

New Guidelines for Buying or Selling *an NDIS Business*

Allied Solutions Business Advisory · March 2026

If you're buying or selling a registered NDIS business, the fog has finally lifted. The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission has released formal guidance on exactly what must be reported, when, and how during a change of ownership.

The intent is clear: protect participant choice and control during transitions — and, mercifully, move us away from that dreadful industry phrasing about "selling participants."

"This level of oversight has been standard in sectors like RTOs and childcare for years. Its arrival in the NDIS space is a proper milestone — and frankly, a welcome one."

The Commission is now taking a much closer look at "suitability." When a business changes hands, they assess whether the new owners and key personnel are genuinely fit to deliver supports. Here's what you need to know.

Key Takeaways for Buyers

☑ Registrations don't transfer

An NDIS registration is tied to a single ABN. A new ABN means a new registration application — full stop. Factor this into your timeline and due diligence process.

☑ Mandatory notifications

You must report the new owner's qualifications, experience, and participant numbers to the Commission. This isn't optional — it's a condition of continued registration.

✔ Worker screening

All key personnel and staff in risk-assessed roles must hold current NDIS Worker Screening clearances — and they must hold them immediately, not eventually.

✔ Audit obligations travel with the business

Mid-term and renewal audits don't disappear just because ownership has changed. Build this into your post-settlement planning.

Due diligence tip: Before signing heads of agreement, request a full compliance history from the seller — including any audit findings, complaints, or reportable incidents. The Commission will scrutinise this when assessing the new owner's suitability.

Key Takeaways for Sellers

✔ Portal handover matters

Sellers must approve buyer access to the NDIS Commission Portal before completion. Failing to do this creates delays, compliance headaches, and can jeopardise the deal at the eleventh hour.

✔ No automatic participant transfer

Participants must be informed of the ownership change and given a genuine choice to stay or move to another provider. Consent is not optional — and it's not something you can delegate to the buyer post-settlement.

Sellers should also be aware that the Commission's suitability assessment of the incoming owner may slow the approval process. Build buffer into your settlement timeline — particularly if the buyer is new to the NDIS sector.

Why This Matters

The NDIS sector has seen its share of poorly managed transitions — participants left uncertain, staff unclear on their obligations, and buyers discovering compliance issues too late. Formalising these requirements brings the sector in line with what's long been standard in comparable regulated industries.

For buyers, it means more rigorous preparation and a cleaner path to registration. For sellers, it means more structured obligations in the lead-up to completion. For participants, it means genuine protection during what can otherwise be an unsettling period.

It's a meaningful step forward for a sector that has needed clearer guardrails around ownership transitions for some time. This should lift standards, reduce cowboy behaviour, and make deals cleaner for everyone involved.

The full guidance is available directly from the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission:

[Inkd.in/gWPZZYGe](https://inkd.in/gWPZZYGe)

Buying or selling an NDIS business? Let's talk.

Allied Solutions works with NDIS operators across WA on business transactions, compliance planning and financial advisory. If you're navigating a change of ownership — as buyer or seller — we can help you get it right from the start.

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