

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Contact us NDIS Review](#)  
**Subject:** Music therapy input from NDIS Participants to the NDIS Review Email 2 - [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Monday, 14 August 2023 4:22:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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To whom it concern,

Please find attached another music therapy NDIS review report, which the participant and their family have allowed me to share. While this one is still to be submitted to the NDIS for this particular participant's plan review process, this report describes outcomes that are relevant to two other members of this band/group who, with exactly the same outcomes, have been denied music therapy funding. News of this spreading throughout our community completely bewilders everyone who knows the Little Tucki Creek Band (LTCB), and who have followed their rise over the years, and aspire to one day be in the band. If this band and the outcomes its members have achieved to date do not epitomise the intent of the NDIS then none of us know what does. As referenced in the previous e-mail, first and foremost it speaks to the incompetence of the faceless person/people ultimately determining the funding for these participants. It also speaks to other points that are missing and that is: why isn't it a planner's responsibility to hone in on such successes and support the growth and the elevation of bands such as the LTCB in gaining an even broader public presence i.e. pathways? This mindset is completely absent in the design of the NDIS, and therefore working against the growth of awareness within industry, businesses and the whole of society about the economic potential that could be borne of the scheme. This is a massive black hole.

Consider this just for starters - and a stark example....the world has the paralympics....where is something along the lines of the equivalent for the creative/visual/performing arts industries? The gap to fill in this space is gigantic and the NDIS really has something to aspire to and be very proud of in this space - and every space in between. Let's get fair dinkum.

Again, the conversation about "what outcomes we should be measuring" is smoke and mirrors. The outcomes of the scheme are well defined - individualised programs and goals (BTW this means participant-determined/led and potentially different to everyone else's), and social, and potential community and economic participation (BTW - these latter participation goals are scheme-defined goals/agenda - so the mix is fair for all concerned). Further, the scheme, which has been running for 10 years has an abundance of reports from a range of highly trained, experienced and qualified therapists which would clearly outline all the amazing outcomes that have been achieved to date - and likely the obstacles - so....get consent, data mine and research. No excuses. Not rocket science. Every single one of my clients would consent to use of their reports for that purpose.

Big problem with the plan review process - it is, in itself, not inclusive or accessible. How embarrassing!...when participants are accessing supports to advance their capacity to engage in such processes. It is actually frightening. You will notice in the attached report some recommendations about how to make the review process inclusive and accessible for the client.

Another point that should not be kicked down the road anymore....we are passed the "timely" goal posts. GST needs to be applied equally within the scheme. Bill Shorten can make this determination. It is written. We've read it. Let's get on with it and stop laying the "federal vs state" government battles at participants feet, and impacting their plans. This is nonsense. Sort out the interfaces between sectors - being surprised by these matters

arising as an issue is simply not true because fragmentation between sectors has existed since the beginning of time. As a Registered Nurse and Registered Music Therapist working across sectors I know full well that no meaningful or sustained work has gone into this before and since the roll out of the scheme on the ground. This current circumstance was completely predictable.

For the reasons described here alone, the notion of "maturity" of the scheme is a many, many years off - so I don't think anybody should be using that word to describe where it is at now.

Kind regards,

