

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

Outcome: National Disability Insurance Agency

Question No: NDIA SQ17-000048

Topic: Young People in Aged Care

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Reynolds asked:

How many young people in residential aged care in NDIS sites of Hunter, Barwon and ACT who are not yet NDIS participants? Why are these young people not yet NDIS participants? What actions has the NDIA taken to get them into the NDIS.

Answer:

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is working closely with the Department of Health (DoH) to finalise the exchange of contact information for all young people living in residential aged care. Once this is completed the NDIA will be able to more actively connect with younger people in residential aged care to transition them into the NDIS.

Based on current information available, the NDIA understands there are likely to be 33 people in Hunter, 17 in Barwon and 20 in the ACT who are under 65 years in residential aged care and are not participants of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

A number of people currently living in aged care facilities under the age of 65 years are unlikely to meet the access requirements for the NDIS as they may have a significant health or palliative care requirement.

The NDIA previously engaged the Summer Foundation to develop a NDIA plan and explore alternative residential options for NDIA participants where these were considered appropriate. The NDIA has also undertaken engagement activity in these regions to assist aged care facility staff to support younger people in their residential aged care facilities to apply for the NDIS where appropriate.

There are a number of broader policy challenges for transitioning young people in residential aged care into the NDIS that require a multi-faceted approach. Work is progressing between the NDIA, DoH and the Department of Social Service to ensure there is an integrated approach to best supporting young people living in residential aged care.