

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ16-000402

Topic: NDIS Funding

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Is the Government keeping track of, either through the NDIA or the various Departments involved, what is happening where a state decides to withdraw funding, as has occurred with some mental health or psychosocial services in Victoria, and there is also a ceasing or phasing out of federal funding (such as funding for Mental Health Respite Carer Support and PHaMs)?

Answer:

Community mental health services are primarily a state and territory government responsibility. The state and territory mental health programs that have funding transitioning to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) are documented in the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Operational Plans for each jurisdiction.

Commonwealth funding for community mental health is not decreasing; funding will gradually transfer to NDIS, and be available to support people with mental illness who qualify for the Scheme.

The Council of Australian Governments committed to provide continuity of support to people with disability currently receiving services to ensure they are not disadvantaged in the transition to NDIS.