

Impact statements

This information sheet provides guidance as to the use of impact statements and is part of a series of information sheets that have been developed to help everyone understand the 'Authorisation of Restrictive Practices in Funded Disability Services Policy' (the Policy) that applies in Western Australia from 1 December 2020.

For further detailed information please refer to the <u>authorisation of restrictive practices</u> website.

At times, a person can be impacted by restrictions being placed on other people they live with. For example, if one person in a house requires a door to be locked, this may impact others living in the environment who want to use that door. To ensure people are not restricted in such circumstances, it is important that the potential impact of a restriction on someone else is documented¹. It is also important to document mitigation processes that are in place to ensure that a restrictive practice that is in place for someone else, is not inadvertently applied to other people for whom it is not required.

The presence of impact statements, including mitigation strategies, for people impacted by another person's restrictions can provide evidence to clarify that there are processes in place to ensure restrictions are not imposed when they are not justified. In doing so, these documents ensure that the Policy does not apply to those individuals for whom impact statements are in place that uphold their personal freedoms.

If a person experiences restrictions as a result of practices that are in place for another person, and these aren't able to be mitigated appropriately, it may be considered a regulated restrictive practice and need to be authorised in accordance with the Policy.

¹ The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission's <u>Regulated Restrictive Practices Guide</u> notes, on page 16, 'It is good practice for registered NDIS providers to develop a one-page protocol that outlines how the impacts of restrictive practices will be addressed to uphold the rights of other persons' with disability'.



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Contact information

For enquiries about the Policy, please contact the Department of Communities – authorisation of restrictive practices team:

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[Last updated June 2021]