



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

Kathryn Campbell AO CSC
Secretary

Ref: EC20-001006

Mr Martin Hoffman
Chief Executive Officer
National Disability Insurance Agency
GPO Box 700
CANBERRA ACT 2601


Dear Mr Hoffman

I am writing to you regarding the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Program (ILC).

While ILC grant funds are appropriated to the Department of Social Services (the department), to date the program has been administered by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The Minister for Families and Social Services, Senator the Hon Anne Ruston and the Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, the Hon Stuart Robert MP, have recently decided the administration of ILC would be better placed within the department. This is to ensure closer alignment with other disability services and initiatives, such as the National Disability Strategy, the National Disability Information Gateway and Disability Employment Services.

Minister Ruston and Minister Robert's decision includes the transfer of policy responsibility for the ILC grant program to the department, including the lead on the evaluation of the ILC and development of a new ILC Investment Strategy. It also includes the department and the NDIA working together to transition the management of existing ILC grant agreements from the NDIA to the department as soon as practicable.

The Ministers' decision has implications for the one current and two proposed ILC grant rounds. Ministers expect the department and the NDIA to work closely to finalise the Individual Capacity Building grant round that closed on 6 May 2020, including determining how and when these grants will transition to the department.

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It will be important this change is carefully managed to ensure a seamless transition for stakeholders, including existing service providers and the broader disability sector. To achieve this outcome I consider it important we align our communications. Further there are a number of legal and administrative issues the department and NDIA will need to work through to give effect to this transition, including resourcing implications.

I propose a transition committee be established between the department and the NDIA to manage this change. The lead contact within the department is Ms Flora Carapellucci, Group Manager, Commonwealth/State Policy. Ms Carapellucci can be contacted on s47E(d) or flora.carapellucci@dss.gov.au. I would appreciate you advising of an appropriate contact in the NDIA.

Yours sincerely

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} June 2020