1. On 16 December 2020, the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) announced an inquiry into the use of independent assessments under the NDIS. This refers to an assessment of a person’s functional capacity which is proposed to be used to inform decisions about eligibility for the NDIS and funding in an NDIS participant’s plan.
2. The inquiry focuses on the rationale for the introduction of independent assessments into the NDIS, proposed assessment process and impacts, implications for NDIS access and planning, and appropriateness for certain cohorts of people with disability.
3. On 25 November 2020, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) released a series of consultation papers regarding proposed reforms to the NDIS, including a new NDIS Access and Eligibility Policy and Planning Policy which outline the proposed use of independent assessments to determine access and planning under the NDIS.
4. The Queensland Government submission raises the following key issues:
* validity of assessment processes and tools, particularly regarding concerns for potential adverse outcomes for vulnerable groups of people with disability;
* implications of assessments for NDIS planning and reasonable and necessary supports;
* need for further information regarding skills and availability of the assessor workforce; and
* impacts and interface with mainstream service systems.
1. Cabinet approved the Queensland Government submission to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme Inquiry into Independent Assessments.
2. *Attachments*:
* [Queensland Government submission to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme – Inquiry into independent assessments under the NDIS.](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2021/Apr/NDISInquiry/Attachments/Submission.PDF)