

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-2017 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ17-000134

Topic: NDIS Process

Hansard page: 110

Senator Linda Reynolds asked:

Under the NDIS Act, we have rules and we have phasing rules, and that is where we set down in a legislative instrument how people will come in. We would be aiming to agree with the states and territories, so we would need to work with them about how we may bring people in, in that way. And the NDIA works on that basis then. Can I perhaps ask you to take on notice to provide a little more information on that process? I think it would be interesting for us, but also for the applicants and people that work in the area, to get a little more clarity on how that is going to work, in terms of the phasing and the timing.

Answer:

Each jurisdiction has its own National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) phasing arrangements as set out in legislated rules, the *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Becoming a Participant) Rules*, and *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Facilitating the Preparation of Participants' Plans) Rules*. Phasing in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory is geographically based; and phasing in South Australia and Tasmania is age-based. People under the age of 65 in residential aged care are prioritised to enter the NDIS early in each quarter of the scheme's roll out.

The process for people under age 65 in the aged care system to enter the NDIS (as per the phasing schedule) is as follows:

- the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) makes contact with the person up to six (6) months before the commencement date of transition for their geographic area or age cohort to discuss the NDIS and making an access request;
- the individual may make an access request up to six (6) months before the commencement date of transition for their geographic area or age cohort; and
- once they have gained access to the NDIS, the NDIA will work with the individual to develop their support plan. The plan may include top-up supports above and beyond current aged care supports.