Transcript for Northern Territory Quarterly Performance Dashboard as at 30 June 2023

This dashboard provides a quarterly comparison of key statistics relating to active participants and their experience in the Scheme. It also includes key outcomes and participant satisfaction results as well as market characteristics.

## Participants and planning

A table displays the following key statistics on the Northern Territory participant experience as at 30 June 2023 and 31 March 2023.

• The number of active participants with approved plans (excluding children accessing early connections) increased from 5,522 as at 31 March 2023 to 5,647 as at 30 June 2023.

• The number of children accessing early connections increased from 111 as at 31 March 2023 to 132 as at 30 June 2023.

• The number of children waiting for early connections increased from 1 as at 31 March 2023 to 7 as at 30 June 2023.

• The percentage of participants fully or partially self-managing their plan decreased from 15% as at 31 March 2023 to 14% as at 30 June 2023.

• The percentage of plans activated within 90 days increased from 83% as at 31 March 2023 to 84% as at 30 June 2023. Trial participants (participants with initial plans approved prior to 1 July 2016) and those with initial plans approved after the end of 2022-23 Quarter 2 have been excluded.

• The number of completed participant plan reassessments decreased from 800 in the quarter ending 31 March 2023 to 788 in the quarter ending 30 June 2023. Plans less than 31 days in duration have been excluded from this tabulation, as these reassessments are more likely to represent corrections to the plan rather than a new plan reassessment to address a change in circumstance.

A chart displays the change in active participants between 31 March 2023 and 30 June 2023.

At the beginning of Quarter 4 2022-23 there were 5,522 active participants (excluding children accessing early connections). During 2022-23 Quarter 4, there were 203 plan approvals and 78 participants who have left the Scheme or moved to another state or territory. This resulted in 5,647 active participants as at 30 June 2023.

The following key statistics summarise the Northern Territory performance as at 30 June 2023.

• 6,128 participants (excluding children accessing early connections) have had an approved plan since July 2013. 5,647 of these continue to be active.

• 3,598 active participants have not previously received disability support via State and Commonwealth government programs in the past.

• In the current quarter, 203 participants have entered the Scheme and there are 132 children accessing early connections at the end of June 2023.

• 788 plans have had reassessments this quarter.

• 248 access decisions have been made in the quarter, of which 204 met access and are still active.

• 98 (48.3%) of the new active participants this quarter identified as First Nations participants, taking the total number of First Nations participants in Northern Territory to 2,854 (50.5%).

• 17 (8.4%) of the new active participants this quarter are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse, taking the total number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants in Northern Territory to 355 (6.3%). The number of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse participants excludes First Nations participants.

## Participant outcomes and satisfaction

A table displays the following key statistics on Northern Territory participant outcomes and satisfaction.

For Participant and Scheme Outcome metrics from the Corporate Plan as at 30 June 2023, the Outcome results include participants who have been in the Scheme for at least two years. Trial participants (participants with initial plans approved prior to 1 July 2016) are excluded. The following four indicators are outcomes measures.

• The Participant employment rate - Aged 15 - 64 years increased from 12% at baseline to 14% at the latest reassessment.

• The Participant social and community engagement rate - Aged 15+ years increased from 43% at baseline to 45% at the latest reassessment.

• The Parent and carer employment rate - All ages increased from 52% at baseline to 56% at the latest reassessment.

• The Participant perception of choice and control - Aged 15+ years increased from 56% at the first reassessment to 69% at the latest reassessment.

The following results indicate the percentage of participants rating their overall experience as 'Very Good' or 'Good' by pathway stage in current and previous quarters.

• 'Access' stage metric cannot be measured for the quarters ending 31 March 2023 and 30 June 2023.

• 'Pre-planning' stage cannot be measured for the quarters ending 31 March 2023 and 30 June 2023.

• 'Planning' stage increased from 80% in the quarter ending 31 March 2023 to 87% in the quarter ending 30 June 2023.

• 'Plan reassessment ' stage increased from 64%, in the quarter ending 31 March 2023 to 68% in the quarter ending 30 June 2023.

## Participant Service Guarantee

The following statistics concern Participant Service Guarantee metrics. These statistics look at the percentage of cases meeting the Service Guarantee target in the quarters ending 31 March 2023 and 30 June 2023. Participant Service Guarantee results in the previous quarter may be restated due to ongoing logic refinement and changes in data quality.

The following metric is concerned with the General category.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 1: Explain a previous decision within 28 days after a request for explanation is received – was 100% as at 31 March 2023. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 30 June 2023.

The following three metrics are concerned with Access.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 2: Make an access decision, or request for more information within 21 days after an access request has been received - increased from 98% as at 31 March 2023 to 100% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 3: Allow sufficient time (90 days) for prospective participants to provide information, after NDIA has requested further information – was 100% as at 31 March 2022. This metric cannot be measured for the quarter ending 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 4: Make an access decision within 14 days, after more information has been provided - increased from 97% as at 31 March 2023 to 98% as at 30 June 2023.

