclaimed from Core Supports other than transport – others directly from the participant



SAMPLE PLAN

Jane Doe's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) plan

Name: Jane Doe

NDIS number: 000000000

NDIS plan starts: **Plan Approval Date: 01 January 2016**

NDIS plan will be reviewed by: 01 January 2017

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) will contact me about my plan review before the review date.

I will tell the NDIA when something important changes (or is going to change), like moving house, starting work or school, or if my goals change.

If I have any questions, or if my circumstances change, I can contact the NDIA in any of the following ways:

- Telephone NDIA on 1800 800 110
- If I use a TTY, phone 1800 555 677 and ask for 1800 800 110
- If I use Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay), phone 1800 555 727 and ask for 1800 800 110
- If I use the National Relay Service, visit their website at <http://relayservice.gov> and ask for 1800 800 110.



SAMPLE PLAN

Part 1: About me

This part of my Participant Statement is about me, my daily life and the people in my life.

Where I live and the people who support me:

I am a 28 year old woman with an intellectual disability. I live in shared supported accommodation with one other housemate which we rent. We have drop in support every weekday for 2 hours to help with shopping, preparing meals, helping with money skills, and making sure the house is clean and tidy. They also help me go to the beach to make sure I am safe. My older brother drops by a few times a week to catch up and help me with any extra things I might need.

My daily life:

I work 5 days a week in open employment at the local grocery store. I have support from a job agency to make sure that my boss and I are happy. I enjoy working here but would like to work in an office one day. I would need help to learn how to use a computer and also to write my resume. After work I enjoy going for walks swims at the beach pool and going to the gym. On the weekends I go sailing with a local club, to the shops and to see friends. I can catch public transport to places I know, but need to be taught new routes.



SAMPLE PLAN

Part 2: My goals

This part of my Participant Statement lists the goals I want to work towards during this plan.

My First Goal is:

During this plan: To continue to have the support I need to be independent in my home and in the community.

My Second Goal is:

During this plan: To find a different job, preferably in an office.

My longer term goals and aspirations are:

Goal: To do a computer course.

Relates to: Learning

Goal: To learn to better budget my money so that I can save up for a holiday.

Relates to: Learning



SAMPLE PLAN

Part 3: My supports

These are the supports that will help me work towards my goals.

Family and friends

These are who the NDIS calls 'informal' supports.

My informal supports

- My older brother: my brother visits me and helps me when I need it. He takes me to doctors' appointments,

Services and community groups

These supports might include things like health or mental health services, schools or education services, community groups, sporting or hobby clubs, or other government services. These are what the NDIS calls 'community and mainstream' supports.

My community and mainstream supports

- Sailing Club. I go sailing on the weekends with my sailing club.
- Gym. I go to my local gym.
- Job Agency. My job agency helps me to find and keep jobs.



SAMPLE PLAN

NDIS reasonable and necessary supports budgets

I can choose how I spend the amount in each budget listed below by checking the NDIS price list and the matching supports on the NDIS website at [ndis.gov.au/participants](https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants).

Where a support is listed in my plan as 'stated', I must purchase this support as it is described in my plan. I cannot swap 'stated' supports for any other supports.

Support Area:	Core supports
Budget:	\$32,319.40
Details:	Daily Activities - support for domestic duties Social, Community and Civic Participation – support for accessing the community and participation in social and recreational activities.
How will the supports be paid:	NDIS will pay my support provider directly for these supports.

Support Area:	Transport
Budget	\$3456.00
Details:	Transport support category comment
How will the supports be paid:	NDIS will pay me directly for these supports.

Support Area:	Finding and keeping a job
Budget:	\$2944.15
Details:	Support for maintaining open employment, and exploring alternative employment options.

What does this mean?

- Registered NDIS providers of 'Assistance with Daily Living' and 'Assistance with Community Participation' are able to cover the labour cost associated with the transport of a PWD from Core Supports
- Requires providers of core supports to develop a formula which allows them to recover vehicle costs directly from the participant (assuming they have TA)

What does this mean?

- No guidance in NDIS materials about what this should look like beyond that it must be 'reasonable'
- 'Reasonable' appears to mean that it is
 - reflective of the real costs of the service and
 - shared equitably among # of participants travelling in vehicle

Is this 'reasonable'?

- Quantify comprehensive cost of operating vehicle
 - Rego, fuel, insurance, maintenance, depreciation etc
- Divide by the number of kilometres travelled p.a. to achieve a per/km cost
- Allocate the per/km cost by number of participants travelling in vehicle
 - Allocation formula may require some adjustment where times/distances travelled are high

What if you don't provide core supports?

- This cost recovery strategy only available to providers registered to provide core supports other than transport – mainly community participation
- Providers who are not registered to provide core supports and want to offer transport will only be able to offer it on a full cost-recovery basis

What if you're not registered to provide core supports?

- So CTSP's have to decide whether to:
 - expand their service offer and register with the NDIS to provide other core supports against which they can claim the labour cost
 - stay focused on their core services
- This is a decision about whether to participate in the Scheme or not

To participate in the NDIS – or not...

- Factors relevant to this decision:
 - Mission
 - Regulatory developments – prospects for more changes in the Scheme incl. outcome of McGarrigle
 - Market developments – new entrants from July 2018
 - Transport incentives and subsidies review and P2P reforms
 - Emergence of new models
 - Business case

Role of business judgement

- Regulatory risk is extreme
- Role of business judgements
 - Do your research
 - Make your judgements on the best available facts
 - Document your decision-making – role of the Board
 - Be transparent and communicate your reasoning

Questions?

- John Carrigan
- Senior Sector Support Consultant
- National Disability Services
- E: john.carrigan@nds.org.au
- M: 0448-325-356