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**National Disability Insurance Scheme Working Group**

**Terms of Reference**

**Back ground information**

The NDIS Working Party was initially established in 2014 to gather information about the operation of the NDIS through the trial period in Tasmania, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales; and as the full scheme rolled out across Australia from July 2016. A callout was placed to interested organisations and individuals across the arts and disability sectors, to participate in the group. Approximately 40 people registered their interest, and the working group met regularly over a three-year period and engaged in activities including presenting at the Having a Say Conference in Geelong in 2015, responding to the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Standards Consultation Paper, and supporting the development of the Reasonable and Necessary campaign in partnership with Acccess2Arts in 2016.

**The NDIS Working Group 2017**

With the commencement of a new CEO at Arts Access Australia, a meeting was held in February 2017, and the opportunity to review the relevance and terms of reference for the group moving forward was created. The NDIS working group remains relevant in providing a forum that examines emerging issues, shares information and key learnings and takes strategic action to ensure the best outcomes for artists and artworkers with disability and the organisations that support them.

The scope of this work, includes artists with disability participating in all art forms across Australia, and across all aspects of participation and inclusion; including community participation, career development, professional pathways and employment.

**Purpose**

To provide a forum that examines and responds to emerging issues and opportunities relevant to the NDIS and the Arts, and advocates for change where appropriate;

**Objectives**

1. To formulate a national coordinated advocacy strategy to support participation in the arts through the NDIS; and
2. To provide opportunities for arts organisations to seek ongoing feedback about relevant issues and resources throughout the implementation of the NDIS; and
3. To share information and resources to support participation in the arts through the NDIS; and facilitate the development of new resources as required.
4. To monitor outcomes for artists with disability engaging in the NDIS, and support and incubate research strategies to improve these outcomes.
5. To develop and promote opportunities for workforce development and capacity building for organisations that support artists and arts workers with disability.

**Commitment**

The NDIS Working Group will meet bi-monthly via teleconference. Should additional meetings be required in order to support key outcomes, these will be notified as far in advance as possible.