The following three metrics are concerned with Planning.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 5: Commence facilitating the preparation of a plan within 21 days, after an access decision has been made - increased from 81% as at 31 March 2023 to 87% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 6: Approve a participant's plan within 56 days, after an access decision has been made (excludes those Early Childhood Approach that have received initial supports) - increased from 72% as at 31 March 2023 to 76% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 7: Approve a plan for Early Childhood Approach participants within 90 days, after an access decision has been made - decreased from 89% as at 31 March 2023 to 86% as at 30 June 2023.

The following metric is concerned with Implementation.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 9: If the participant accepts the offer, hold a plan implementation meeting within 28 days - remained stable at 100% from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

The following three metrics are concerned with Plan Reassessments.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 11: Commence facilitating a scheduled plan reassessment at least 56 days, prior to the scheduled reassessment date - remained stable at 65%, from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 12: Decide whether to undertake a Participant Requested Plan Reassessment within 21 days, after the request is received - increased from 81% as at 31 March 2023 to 88% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 13: Complete a reassessment within 28 days, after the decision to accept the request was made - decreased from 42% as at 31 March 2023 to 37% as at 30 June 2023.

The following two metrics are concerned with Plan Amendments.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 14: Amend a plan within 28 days, after the receipt of information that triggers the plan amendment process - decreased from 87% as at 31 March 2023 to 85% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 15: Amend a plan within 50 days, after the receipt of information relating to a complex quote that triggers a plan amendment process - remained stable at 100% from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

The following two metrics are concerned with Reviewable Decisions.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 17: Complete an Internal Review of a Reviewable Decision within 60 days, after a request is received - increased from 85% as at 31 March 2023 to 96% as at 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 18: Implement an Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision to amend a plan within 28 days, after the Administrative Appeals Tribunal decision is made - remained stable at 100% from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

The following two metrics are concerned with Nominees.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 19: Cancel participant requested nominee within 14 days - remained stable at 100% from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

• Participant Service Guarantee number 20: Cancel CEO initiated nominee within 14 days - cannot be measured for the quarters ending 31 March 2023 and 30 June 2023.

• The Participant Service Guarantee metrics are based on the recommendations of the 2019 Tune Review. The NDIA commenced measuring performance against the Participant Service Guarantee metrics prior to the legislation of the Participant Service Charter and Guarantee. On 30 March 2022, the NDIS Amendment (Participant Service Guarantee and Other Measures) Bill 2021 passed in both houses of Parliament, and received Royal Assent on 1 April 2022. It introduces changes that provide greater flexibility for participants and the NDIA to amend plans.

## Provider and market metrics

A table displays the following key statistics on Northern Territory market supply and participant costs as at 30 June 2023 and at 31 March 2023.

• The total number of active providers (with at least one claim ever) remained unchanged at 1,044, from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023. Active providers refer to those who have received payment for supports provided to Agency-managed participants and plan managers.

• The total number of active providers in the last quarter increased from 329 as at 31 March 2023 to 336 as at 30 June 2023. Active providers refer to those who have received payment for supports provided to Agency-managed participants and plan managers.

• Utilisation (which is calculated as a 6 month rolling average with a 3 month lag) increased from 75% as at 31 March 2023 to 76% as at 30 June 2023.

• Plan utilisation by service district. The proportion of service districts that are more than 10 percentage points below the benchmark increased from 17% as at 31 March 2023 to 33% as at 30 June 2023. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the National average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living (SIL) in each service district and the length of time participants have been in the Scheme.

• Market concentration. The proportion of service districts where more than 70% of payments for supports go to the top 10 providers remained stable at 50%, from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

• The proportion of payments paid within 5 days through the portal remained stable at 99.8% from 31 March 2023 to 30 June 2023.

• Total payments from 1 July 2022 were $393 million as at 31 March 2023 and $535 million as at 30 June 2023.

• Total annualised plan budgets increased from $648 million as at 31 March 2023 to $664 million as at 30 June 2023. Total annualised plan budgets refer to those in the current plans of active participants at the end of quarter.

• Total plan inflation (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 15.9% in the March 2023 quarter to 12.9% in the June 2023 quarter. Total plan inflation consists of plan budget changes occurring at plan reassessment as well as changes occurring within a plan between reassessments.

• Inflation at plan reassessment (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 9.4% in the March 2023 quarter to 7.4% in the June 2023 quarter.

• Inflation within a plan between reassessments (current quarter percentage per annum) decreased from 6.5% in the March 2023 quarter to 5.5% in the June 2023 quarter.

• Socioeconomic equity decreased from 99% in the March 2023 quarter to 91% in the June 2023 quarter. Socioeconomic status uses deciles from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Index of Education and Occupation. A higher decile indicates that people residing in that area have a higher level of skills and qualifications on average. The Socioeconomic equity metric is equal to the average annualised plan budget of participants residing in the top two deciles divided by the average annualised plan budget of participants residing in the bottom two deciles (participants not in Supported Independent Living and aged 0 to 64).

The following comments are made regarding the Northern Territory experience:

• Total annualised plan budgets at 30 June 2023 were $664 million and payments from 1 July 2022 were $535 million.

