



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

What is good support?

Have your say about supported
independent living (SIL)

Easy Read version



How to use this document



Australian Government

Department of Health,
Disability and Ageing

We are the Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

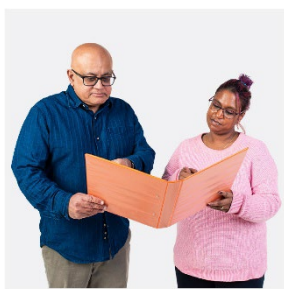
We wrote this document.



We wrote some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is also a list of these words on page 23.



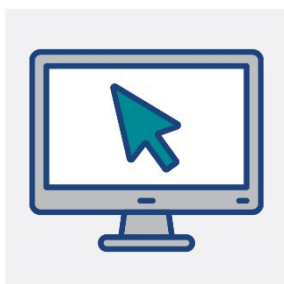
You can ask someone you trust for support to:

- read this document
- find more information.



This is an Easy Read summary of another document.

It only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other document on our website.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/sil-consultation

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What is this document about?



The Australian Government is thinking about how to make **supported independent living (SIL)** better.



SIL is when people with disability live in their own home but get support to do daily tasks.

For example, taking care of themselves.



The government has not made any decisions yet.



We want to hear your ideas about how SIL should work.



What you tell us will help the government decide what to do.

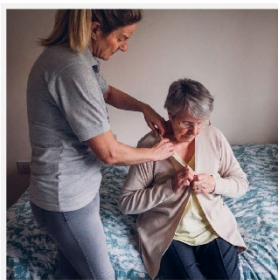
What is SIL?



SIL is a support for people who:

- live in their own home
- need a lot of support where they live.

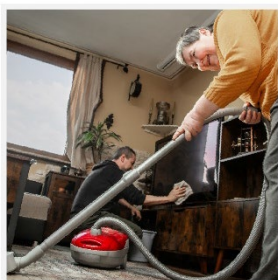
SIL can help people:



- do everyday tasks – like taking care of themselves



- cook and prepare food

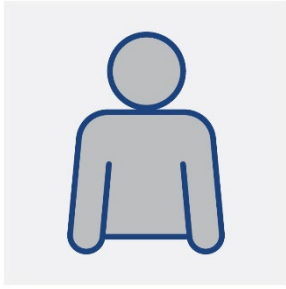


- clean their home



- build their skills.

SIL can be:



- for one person

or



- shared with other people who need support.



SIL is part of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

It is a type of NDIS support.

What do we want to know?

We want to know:



- what good SIL is to you



- how SIL can work well when people share it



- what you think about the government helping more with SIL



- how **commissioning** could help people.



Commissioning is a way the government might have more of a say in how SIL works.

What is commissioning?

Commissioning could mean the government helps make decisions about:



- what services people need



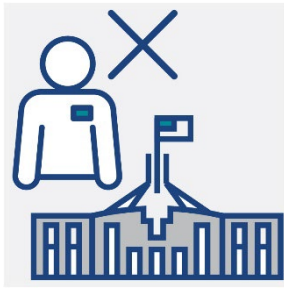
- where people need services



- what good services should do



- how to check services.



Commissioning would not let the government provide supports itself.



Commissioning might not work for all SIL supports.



What you tell us will help us understand:

- what commissioning might help with
- how commissioning could affect people.

What have we heard?



People have already told the government that SIL should be better.

We heard that SIL should be:



- safer



- better **quality**.



Quality is about providing good services that:

- meet the needs of people with disability
- give people with disability choice and control.

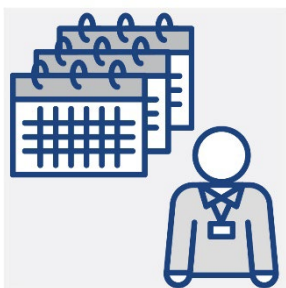


We heard SIL should be more **flexible**.

