Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5 Question No: 558

Topic: NDIS

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Brown asked:

How is the Commonwealth ensuring that people who have previously received support and services through a state and territory government and are not eligible for support through the NDIS, are now prevented from falling through the gaps when these old support services are rolled back.

Answer:

During trial, all governments have committed to ensuring the people currently receiving services under state and Commonwealth programmes are not disadvantaged in the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The Commonwealth is ensuring this in three ways:

- The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is continually monitoring on the ground information, and advises the Commonwealth on any emerging issues linked to continuity of support;
- The Commonwealth holds regular bilateral discussions with the state and territories on implementation matters, including consideration of ineligible decisions by the NDIA, noting that under current arrangements, each government is responsible for determining how it wishes to provide continuity of support during NDIS trials; and
- The Commonwealth shares its thinking and planning on Commonwealth programmes that are transitioning to the NDIS with the states to inform their planning for transition of their programmes.