



Fact sheet for people getting Disability Support Services



23 August 2024 – Fact sheet 1

What this document is about



This Easy Read fact sheet is from Ministry of Disabled People — Whaikaha.



It is information for people who are getting Disability Support Services.



The information in this fact sheet is true as of 23 August 2024.



Some of the information in this fact sheet may change in the future.



When you see the words **we / us** in this fact sheet it means Ministry of Disabled People — Whaikaha.

About the independent review of the Disability Support System



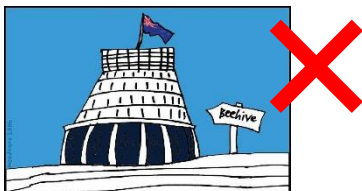
The Minister for Disability Issues is Louise Upston.



Minister Upston asked for an **independent review** to be done to look at how well the Disability Support System was working.



A **review** is when someone looks at what things have happened.



An **independent review** means the review was done by people who do not work at the place being reviewed.



The review also looked at how well
Ministry of Disabled People —
Whaikaha was:

- working
- using the money it has.



The people who did the review made
7 recommendations that the
Government have said yes to.



Recommendations are the changes
that the people doing the review said
should happen.



You can read a **summary** of the
7 recommendations on **pages**
4 to 8 of this fact sheet.

A **summary** is a short version of a
report / information.

Recommendation 1:

Budgets for disability service providers



A **budget** is the total amount of money an organisation / service has.



The budget changes will affect:

- Needs Assessment and Service Coordination organisations / **NASCs**
- Enabling Good Lives / **EGL**
- Equipment and Modification Service / **EMS** providers.



The budget changes will mean that these services will need to think about how they spend their money.



Recommendation 2:

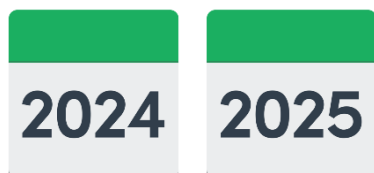
Freeze funding for residential care



This means services who get funding for residential care will not get any extra money until after July 2025.

Recommendation 3:

Take no action on a price increase for providers in 2024 / 2025



This means there will be no extra money for disability service / care providers from July 2024 to June 2025.

Recommendation 4:

Monitor NASC and EGL sites



This means that a system will be put in place to watch over what some disability providers do including:

- NASCs
- EGL.

Recommendation 5:

Update assessment and allocation settings



This means that the amount of support that someone gets will be based on how much they need it.

Recommendation 6:



Establish Flexible Funding criteria and review guidelines

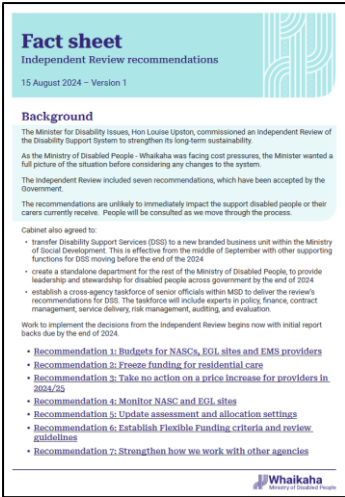
This means that the way the Flexible Funding system works will be looked at so that it can be made better.

Recommendation 7:



Strengthen how we work with other agencies

This means we will look at ways to work better with other government agencies.



You can read more about the 7 recommendations in the fact sheet called:

Independent Review Recommendations



You can find this fact sheet on the Ministry of Disabled People — Whaikaha **website** at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2y6tvhcj>



The fact sheet is **not** in Easy Read.

What the changes mean now



Ministry of Disabled People —
Whaikaha supports people who are:



- disabled
- the whānau / family member of a disabled person
- the carer of a disabled person.



The kind of support you get might be:

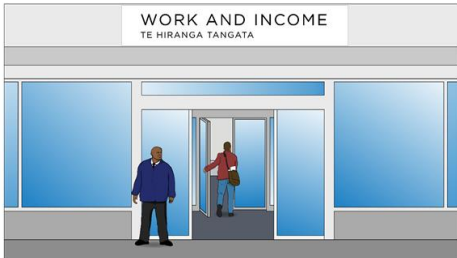


- funding
- equipment
- care
- any other disability support.





You will carry on getting any support you get for now.



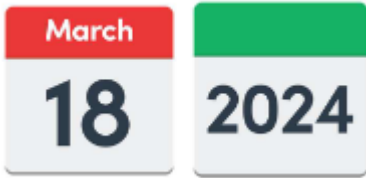
You do **not** need to go into your Work and Income office for disability support services.



You can talk to your:

- service provider
- NASC
- EGL site.



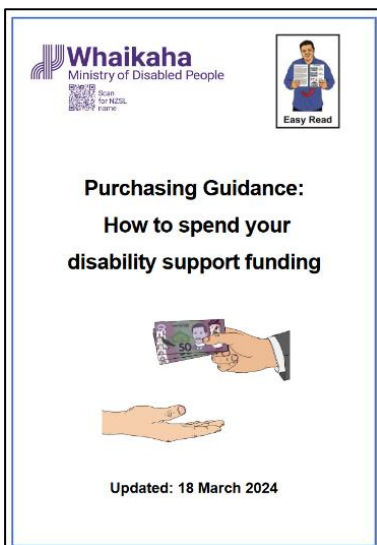


On 18 March 2024 we made some changes to the rules for:

- Flexible Funding
- Equipment and Modification Service / EMS.



The changes to these rules will stay the same.



You can find Easy Read information about the rules in a document called:

**Purchasing Guidance:
How to spend your disability
support funding**



You can find this document on the Ministry of Disabled People — Whaikaha website at:

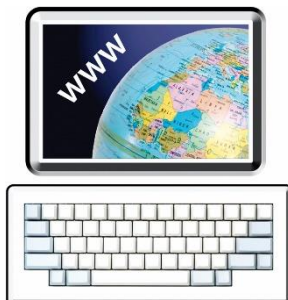
<https://tinyurl.com/yc5ncsku>

What the changes could mean in the future



We will talk to disabled people about what will happen as things change.

We will work with other disability organisations / providers when we know more about what will happen.



You can find out more information about the changes on our **website** at:

www.whaikaha.govt.nz

How to get in touch with us



You can get in touch with us if you have any questions.



You can:

- visit our **website** at:

www.whaikaha.govt.nz



- send us an **email** at:

contact@whaikaha.govt.nz



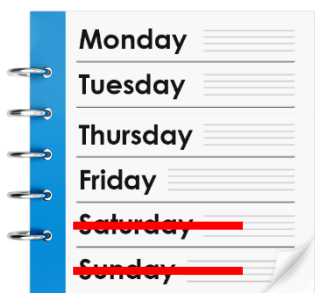
- **phone** us on:

0800 566 601



It will not cost you any money to call this number.

You can call us on the phone:



- from 8 am to 5 pm on:
 - Monday
 - Tuesday
 - Thursday
 - Friday
- from 9.30 am to 5 pm on:
 - Wednesday.



You can also use the **New Zealand Relay** service to get in touch with us.

If you find it hard to use the phone the **New Zealand Relay** service is for people who are:

- Deaf / hard of hearing
- deafblind
- speech impaired / find it hard to talk.

You can find out more about the New Zealand Relay service at:

www.nzrelay.co.nz

This information has been written by
Ministry of Disabled People —
Whaikaha.

Make it Easy
Kia Māmā Mai



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