

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ16-000401

Topic: NDIS Policy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Recognising there is a standard clause in each NDIS bilateral agreement along the lines that states/territories must continue the same level of mental health service provision, what beyond that is outlined formally to ensure the commitment by the Government of 'no disadvantage' is a reality?

Answer:

For people with disability who are already receiving government specialist disability services but are not eligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, governments have committed to deliver continuity of support. This means that if someone is already a client of state or Commonwealth disability services, they will be supported to achieve similar outcomes, even if the name of the program changes or they access help through a different arrangement.

For Commonwealth funded providers of community mental health services, funding is allocated to providers for this purpose, while the longer-term arrangements are developed. It is a matter for state and territory governments how they provide this support.