

## **Expression of Interest**

# The Western Australian Community Advisory Council 2025 – 2028 Community Membership

The Cook Government of Western Australia is committed to supporting the effective operation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in the Western Australian (WA) community. People with disability are integral members of society and play a crucial role in shaping the systems, policies and legislation that impact their lives.

On 17 June 2025, the Commonwealth and WA Governments signed a Full Scheme Bilateral Agreement on the NDIS.

Effective from 1 July 2025, the WA NDIS Full Scheme Agreement reflects both Governments' shared responsibility for an effective and sustainable NDIS in WA. Further details are available in the <u>announcement</u> made on 25 June 2025.

The agreement includes measures to strengthen governance arrangements through the establishment of a *Western Australian Community Advisory Council* for the NDIS to advise on improving participants' NDIS experience.

## **Request for Expressions of Interest**

The **Hon Hannah Beazley MLA, Minister for Disability Services** is pleased to invite applications for representatives from the WA disability community to join the WA Community Advisory Council as a community representative.

The WA Community Advisory Council will include community representatives who will meet with officials of the WA and Commonwealth Governments.

This is an exciting opportunity to advise the Minister on initiatives to increase the participation of people with disability in the NDIS, and to improve their access to the scheme and participant experience.

Expressions of interest are sought for the community representatives WA Community Advisory Council from the disability community.

All appointments will be for a three-year term. The council's three-year term will run from 1 November 2025 to 31 October 2028.



## **About the WA Community Advisory Council**

The WA Community Advisory Council will enable WA to play an active role in the co-governance of the NDIS in WA to improve outcomes for NDIS participants and in advising and advocating for participants to ensure the scheme is working well for all West Australians. This includes:

- providing feedback and advice on the operational and delivery effectiveness of the scheme in achieving participant outcomes irrespective of their location, disability impact or levels of support needs;
- identifying and raising issues occurring in the implementation of the NDIS in WA, including existing, emerging or potential mainstream interface risks and issues including barriers to transition and access to services;
- receiving and considering reports on scheme performance data from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA);
- providing advice to the Executive Steering Committee on key issues on NDIS operations;
- providing advice to the WA Minister for Disability Services on operations and performance progress of the NDIS in WA;
- being a consultative body for reforms to improving administration of the NDIS contemplated by the NDIA, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing and the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission;
- considering the interface of the NDIS with the WA State Disability Strategy 2020-2030
  vision that people with disability, and those who share their lives, are engaged and
  feel empowered to live as they choose in a community where everyone belongs; and
- considering the operations of the NDIS in WA in relation to the specific needs of marginalised groups within the disability community, including but not limited to those in remote locations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from multicultural communities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex and queer communities.

The WA Community Advisory Council will ensure that the Minister for Disability Services is well informed by people with disability, their families, carers, workers, service providers, and advocates, to support the effective operation of the NDIS in WA.

The WA Government's support for the WA Community Advisory Council recognises that people with disability are at the centre of the NDIS, are experts in their own lives, and must have ongoing input into the policies and decisions that affect them.

## **Membership Expectations**

Please refer to the Terms of Reference on the WA Community Advisory Council webpage for more information about membership and operating procedures.



## Instructions for applicants

#### Who should apply?

The WA Government is inviting Expressions of Interest from people in the WA disability community and sector. People with disability are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications are also invited from family members, carers, sector, advocates, lived experience groups and academics who can contribute to discussions regarding the effective operation of the NDIS in WA.

We are looking for applicants with the skills, knowledge and experience on matters that are important to people with disability.

Membership of the WA Community Advisory Council is expected to reflect

- lived experience of disability
- a range of disability types representative of the NDIS cohort, including cognitive disability
- a gender balance
- regional and remote representation
- First Nations representation
- carers of people with disability
- people who have experience, knowledge of or expertise of utilising NDIS supports and services across diverse disability needs and complexities
- people who have knowledge of or expertise in the provision of NDIS supports and services in remote areas

## How to apply

An Expression of Interest to be a community representative on the WA Community Advisory Council can be lodged by submitting:

- your response to the below selection criteria and completion of the personal and background information via this <u>link</u>; and
- a current **Curriculum Vitae (CV)**, including two referees.

It is recommended that any attachments be in either MS Word or Adobe PDF format.

Expressions of Interest can also be submitted via alternative formats including in hard copy application in person or by post to:

The Secretariat
WA Community Advisory Council
Department of Communities
5 Newman Court Fremantle 6160
Locked Bag 5000
FREMANTLE WA 6959



#### **Selection Criteria**

- Please tell us about yourself, your lived experience of disability and areas of expertise

   by completing the 'Personal and Background Information' questions in the application link.
- 2. Tell us about your knowledge and experience in matters affecting WA's disability sector and diverse communities, including disability reform topics.
- 3. Have you worked on similar groups or committees connecting with and representing the views of people with disability in Western Australia?
- 4. Please share your thoughts on the unique needs and experience of participants in the regional and remote areas in WA and potential opportunities to address NDIS access disparity in thin markets.

If you have any questions or concerns, including submitting with an alternative format, please contact the WA Community Advisory Council Secretariat at <a href="mailto:CommunityAdvisoryCouncil@communities.wa.gov.au">CommunityAdvisoryCouncil@communities.wa.gov.au</a> or call Anna Davis, Project Officer at 0403 182 828 - Monday to Thursday during 9:00am to 3:00pm.

The EOI will be open for four weeks from 15 September 2025 to 13 October 2025.

## **Closing Date**

5:00 PM WST on MONDAY 13 OCTOBER 2025.

Late applications will not be accepted.

#### More information

An Easy Read version of this information is also available on the WA Community Advisory Council <u>webpage</u>.

#### **Selection Process**

Successful candidates will be appointed as community representatives by the Minister for Disability Services.

In consultation, the Chair and Deputy Chair will also be appointed from successful community representative candidates.

Outcome of the application process is expected be announced end of October 2025.

The first meeting of the WA Community Advisory Council is proposed to be held in November 2025.



## **About the Disability Division**

The Department of Communities' (Communities) Disability Division was established in 2024. The Communities' Disability Division delivers and commissions services, engages with people with disability and the sector, and leads policy development and reform. The Communities' Disability Division will administer the WA Community Advisory Council and is committed to ensuring that people with a disability are at the centre of everything we do. This includes empowering the voice of people with a disability to ensure they can contribute to an inclusive community.

#### **Contact us**

For more information on the WA Community Advisory Council and the application process, please contact the WA Community Advisory Council Secretariat at <a href="mailto:CommunityAdvisoryCouncil@communities.wa.gov.au">CommunityAdvisoryCouncil@communities.wa.gov.au</a> or call Anna Davis, Project Officer at 0403 182 828 - Monday to Thursday during 9:00am to 3:00pm.