**Text version of Department of Social Services information brochure on External Merits Review. (September 2014)**

**External Merits Review**

Support for people seeking a review of National Disability Insurance Agency decisions in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

**Do you disagree with a decision of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)?**

If you disagree with a decision made by the NDIA you can apply to have the decision reviewed by the NDIA. This is called an internal review. If you still disagree with a decision after an internal review, you can apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) for an external merits review. The AAT is separate and independent from the NDIA.

**What support is available?**

When you apply to the AAT you will be told that an independent support person will be able to help you with your application. The support person can assist you to understand the process, attend conferences and hearings with you, and assist you in putting your case to the AAT. As the appeal process may seem overwhelming, the support person may assist you with every aspect of your appeal.

There are support persons available in every NDIS trial site. They are available to all AAT applicants and are located at the addresses listed below.

**New South Wales (Hunter)**

Disability Advocacy NSW

Suite 1, Level 2, 408 King Street

Newcastle West, NSW 2302

(02) 4927 0111 or 1300 365 085

Website: [www.da.org.au](http://www.da.org.au)

**South Australia**

Brain Injury Network of SA Inc

70 Light Square,

Adelaide, SA 5000

(08) 8217 7600 OR 1300 733 049

Website: [www.binsa.org](http://www.binsa.org)

**Tasmania**

Advocacy Tasmania Inc.

Suite 6, Mayfair Plaza

236 Sandy Bay Road

Sandy Bay, TAS 7006

1800 005 131

Website: [www.advocacytasmania.org.au](http://www.advocacytasmania.org.au)

**Victoria (Barwon)**

Regional Information and Advocacy Council

21 Regent Street

Belmont, VIC 3216

(03) 5245 7986

Website: [www.riac.org.au](http://www.riac.org.au)

**Western Australia (Perth Hills)**

Midland Information Debt & Legal Advocacy Service (MIDLAS)

4 / 8-12 Stafford Street

Midland, WA 6056

08 9250 2123

Website: [www.midlas.org.au](http://www.midlas.org.au)

**Northern Territory (Barkly)**

Brain Injury Network of SA Inc

70 Light Square,

Adelaide, SA 5000

1300 733 049 OR (08) 8217 7600

Website: [www.binsa.org](http://www.binsa.org)

**Australian Capital Territory**

ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy Services

Suite 104 Block C,

Canberra Technology Park

49 Phillip Ave

Watson, ACT 2602

02 6242 5060

Website: [www.adacas.org.au](http://www.adacas.org.au)

**More information**

For more information and to access support from AAT visit [www.aat.gov.au](http://www.aat.gov.au) or call 1300 366 700.

For more information about the NDIS and when it will roll out in your local area, visit [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au) or call 1800 800 110.