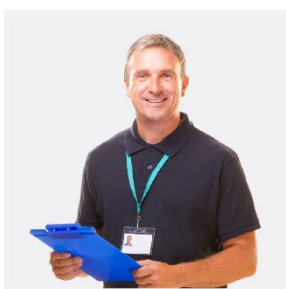


When something is flexible, it means you can:

- change it easily
- use it in different ways.



We heard that SIL **providers** should be able to keep delivering services in the future.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.

Who do we want to hear from?

We want to hear from:



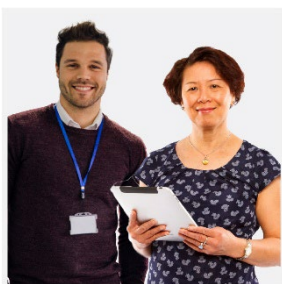
- people with disability



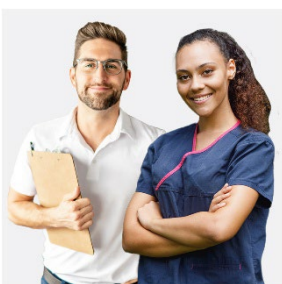
- families and friends of people with disability



- people and organisations who speak up about disability



- disability providers



- people who support people with disability
– like health workers and support workers.

Questions for you

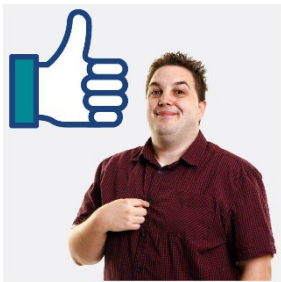


We have 6 questions to help you share your ideas.



You can choose what questions you answer.

This means you don't need to answer them all.



We want to understand what matters to you.

There are no right or wrong answers.

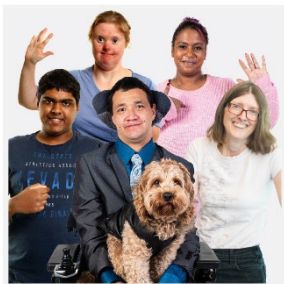


You can find the questions over the following pages.

Question 1



If the government had more to do with SIL,
which groups of **participants** would be better off?

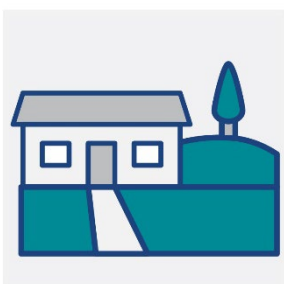


Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.

For example, if the government could help make
SIL better for:



- some groups of participants – like people who need a lot of support



- participants who live in certain places

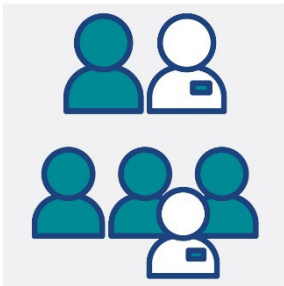


- participants with different **living arrangements**.



Living arrangements are:

- where you live
- what type of home you live in
- who owns your home
- who you live with.



This includes participants who:

- get support by themselves
- share support with others.

Question 2



What does good quality SIL look like?



We want to hear examples of good SIL.

This includes how SIL helps people:



- in their lives



- do things for themselves



- achieve their goals.



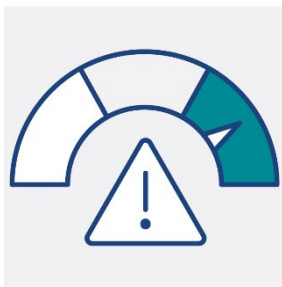
We also want to hear about how commissioning could help make SIL better.

Question 3



How should SIL protect participants?

This includes:



- what risks we need to think about



- how people can speak up



- what to do if something goes wrong.



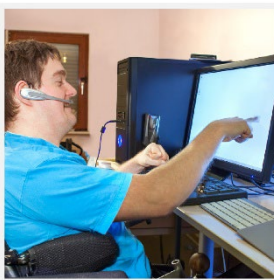
We also want to hear about how commissioning could help keep people safer.

