



**NDIS Quality  
and Safeguards  
Commission**

EC19-000077

Ms Nat Cook MP  
Shadow Minister for Human Services  
Member for Hurtle Vale  
PO Box 158  
WOODCROFT SA 5162

Dear Ms Cook

Thank you for your letter of 29 May 2019 about the South Australian Community Visitor Scheme.

As the new independent regulator for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission (NDIS Commission) is responsible for ensuring that NDIS providers comply with new regulatory standards and the NDIS Code of Conduct in the course of delivering supports and services to NDIS participants.

The NDIS Commission is responsible for a range of functions under the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (NDIS Act) as agreed by the Disability Reform Council (DRC) in February 2017 under the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

The core functions of the NDIS Commission are centred around regulating the quality and safety of supports and services delivered by NDIS providers to NDIS participants. The NDIS Act provides the NDIS Commission with a range of monitoring, compliance and enforcement powers, commensurate to the vulnerability of some participants within the NDIS, and the community's expectations about the protection of people with disability.

The Community Visitor Schemes are functions of state and territory governments. An independent review of Community Visitors Schemes commenced in September 2018 as agreed by DRC in the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework. Governments are currently considering the outcomes of that review but decisions relating to the future of individual Community Visitor Schemes remain a state and territory responsibility, including funding and alignment between jurisdictional schemes to achieve national consistency.

The NDIS Commission has established relationships with Community Visitor Schemes in New South Wales and South Australia, including information sharing arrangements. The NDIS Act does not prevent community visitors from accessing environments in which NDIS participants receive supports and services.

I welcome the opportunity to continue working with the South Australian Community Visitor Scheme.

Yours sincerely

**Graeme Head AO**  
Commissioner

28 June 2019

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