



Sector Update

Budget news!

With the election now being called for 3rd May, the immediate future of the disability sector hangs in the balance. The government's budget announcement included:

NDIS growth

Commitment to capping the NDIS's annual growth rate at 8% by mid-2026. Recent projections indicate progress toward this goal, with the growth rate decreasing from 23% in previous years to 12% in 2024–25, and further to 8.4% in 2025–26.

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building

This budget allocated \$364.5m over 5 years to reform the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) program. From 2029-30, the program will get \$150.9m annually.

Crack down on fraud

This budget allocated \$151 million over four years to enhance the NDIA's fraud detection systems. So far, efforts have identified over 2,100 providers with problematic claims, preventing more than \$400 million in fraudulent payments.

Accessible Australia

The government announced a new initiative called Accessible Australia. The initiative will aim to increase the accessibility of national parks, beaches, portable and fixed changing facilities and play spaces.

There were also measures related to the disability sector including \$42.3m over the next five years to deliver the National Autism Strategy and implement the Strategy's Action Plan, \$11m over four years to increase the Disability Australian Apprentice Wage Support subsidy and \$2.4m in 2025–26 to extend the Care Together Program, which supports communities to develop cooperative and mutual ways to develop care services.

Of course, if The Coalition wins the election this is likely to look substantially different.

Foundational supports

Foundational Supports will be a new tier of disability supports that sit between mainstream services and more specialised disability services provided through the NDIS. It is intended they will be more inclusive for people with a disability than what they can access currently outside NDIS.

There will be two types of foundational supports:

General supports - including capacity building support, information and guidance and peer support. These can be accessed by NDIS participants and people not on the NDIS.

Targeted supports - will include support for people who need lower intensity disability supports and aren't on the NDIS. These supports will focus on assisting people with specific needs.



Celebrating 60 years of Expressway Spares

A fantastic milestone for a great local business and our biggest Commercial Laundry customer.

A wonderful afternoon had by the W&A crew - even rubbed shoulders with a politician or two.

**WELCOME ✨
to the TEAM**

Welcome to the Willing & Able Support Team Connie and Peter.

**OUR PARTICIPANTS ARE OUR
NUMBER ONE PRIORITY**



PREMISES UPDATE

We are excited to share that the purchase of 38 Jindalee Road is progressing smoothly—yes, you read that correctly! On April 11th, Willing & Able will officially be the proud owners of number 38.

This is a huge step forward for us, securing our future and giving us the ability to shape the space to better meet both our needs and that of the community. With ownership comes exciting opportunities for growth and development.

Stay tuned for more updates as we embark on this exciting new chapter together!

Staff Survey and Strategy Consultation



The results are in from our recent Staff, Participant and Family/Carer Satisfaction surveys. Again this year, we have received an overwhelmingly positive result.

As always, we take any feedback seriously and have created a list of actions for the upcoming 12 months.

Additionally, we also asked questions about the strategy and future direction of Willing & Able – and were presented with some great ideas and some thoughtful responses. This will all tie into the upcoming Board strategy session in May 2025, and will guide the decisions that are made about the best use of our premises, both in the short and long term.



TECH UPDATE - A brand new Willing & Able website is under construction.

GO LIVE date coming soon

Congratulations

Our Supported Employees of the Month Award Winners



Chris



Glen



Keith

