The NDIA and Government are taking stronger measures to find and stop fraud and serious organised crime in the NDIS and other government programs.

Fraud is unacceptable and we have zero tolerance for any criminals exploiting the NDIS. Anyone doing the wrong thing will be found, removed from the NDIS and may be referred to law enforcement agencies for investigation.

We are committed to protecting all NDIS participants' safety and wellbeing and safeguarding the integrity of the NDIS.

Through the Fraud Fusion Taskforce the NDIA is working closely with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, Australian Federal Police, Australian Tax Office, and other Commonwealth partners to take action against individuals and business exploiting the NDIS.

The Fraud Fusion Taskforce started in November 2022. It is a partnership between 19 government agencies working together to find and stop fraud in the NDIS and government programs.

Fraud Fusion Taskforce members include:

- Attorney-General's Department Commonwealth Fraud Prevention Centre
- Australian Charities and Non for Profits Commission
- Australian Securities and Investments Commission
- Australian Skills Quality Authority
- Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission
- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Taxation Office
- Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)
- Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Aged Care
- Department of Social Services
- National Disability Insurance Agency
- National Indigenous Australians Agency
- NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission
- Professional Services Review Agency
- Services Australia

The Taskforce aims to:



- improve how government agencies work together to quickly detect, resolve and prevent fraud and serious organised crime in the NDIS and other government programs
- strengthen and improve the NDIS and other government payment systems, making it easy to do the right thing and harder to do the wrong thing, including spending funds incorrectly.
- reduce the impacts of fraud on NDIS participants
- protect the safety and wellbeing of NDIS participants and other Australian systems of social supports improve systems, skills and knowledge across government to help protect the integrity of programs and payments.

The Taskforce is governed by an Ethics and Human Oversight Framework. This makes sure participants' safety, wellbeing and privacy is protected. NDIS participants are at the heart of everything the Taskforce does to combat fraud and serious organised crime.

The long-term investment and outcomes of the Fraud Fusion Taskforce will help make sure that NDIS funding goes directly to participants so they can access the disability-related supports and services they need.

## Let's work together to combat fraud

We encourage NDIS participants and providers to continue to report any suspected fraud cases to the NDIA and the Taskforce to investigate.

If you think someone is doing the wrong thing with NDIS funds, please report it to us.

Even if you are not sure if it is <u>fraud</u>, please still report it. We take all reports seriously and analyse every single one.

The information you provide will be kept confidential, and your rights are protected by law.

Together, we can make sure that the NDIS remains a great scheme for those that need it most.

## Participant engagement

An Integrity Co-Design Working Group was established under the Reform for Outcomes initiative and first met in July 2023. Regular meetings have occurred since.

The working group includes participants, family members, Disability Representative and Carer Organisations and Independent Advisory Council members.

Focus areas include:



## **Fraud Fusion Taskforce**

- user experience and accessibility impacts of integrity improvements, with a focus on fair, transparent, ethical, and safe experiences
- effective communication and engagement with participants, providers, the disability community, and other stakeholders

For more information visit <u>Reform for outcomes</u>.

## More Information:

- What is fraud or non-compliance?
- How to report fraud or suspicious behaviour?

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