

Mr Mark Fitt
Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee
on the National Disability Insurance Scheme
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Fitt

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme briefing on the 19 March 2014. The opportunity to brief the Committee was appreciated and of value to FACS.

Please find enclosed further information as per your request on the following areas:

- Tier 2 supports
- NSW regional and remote disability support services
- State funded residential accommodation for people with disability and
- The future role of the State in terms of direct funding and in – kind support for disability services during both trial and full scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Taylor
Deputy Chief Executive, People and Choice

**Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on NDIS, 19 March 2014
Further information from ADHC as requested by the Committee**

a) The Tier 2 supports that the State is currently providing that it will not provide when the Scheme is fully operational.

Currently the arrangements for NDIS full scheme, including the design of Tier 2 are yet to be agreed by all jurisdictions. NSW will finalise Tier 2 service arrangements once national policy agreement has been reached, noting that the NSW contribution to a full scheme as per the Heads of Agreement, NDIS includes all existing funding for disability specialist services including those that may be considered to be Tier 2.

b) Details of the State's regional and remote disability support services, particular in indigenous communities including details relating to early childhood disability.

NSW is committed to providing early intervention supports for children with disability and their families, including Aboriginal children in regional and remote NSW, that range from early childhood intervention; therapy supports; learning and play-based activities and opportunities to interact with peers; autism-specific supports including screening; diagnosis and early intervention; and flexible respite services.

In terms of early childhood intervention services delivered by Ageing, Disability and Home Care and NGOs, regional data shows that in 2012/2013, over 9,000 clients received support, an estimated 3,600 of these were in regional areas and 74 in remote areas. Approximately 4,275 indigenous clients received support, it is estimated that 2,370 of these clients were in regional areas and 166 in remote areas.

c) Details of State-funded residential accommodation for disabled persons including:

The number of disabled persons currently being supported in the State's large residential centres;

NSW is still operating six large residential centres; the Stockton Centre, Kanangra Centre and the Tomaree Centres in the Hunter Region of NSW, the Westmead and Rydalmere Centres in Western Sydney and the Riverside Centre in Orange.

As at 31 March 2014, 804 people were living in six Ageing, Disability and Home Care operated large residential centres. A further 360 people were living in large residential centres operated by 14 non-government organisations.

The State's plans to privatise existing large residential centres;

NSW does not have "a plan" to privatise existing large residential centres.

Since 1998 the NSW Government has been planning and implementing the staged redevelopment of large residential centres including both government operated and non-government centres. The support provided by large residential centres does not comply with contemporary standards for disability services such as the United

Nations Charter for the Rights of People with Disability (2006) and NSW Disability Services Act 1993.

Like every other government operated service, the new services created by the redevelopment of large residential centres will transition to the non-government sector when ADHC withdraws from providing services by July 2018 to coincide with the full implementation of the NDIS.

The State's options to assist displaced residents in finding appropriate alternative accommodation, and the funding that is available to the State Government to assist with this process;

The NSW Government has had a long standing and bipartisan commitment to the closure of large residential centres and funding has been allocated for the redevelopment of the Riverside Centre, Metro Residences (Westmead and Rydalmere) and 14 non-government operated centres.

Planning has commenced and an eight member team has been appointed to commence consultation with residents, families and guardian for the redevelopment of the Stockton Centre.

The number and type of new State-funded residences being built to replace old stock;

About 300 people currently living in the Westmead and Rydalmere Centres will be relocated into 64 five bedrooms at 44 different locations around NSW by 2015.

40 residents from the Riverside Centre at Orange will be relocated into 10 five bedroom group homes at 8 locations in Orange and Bathurst.

Plans to redevelop the last remaining government operated large residential centres that are located in the NSW Hunter Region including the Stockton Centre at Newcastle, the Kanangra Centre at Morisset and the Tomaree Centre at Shoal Bay are being developed in consultation with residents and families.

The assistance that the State Government may provide to organize 'pooled' accommodation for former residents of large residential centres.

The redevelopment of large residential centres will occur within existing state policy, using principles of choice and control. As people living in large residential centres phase into the NDIS, the operating guidelines of the NDIA will apply.

As NSW will cease to be a provider of disability supports post July 2018, alternative options with the non-government sector will need to be explored.

d) The future role of the State Government in terms of direct funding and in-kind support for disability services, both during the NDIS trial stage and once the Scheme is fully operational in 2019.

In NSW the NDIS will be fully operational by July 2018. The NSW Heads of Agreement specifies that the NSW Government will not provide any residual specialist disability services or basic community care supports following commencement of full scheme NDIS.

NSW funding for the Hunter trial site is capped at \$550 million over three years, plus \$35 million over four years. Total expenditure each year is in cash or in kind depending on when participants enter the NDIS. The balance of cash and in-kind contributions for the trials is detailed at Appendix C of the Bilateral Agreement.

From July 2018, NSW will contribute all its existing available funding for specialist and other disability supports of \$2.7 billion in cash to the NDIS and up to a maximum of capped in-kind supports of \$ 441 million. The in-kind contribution is yet to be defined. Under the Heads of Agreement, NSW determines the nature of in-kind contributions and the extent to which they will be cashed out. NSW and the Commonwealth will finalise the details of in-kind arrangements for full scheme NDIS, prior to full scheme implementation.

NSW will continue to ensure that mainstream supports and services are available and delivered to be responsive to the needs of people with disability. NSW remains committed to the implementation of the National Disability Strategy which is a whole-of-government approach to disability planning and service delivery that complements the implementation of the NDIS.