

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

Outcome Number: 3.1 Disability, Mental Health and Carers Question No: SQ17-000082

Topic: NDIS Transition

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

What is the timeframe for developing ongoing supports for those who currently receive Commonwealth funded mental health programs but who won't be eligible for the NDIS after that funding transitions, noting funding to continue accessing supports is time limited and will decrease as NDIS transition approaches and that for people not eligible for the NDIS that support will end?

- (a) What do the words 'no disadvantage' and 'continuity of support' actually mean in practice when the transitional funding will end, states and territories might remove funding, and people may not get a service from either federal or state or territory programs?
- (b) Who is responsible in this situation?

Answer:

Longer-term continuity of support arrangements are currently being developed and expected to be implemented from 1 July 2019.

- (a) No disadvantage means that existing clients will be supported by their existing provider until they have a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) plan in place. All governments have committed to provide continuity of support to assist existing clients who are deemed ineligible for the NDIS.
- (b) The Commonwealth is responsible for providing continuity of support for Commonwealth program clients who are ineligible for the NDIS. State and territory governments are responsible for providing continuity of support for people aged under 65 in state-based specialist disability services.