

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

**Outcome Number: 3.1 Disability, Mental Health and Carers Question No: SQ17-000287**

**Topic: NDIS Eligibility**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Deborah O'Neill asked:**

In terms of the roles and responsibilities in relation to this area – the state governments closed down tertiary mental health facilities and put funding into community services. Can the Department provide an explanation to who is responsible for community-based funding and who will be responsible for funding the continuation of services past 2019? Who is responsible for community mental health programs and who will deliver funding?

**Answer:**

Psychosocial supports will be funded under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for those with severe and persistent mental illness who are eligible for the NDIS. All Commonwealth, state and territory governments have committed to providing current program participants who are ineligible for the NDIS with continuity of support to help them achieve outcomes equivalent or similar to those they were achieving prior to the commencement of the NDIS.

Outside the NDIS, community mental health services remain primarily a state and territory government responsibility.