

Community consultation

10 February to 24 March 2025

**Disability
Support Services**



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Welcome and introductions



**Disability
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Welcome from Chris Bunny



How today will run



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What happens next



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Use and release of information



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Background

- About Disability Support Services (DSS)
- The Independent Review in 2024
- Consulting with the disability community

Decision-making process

**29 Oct-22 Nov
2024**

A survey on issues
with DSS

December 2024

Government
decision on scope
of proposals

Feb-March 2025

Seeking feedback
on proposals

Mid 2025

Government
decisions

Topic 1

Improving the way the needs of disabled people are assessed and how support is allocated

- Make sure disabled people's needs are assessed in the same way, and that decisions are consistent and fair
- Proposing changes to improve the tools that help assess peoples' needs and make decisions about what support they receive

Proposal: Improving how the assessment tool reflects the diversity of disability

Make sure assessors understand disabled people's specific situations and ensure that the funding and support each disabled person receives is fair and consistent.

Question

What information does an assessor need to gather about a disabled person's circumstances to help identify the support they need?



Proposal: Understanding the needs of family, whānau and carers of disabled people

Should the needs of the family, whanāu and carers of disabled people be specifically considered?

Question

How do you feel about the needs of carers being specifically assessed alongside those of the disabled person?



Break: 15 minutes



Topic 2

- **Criteria to access flexible funding**
- **Changes to how flexible funding can be used**

- Make sure disabled people and their carers can continue to use flexible funding to make their own decisions about the support they need.
- The flexible funding system needs to be fair, easy to understand, and used to support intended outcomes

Proposal: Introducing criteria to access flexible funding

Clearer rules are needed to access flexible funding.

Question


How do you feel about the introduction of criteria for receiving flexible funding?




Proposal: Changing how flexible funding can be used

It should be clearer how flexible funding should be used. We think there are two ways of doing this.

1. Link flexible funding to the person's plan with oversight of how it is used



2. Adjust current lists of what can and can't be funded using flexible funding



Question:

Which approach do you prefer? Why?



What happens next



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Thank you

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