

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: SQ16-000404

Topic: Disability & Carers Policy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

What role will the Commonwealth Government play in situations where a state is unable to give service providers or the mental health sector any information about what services or level of funding they will continue to give to services?

Answer:

Community mental health services are primarily a state and territory government responsibility. The state and territory mental health programs that have funding transitioning to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) are documented in the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Operational Plans for each jurisdiction.

Commonwealth funding for community mental health is not decreasing; funding will gradually transfer to NDIS, and be available to support people with mental illness who qualify for the Scheme.

The Council of Australian Governments committed to provide continuity of support to people with disability currently receiving services to ensure they are not disadvantaged in the transition to NDIS.