



The Hon Christian Porter MP
Attorney-General

MC18-002757

24 MAY 2018

Mr Bob Buckley
Convenor
Autism Aspergers Advocacy Australia (A4)
convenor@a4.org.au

Dear Mr Buckley

Thank you for your email of 14 March 2018 regarding your concerns over the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) review processes for National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) decisions and, in particular, how they can impact early intervention for autistic children. I appreciate the time you have taken to bring this matter to my attention.

I understand that your concerns have already been raised directly with the President of the AAT, the Hon Justice David Thomas.

I am advised that the AAT has responded to your correspondence, indicating that it will shortly commence a project to review its NDIS procedures and current NDIS Practice Direction. As part of the NDIS review process, the AAT has indicated that it will be consulting with disability advocate groups, including A4.

Consistent with the independence of the AAT from Government, the AAT is responsible for its own operation and management, including the handling of feedback. I trust that A4's participation in the AAT's upcoming NDIS review process will provide your organisation with the opportunity to have its views fully considered as part of the consultation process.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. Porter', written in a cursive style.

The Hon Christian Porter MP
Attorney-General