



Authorisation of Restrictive Practices in Funded Disability Services Policy

Quick Reference Guide to accompany the Policy

The WA quality and safeguarding framework arrangements will apply until 30 November 2020.

On 1 December 2020, quality and safeguarding functions under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in Western Australia (WA) will transition from the Department of Communities to the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission).

The State is responsible for the authorisation of regulated restrictive practices from 1 December 2020.

The **Authorisation of Restrictive Practices in Funded Disability Services Policy (the Policy)** outlines the State's authorisation arrangements which will be mandatory from 1 December 2020. The Policy is an important safeguard for people with disability and builds on the State's current quality and safeguarding system.

The **Authorisation of Restrictive Practices in Funded Disability Services Policy** released in June 2020 has been amended to outline a staged approach to implementation.

The Policy allows for a two-staged approach to the authorisation of restrictive practices.

- Stage One (from 1 December 2020 to 30 April 2021) – authorisation requires restrictive practices to be included in a behaviour support plan (BSP) tailored to the needs of an individual.
- Stage Two (from 1 May 2021) – authorisation requires restrictive practices to be included in a BSP and introduces a mandatory Quality Assurance Panel which allows for independent review of the BSP and the proposed restrictive practices.

The Policy recommends that Implementing Providers use a Quality Assurance Panel during Stage One in preparation for Stage Two.

Transition arrangements

- From 1 December 2020, BSPs that were developed on or prior to the 30 November 2020 will benefit from the transitional arrangements under Section 26 of the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support)**



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Rules 2018. Providers with an existing BSP need to be aware of the transitional arrangements under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (Restrictive Practices and Behaviour Support) Rules 2018 including the requirements for notifying the NDIS Commissioner of existing BSPs containing regulated restrictive practices.

- Prior to 30 November 2020 Providers are to ensure that they have existing BSPs in place for individuals who have behaviour support needs and are subject to regulated restrictive practice use.

From 1 December 2020, authorisation of all new restrictive practices will be required:

- Where restrictive practices are included in an existing BSP (written on or prior to 30 November 2020), those restrictive practices will require authorisation in accordance with the Policy at the review date of the BSP.
- Where there is no BSP in place, any use of a restrictive practice is unauthorised and therefore will be a reportable incident and providers should seek authorisation of those restrictive practices in accordance with the Policy.

Information sessions regarding the implementation of the Policy will be held during the pre-implementation phase and ongoing.

More information will be available shortly around further support that will be provided to assist the implementation of the Policy.

Any queries regarding the implementation of the Policy can be emailed to

ARP@communities.wa.gov.au

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