

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability, Mental Health and Carers Programme

Question No: SQ15-000660

Topic: Advocacy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:

What changes are expected vis-a-vis the NDIS rollout?

Answer:

There will continue to be a National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP), funded by the Commonwealth, which will ensure that people with disability continue to receive access to advocacy support.

The Disability Reform Council agreed that systemic advocacy and legal review and representation will be funded outside of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The Council agreed that the NDIS will fund decision support, safeguard supports and capacity building for participants, including support to approach and interact with disability supports and access mainstream services.

A review of the National Disability Advocacy Framework and the National Disability Advocacy Program is currently underway and will be completed later in 2015. The findings and recommendations of the reviews, together with learnings as the NDIS rolls out, will be used to inform the future direction for advocacy in an NDIS environment.