

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: SQ17-000278

Topic: NDIS - Quality and Safeguards

Hansard page: Written

Senator Murray Watt asked:

What consultation has DSS undertaken in addition to the February 2015 Discussion Paper and forums in the state capitals? Please provide all details of any roundtables, advisory groups, reference groups, etc. that have contributed to the co-design process of the Quality and Safeguarding Framework. Please also identify the participating organisations/individuals in these roundtables, advisory groups, reference groups, etc.

Answer:

A three-month public consultation process on the development of a national NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework (the Framework) ran from February to May in 2015. During this period there were:

- 16 public meetings in capital cities and regional locations in each state and territory;
- seven provider meetings in locations around Australia;
- six workshops with specific stakeholder groups;
- 220 submissions;
- 585 questionnaire responses about particular quality and safeguarding measures; and
- an online discussion forum.

There has been ongoing consultation with key stakeholders including states and territories, and peak bodies. This has included discussions with Disabled People's Organisations Australia and peak bodies such as Children and Young People with Disability Australia, National Disability Services, Disability Advocacy Network Australia, the NSW Council of Intellectual Disability and the Attendant Care Industry Association. There has also been a number of workshops with representatives from state and territory governments.

These discussions informed the development of the Framework which was agreed by all state and territory governments and released by the Disability Reform Council (DRC) in February. As the Framework has been agreed, consultation is now focussed on implementation.

A Technical Reference Group, involving a number of peak bodies, as well as state and territory governments, has met to develop the Practice Standards for the NDIS.

There will be further opportunities for consultation on other elements of the Framework during the implementation phase, starting with consultation on a Code of Conduct in early 2017.