• The number of active providers at the end of June is 1,044, remaining at the same level as last quarter.

• Utilisation has been 76% from 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, with 33% (2 out of 6) of service districts in Northern Territory more than 10 percentage points below the adjusted National benchmark.

• In 50% (3 out of 6) of service districts, the top 10 providers provide more than 70% of payments.

A chart displays the Northern Territory distribution of service districts by plan utilisation as at 30 June 2023. The ‘benchmark’ in this analysis is the National average after adjusting for the proportion of participants in Supported Independent Living (SIL) in each service district and the length of time participants have been in the Scheme.

On the chart,

• No service districts are more than 10 percentage points above the adjusted National benchmark.

• No service districts are between 5 and 10 percentage points above the adjusted National benchmark.

• 3 out of 6 (50%) service districts are within 5 percentage points of the adjusted National benchmark.

• 1 out of 6 (17%) service districts is between 5 and 10 percentage points below the adjusted National benchmark.

• 2 out of 6 (33%) service districts are more than 10 percentage points below the adjusted National benchmark.

Service districts more than 10% below plan utilisation benchmark:

• East Arnhem: 52% versus 74% benchmark.

• Darwin Remote: 57% versus 69% benchmark.

A chart displays the Northern Territory distribution of service districts by market concentration as at 30 June 2023.

 On the chart,

• No service districts have less than 25% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 2 out of 6 (33%) service districts have between 25% and 45% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• No service districts have between 45% and 60% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 1 out of 6 (17%) service districts has between 60% and 70% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• 3 out of 6 (50%) service districts have between 70% and 85% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

• No service districts have more than 85% of payments going to the 10 largest providers.

Service districts above the market concentration benchmark:

• Katherine: 79% versus 70% benchmark.

• Barkly: 76% versus 70% benchmark.

• East Arnhem: 73% versus 70% benchmark.

## Summaries by Service Districts

A chart displays the active participants by service district as at 30 June 2023. There are 243 active participants at 30 June 2023 residing in 'Other' service districts. 'Other' includes participants with service district information missing. The average annualised plan budgets and average payments for this group are not shown.

The number of active participants in each service district as at 30 June 2023 shows as:

• 143 for Barkly.

• 922 for Central Australia.

• 494 for Darwin Remote.

• 3,341 for Darwin Urban.

• 226 for East Arnhem.

• 278 for Katherine.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments at 30 June 2023. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants at 30 June 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month.

The average annualised plan budget in each service district at 30 June 2023 shows as:

• $128,700 for Barkly.

• $196,100 for Central Australia.

• $69,200 for Darwin Remote.

• $102,900 for Darwin Urban.

• $102,500 for East Arnhem.

• $153,100 for Katherine.

• $117,500 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments in each service district for the 12 months to 30 June 2023 show as:

• $81,400 for Barkly.

• $164,200 for Central Australia.

• $43,300 for Darwin Remote.

• $93,600 for Darwin Urban.

• $57,700 for East Arnhem.

• $146,200 for Katherine.

• $100,200 for all of Northern Territory.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments at 30 June 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants at 30 June 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month.

The average annualised plan budget in each service district at 30 June 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living shows as:

• $707,800 for Central Australia.

• $544,900 for Darwin Urban.

• $590,000 for Katherine.

• $591,900 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments in each service district for the 12 months to 30 June 2023 for participants in Supported Independent Living show as:

• $671,200 for Central Australia.

• $525,400 for Darwin Urban.

• $560,500 for Katherine.

• $565,200 for all of Northern Territory.

Another chart displays the average annualised plan budgets and average payments at 30 June 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living. Figures are not shown if there is insufficient data in the service district. Average annualised plan budgets are derived from total annualised plan budgets in the current plans of active participants at 30 June 2023. Average payments are calculated as the average of the annualised monthly payments in the same 12 month period, weighted by the participants that are active in each month.

The average annualised plan budget in each service district at 30 June 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living shows as:

• $80,500 for Barkly.

• $98,200 for Central Australia.

• $64,300 for Darwin Remote.

• $58,800 for Darwin Urban.

• $94,800 for East Arnhem.

• $70,900 for Katherine.

• $68,200 for all of Northern Territory.

The average payments in each service district for the 12 months to 30 June 2023 for participants not in Supported Independent Living show as:

• $44,300 for Barkly.

• $68,600 for Central Australia.

• $39,700 for Darwin Remote.

• $50,100 for Darwin Urban.

• $50,800 for East Arnhem.

• $65,800 for Katherine.

• $52,100 for all of Northern Territory.

The following comments are made regarding the Northern Territory experience at service district level as at 30 June 2023.

• Darwin Urban has the highest number of active participants at 3,341 participants, while Barkly has the lowest number at 143 active participants.

• The average annualised plan budget at the end of June for active participants is $117,500 ($68,200 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $591,900 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• The average payment for the 12 months ending 30 June 2023 is $100,200 ($52,100 for participants not in Supported Independent Living and $565,200 for participants in Supported Independent Living).

• Central Australia has the highest average annualised plan budgets and payments across all participants.