

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme    Question No: SQ15-000027**

**Topic: NDIS**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Wright, Penny asked:**

What will the NDIS mean for those who are experiencing less severe mental health conditions and do not qualify for an NDIS package?

**Answer:**

People who are not eligible for individually funded packages will be able to access Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (formerly Tier 2) through the NDIS. This will involve help for people with less intensive needs. Current Commonwealth and state and territory mental health supports that are not going to transition to the NDIS will continue to be available for people who are not eligible for the NDIS.

A policy framework for Information, Linkages and Capacity Building was recently released for consultation and the findings will be considered by Ministers in the coming months. The Department of Social Services, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and state governments are working together on a significant work programme to ensure the NDIS takes account of the needs of people with mental illness. In addition, the NDIA Mental Health Sector Reference Group has been established to ensure a strong working partnership between the mental health sector and the NDIA.

Governments are working closely with service providers to support their clients in transition to the NDIS.

People who are currently receiving community mental health services who are not eligible for the NDIS will, consistent with COAG's commitment, receive continuity of support to ensure that they are not disadvantaged in the transition to the NDIS.

The transition continues to be closely monitored to understand any impact of the NDIS on people with psychosocial disability through the trial period.