

**18/585 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) on Nationally Consistent Worker Screening for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**

**Summary of Impacts**

- Agreement to the IGA for integration of the nationally agreed approach to worker screening for the NDIS into the current operation of the Working with Vulnerable people (WWVP) Scheme will have minimal impact on applicants, greater protections for people living with disability but will disadvantage a small section of the community.
- A Regulatory Impact Statement prepared for COAG on the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework concluded that “independent risk-based screening represents the most efficient and effective approach to worker screening as it would have a strong deterrence effect, would reduce the potential for people who pose a risk to enter the sector through upfront rigorous screening, as well as provide a mechanism to remove those proven to pose a risk. This approach would reduce compliance costs for providers while sending a strong signal about the priority placed on the right of people with disability to be safe.”

*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - positive.*

**Social**

<b>Justice and rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While the policy initiative will strengthen the human rights of some population groups it will impinge on others. In review of the purpose of limiting one section of society’s rights over another it was agreed nationally that the rights of people with disability to be free from harm outweighed an individual’s right to work in a particular sector when that individual has been determined to pose a significant risk of harm to others.</li> </ul>
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**Economic**

<b>ACT Government Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be cost implications from this policy initiative but they are as yet unknown. There will be general change management implications for Access Canberra as it seeks to integrate changes to the Act as a result of the IGA, legislation review of the WWVP Scheme and Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Work is underway on costing the ICT solution that will support applications, continuous monitoring, information sharing with both the NDIS Commission and the Royal Commission and reporting.</li> </ul>
<b>Productivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The policy initiative will provide additional support to an economic sector that is both immature and experiencing great change. The disability support sector is continuing to grow following the establishment of the NDIS. The requirements for provider registration coupled with worker screening agreed to under the IGA will provide additional protections for people with disability and for new businesses operating in the sector.</li> </ul>

**Environmental**

Nil impact