

## Serious Incident Reporting Process

*Date Created: 10 June 2018*

*Review: 27 May 2022*

### 1. Purpose

This process is to provide information and guidance to the responsibilities of Guides 4 Sight's employees on the reporting of serious incidents when carrying out services for people with disability.

### 2. Scope

Serious incidents must be reported to the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, under the *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Incident Management and Reportable Incidents) Rules 2018*. This process applies to any person employed by Guides 4 Sight who must escalate any incidences via their management team to the Senior Manager.

### 3. Legislation

*The National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*

*The National Disability Insurance Scheme (Incident Management and Reportable Incidents) Rules 2018*

### 4. Definitions

- **Alleged perpetrator:** Someone, who it is thought, acted against a person with disability or was responsible for an event's occurrence.
- **NDIS:** National Disability Insurance Scheme
- **Commission:** NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission
- **'Employees'** includes office staff, support workers, coordinators, casual staff, volunteers or contractors who represent Guides 4 Sight in any capacity.

### 5. Reportable Incidents

All disability sector organisations are required to submit a serious incident report when any of the following reportable incidents have occurred to a person with disability:

1. The death of a person with disability.
2. Serious injury of a person with disability.
3. Abuse or neglect of a person with disability (see types of abuse below).

4. Unlawful sexual or physical contact with, or assault of, a person with disability (excluding, in the case of unlawful physical assault, contact with, and impact on, the person that is negligible).
5. Sexual misconduct committed against, or in the presence of, a person with disability, including grooming of the person for sexual activity.
6. 4. The use of a restrictive practice in relation to a person with disability, other than where the use is in accordance with an authorisation (however described) of a State or Territory in relation to the person or a behaviour support plan for the person.

### **Types of Abuse:**

- Emotional Abuse: non-physical behaviour (e.g. threat, insult, humiliating someone, texting/emailing/ringing excessively, stalking, isolating someone etc.)
- Financial abuse: illegal/improper exploitation; using another person's money or other resources improperly e.g. controlling someone's pension or bank account without consent.
- Physical abuse: inflicting physical injury to another person. This may be done by children or adults. (eg biting, hitting, punching, burning, bashing, using a weapon, kicking etc)
- Psychological abuse: intimidating behaviour which leads another person to be fearful, anxious or apprehensive. (eg threatening someone without using violence) harassing someone, isolating someone from others; destroying another person's property.

## **6. Process**

All serious incidents are to be reported verbally by the employee, as priority, to the Senior Manager at Guides 4 Sight. If they are indisposed, an email or text message should be sent and marked as urgent.

The employee must fill out an Incident Report form and submit it to the Senior Manager within 12 hours of the incident occurring/being observed. The incident should then be logged by the appointed senior staff member on the Serious Incident Register (SIR).

The Senior Manager has 24 hours from the incident occurring to have the report submitted via the NDIS Commission Portal, except for reporting the use of a restrictive practice which you are required to report to the Commission within 5 business days of this occurring or being observed.

<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/providers/ndis-commission-portal>

Lodging an SIR does not transfer the responsibility to the Commission.

Quick Reference Guides of the Commissions SIR Portal can be found

<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/resources/qrg>

## 6.1 Logging an incident

Appointed Senior staff member needs to log in via their Guides 4 Sight PRODA account in order to access the portal.

To log in you will need:

1. Username
2. Password to access

### [PRODA Link](#)

For more detail on the steps for reporting to the NDIS Commission or if you are not able to access the Commission portal, refer to the steps on the following link:

<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/providers/how-notify>

## 7. Guides 4 Sight Employees and Management Team

Employees involved in the incident at all levels, are to work with the Senior Manager or appropriate manager to assist with;

- Providing support where needed.
- Responding and managing the incident.
- Contacting and working with Police or other appropriate services as needed.
- Collection of information regarding the incident.
- Reviewing and investigating incident.
- Lodgement of the Serious Incident information into the applicable SIR.
- Evaluation of practices to reduce / illuminate situation occurring again.

## 8. What happens once an SIR is lodged with the Commission

When the NDIS Commission is notified about a Reportable Incident they may take action.

This may include:

- Requiring the provider to deliver more information on the progress or outcome of the incident response and actions taken to safeguard participants.
- Referring the incident to another authority / body with responsibility in relation to the incident.
- Requiring the provider to carry out an internal investigation.
- Requiring the provider to engage an appropriately qualified and independent expert to carry out an investigation.
- Requiring the provider to undertake remedial action.
- Carrying out an inquiry in relation to the incident.
- Taking any other action, the Commissioner considers reasonable in the circumstances.

## 9. Further Information NDIS Quality and Safe Guarding Commission

Website with information on Incident Management and Reportable Incidents:  
<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/providers/incident-management-and-reportable-incidents#res>

[detailed-guidance-incident-management-systems-detailed-guidance-regi.pdf](#)  
[\(ndiscommission.gov.au\)](#)

Email address: [reportableincidents@ndiscommission.gov.au](mailto:reportableincidents@ndiscommission.gov.au)

Phone number: 1800 035 544

<b>Serious Incident Reporting Process</b>		<b>PRO205</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Authorised</b>
10/06/2018	Created document	CMT
26/11/2018	Numbering of section 6, 6, 7 corrected to 6,7,8	CMT
06/05/2019	Review	CMT
23/09/2019	Reviewed: updated links to DoC	CMT
24/03/2020	Reviewed and updated links to DoC SIR and training details	CMT
27/04/2020	Updated	AJB
19/05/2020	Updated	KLD
01/12/2020	Updated – in compliance with the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission	AJB
14/12/2020	Updated – More information on how to report to NDIS Commission	AJB
14/01/2021	Added ‘detailed guidance’ hyperlink under ‘further information’ and double checked all updates as per AJB	VRP
27/05/2021	Updated and formatting edited	VRP