



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



The Future of Disability Employment

The Hon Jane Prentice MP

Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services

National Disability Insurance Scheme

- Transition commenced 1 July 2016
- Full implementation in 2019-20

	2014-15	2019-20
Tier 3 clients	18,944	460,000
Expenditure	\$670 million	\$22 billion

- Changes to service provision under the NDIS include:
 - Greater individual choice and control over funding for clients
 - Greater coordination of different services around individual needs
 - Indirect funding of service providers instead of block grant funding
 - Competition among providers to attract and retain clients

National Disability Strategy (NDS)

Vision: An inclusive Australian society that enables people with disability to fulfil their potential.

NDS principles:

- Inclusive and accessible communities
- Rights protection, justice and legislation
- Economic security
- Personal and community support
- Learning and skills
- Health and wellbeing.

Workforce participation

2015 Survey of Disability, Aging and Carers

Working age (15 - 64)	With Disability	Without Disability
Participation rate	53.4%	83.2%
Unemployment rate	10.0%	5.3%
Full time employment	27.0%	53.8%
Gross weekly median income	\$330	\$767
%in lowest income quintile	32.3%	8.2%

Current DES Performance

- In the twelve months to March 2016, 30 per cent of DES participants remained employed three months after assistance.
- This continues a downward trend since March 2013, when it was 38 per cent.
- DES Job Placements for 2015-16 were 49,700
- This is down from 52,400 Job Placements in 2012-13.

Disability Employment Taskforce

Consultations

- Two rounds of consultation
- Information sessions in 13 towns and cities
- Over 1,100 individuals
- 150 written submissions received

Disability Employment Taskforce

Main findings

1. Greater Participant Information, Choice and Control
2. High Quality Service Delivery
3. Better Employer Engagement

New DES policy measures

1. Registering voluntary participants from outside ESA

- Currently generalist DES providers can register only participants whose permanent address is within their ESA
- Change will allow providers to register voluntary participants from adjacent ESAs
- Affects only voluntary participants (currently about 45,200)

New DES policy measures

2. Streamlined employment breaks administration

- Currently providers can use :
 - Permissible Break (28 calendar days): involuntary breaks
 - Break in Employment (20 business days): involuntary job loss
 - Change in Employment (5 business days): voluntary job change
- Streamlined administrative actions:
 - 28 calendar days for involuntary breaks
 - 7 calendar days for voluntary breaks
- Retains flexibility for special circumstances

New DES policy measures

3. More time to record Job Placement

- Currently providers have 28 calendar days to record placements
- From 1 October, increased to 56 calendar days
- 60% estimated reduction in related manual special claims

New DES policy measures

4. Adoption of Ongoing Support and Job Plan trial

- 18 month Trial (1/4/15 to 30/9/16) to streamline administrative burden for Ongoing Support participants
- Continuing from 1 October 2016:
 - Alternatives to face-to-face contacts allowed
 - Job Plan updates required 6-monthly, instead of quarterly
 - Purchased assistance can be counted against required support

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Keyword(s)

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Next Steps

- Co-design of new DES contract, including stakeholder consultation
- Challenges including greater employer engagement
- Government decision on DES model early 2017
- New contract commences 2018

Thank you

*The Hon Jane Prentice MP
Assistant Minister for Social Services and
Disability Services*



A close-up photograph of a drum head, showing two wooden drumsticks resting on the surface. The drum head is white with a black logo in the lower right corner. The logo features the word "REMO" in a stylized font, with "HEATHERKING" and "COATED AUBASSADOR" written above it. A small gear icon is also present.

REMO
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Thank you

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