Question 4



How can SIL providers improve supports and help people achieve more of their goals?

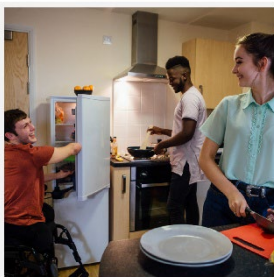
This could include:



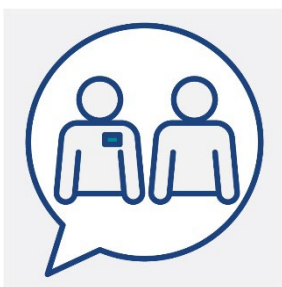
- using technology



- using different ways for workers to support people



- joining SIL with other home and living supports.



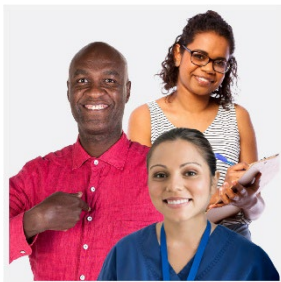
We also want to hear about how commissioning could help providers try better ways to support participants.

Question 5



How can SIL support participants to have choice and control?

This could include support to make decisions about:



- the providers they use



- their living arrangements



- what they do each day



- the people around them – like support workers or housemates.

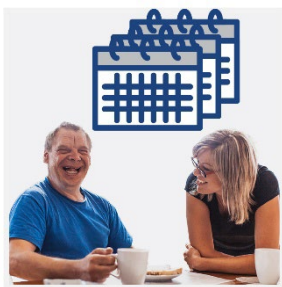


We also want to hear about how commissioning could give participants more choice and control.

Question 6



What do providers need to keep delivering good services?



We want to hear ideas about how to help providers keep delivering services in the future.

We also want to hear about how commissioning could:

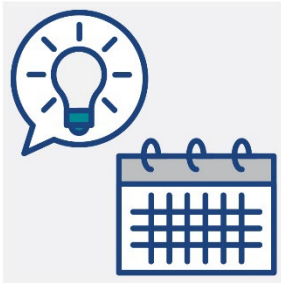


- help providers

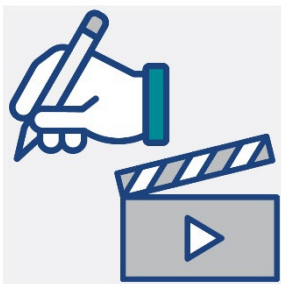


- affect providers.

How to share your ideas



You can share your ideas with us until
13 September 2026.



You can:

- write down your ideas
- record a video – including an Auslan video.



You can share your ideas on our website.

www.consultations.health.gov.au/disability-and-carers-group/sil-consultation



You can send your ideas in an email.

SILConsultation@health.gov.au



You can also send us an email to ask for a phone call.

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this report mean.



Commissioning

Commissioning is a way the government might have more of a say in how SIL works.



Flexible

When something is flexible, it means you can:

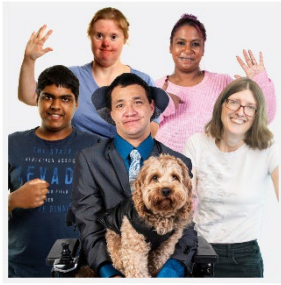
- change it easily
- use it in different ways.



Living arrangements

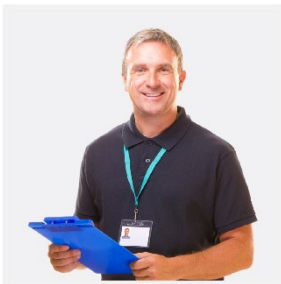
Living arrangements are:

- where you live
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- who you live with.



Participants

Participants are people with disability who take part in the NDIS.



Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Quality

Quality is about providing good services that:

- meet the needs of people with disability
- give people with disability choice and control.



Supported independent living (SIL)

SIL is when people with disability live in their own home but get support to do daily tasks.

For example, taking care of themselves.



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