

Information sheet: How to interpret NDIS plans regarding HACC-PYP services to be delivered on an in-kind basis in Victoria

DHHS Community Based Health Policy & Programs Branch
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Purpose

To help providers funded by Victoria's Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC-PYP) to interpret the wording in some NDIS participant plans describing services to be delivered on an in-kind basis.

Context: meaning of 'in kind' services

Many organisations funded by Victoria's HACC-PYP are delivering services on an 'in kind' basis to clients who transition to the NDIS. This means that the person continues to receive the same kind and quantity of service as previously (e.g. personal care), supplied by the person's existing provider for several months after the person has become an NDIS participant with an approved plan.

These particular services are delivered without the person drawing on the cash in their NDIS plan. The services can be considered to be 'pre-paid' by the HACC Program for Younger People. Cash in the plan is used for additional services or other support types.

Wording in the participant plan

Some NDIS participant plans are now being written with a description of these in-kind services as follows:

"Assistance with self-care activities on Public Holidays (xx hours) to be delivered by in-kind service provider (\$y in kind item)"

This does not actually mean that the service should be available on public holidays. **In fact, the person should expect to receive the usual services from their existing HACC-PYP provider on the usual days of the week.**

The phrase 'public holidays' has been used as a proxy identifier, to identify in-kind services, and to avoid complications in the online booking system.

Description of other HACC-PYP service types

The phrase '*Assistance with self-care activities on Public Holidays*' is being used to describe **all** HACC service types that are supplied on an in-kind basis, including allied health (therapeutic support), domestic assistance, and planned activity group.

'In kind' dollars in the plan

If the plan specifies an amount of dollars associated with in-kind services, it does not mean that the participant will need to draw on the allocation of cash in their plan to pay for these hours of service.

Example of how it works

Consider a plan with two components:

- 96 hours of assistance with self-care activities, valued at \$4120, ‘to be delivered on public holidays’ by an in-kind service provider; plus
- \$5364 as cash for assistance with self-care activities.

This means:

- The 96 hours should be delivered by the participant’s current HACC-PYP provider (such as the local council), without drawing on cash in the plan. The 96 hours could mean:
 - a) 2 hours per week of personal care for 24 weeks (48 hours value); plus
 - b) 1 planned activity group session of 3 hours per fortnight (36 hours value); plus
 - c) 1 hour of domestic assistance per fortnight (12 hours value).
- The client may continue to receive their existing level of service from the in-kind provider. The arrangement starts at the date of Plan Approval and stops at the end of the in-kind period in that area (e.g. on 31 January 2019 for a participant living in the Outer East Melbourne area, as shown in the table below).

The \$5364 is a cash component that should be spent during the 12-month life of the plan, for services equivalent to personal care. The participant can choose any registered NDIS provider. The cash is intended to be sufficient to cover reasonable and necessary services which are not in-kind services.

Service bookings in the NDIS portal

If the participant visits the NDIS portal, it will be found that the in-kind dollars have been set aside in a service booking for use by DHHS. They are not available to be spent for additional hours of service. The reason is that the dollars (\$4120 in the example above) are only relevant to the way the NDIA and the State government will monitor the HACC-PYP in-kind contribution to the overall scheme. The dollars do not represent the provider’s HACC-PYP funding from the State or the provider’s actual cost of service delivery.

End date for in-kind arrangements

The in-kind delivery of HACC-PYP services to an NDIS participant will end on a particular date, depending on the implementation area. See the table below. After that date, the participant will receive services on a cash basis from a registered NDIS provider. If the HACC-PYP provider is not intending to continue as a registered NDIS provider, this should be explained early on to the client so they have plenty of time to locate an alternative provider.

The participant's first plan should show the relevant amount of cash that has been decided as reasonable and necessary to cover the entire period of the plan.

Table 1: End of HACC-PYP in-kind arrangements by Area

The last column shows the date after which any client's plan will draw on cash for services previously supplied on an in-kind basis.

Area	NDIS Roll-out Start Date	In-kind end date
Barwon	(Fully rolled out)	
North Eastern Melbourne	1 July 2016	30 September 2017
Central Highlands	1 January 2017	30 September 2017
Loddon	1 May 2017	31 January 2018
Inner Gippsland	1 October 2017	30 September 2018
Ovens Murray	1 October 2017	30 September 2018
Wimmera South West	1 October 2017	30 September 2018
Inner Eastern Melbourne	1 November 2017	30 April 2019
Outer Eastern Melbourne	1 November 2017	31 January 2019
Hume Moreland	1 March 2018	31 May 2019
Bayside Peninsula	1 April 2018	30 September 2019
Southern Melbourne	1 September 2018	30 November 2019
Brimbank Melton	1 October 2018	31 December 2019
Western Melbourne	1 October 2018	31 December 2019
Goulburn	1 January 2019	31 December 2019
Mallee	1 January 2019	31 December 2019
Outer Gippsland	1 January 2019	31 December 2019

Further information

Contact your local Department of Health and Human Services divisional office. Queries about data and funding during NDIS transition can be sent to the HACC-PYP team here: haccpyp_ndis@dhhs.vic.gov.au

To receive this in an accessible format phone **03 9096 7255** using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or email haccpyp_ndis@dhhs.vic.gov.au

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