

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: SQ16-000416

Topic: NDIS

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

1. Can the Department provide an update on the work it is undertaking on people who are not eligible for the NDIS?
2. Do the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services have a plan to address this issue?
3. Can the Department confirm it is working on its own interim plan that ensures people who are not eligible for the NDIS will not be left without services?
4. Can the Department detail the number of people who will not be eligible for the NDIS across each state and territory?
5. Can the Department detail the number of people who currently access services under Day-to-Day Living and Partners in Recovery programs by state and territory?
6. Has the Department undertaken any assessment or analysis to establish the number of people that will not be eligible for the NDIS?
7. Has the Department ever given any advice to the Health Minister about the numbers of people that will not be eligible for the NDIS?

Answer:

1. The Commonwealth has committed to providing continuity of support for existing Commonwealth disability support program recipients who are assessed as being not eligible under the access requirements for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Continuity of support will provide support for these people to achieve similar outcomes, even if the arrangements for doing that change over time. In the short term, continuity of support will be provided through existing programs. Commonwealth program recipients will be notified about long-term continuity of support arrangements once they have been finalised.
2. The Department of Social Services is responsible for providing continuity of support arrangements for recipients of Commonwealth disability support programs not eligible under the access requirements for the NDIS. The Department of Health is responsible for providing continuity of support arrangements to people aged over 65 years of age (or over 50 years of age for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people) who are recipients of state-administered specialist disability services. Further information can be sought from the Department of Health, or found at <https://agedcare.health.gov.au/programs-services/commonwealth-continuity-of-support-programme>
3. Refer to the response to question one.
4. The Commonwealth, states and territories estimate 460,000 people will be eligible for the NDIS. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) quarterly reports provide information on the number of people who have been found ineligible for the NDIS. The report can be accessed on the NDIA website:
<https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/information-publications-and-reports/quarterly-reports.html>

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5. Day-to-Day Living and Partners in Recovery are programs administered by the Department of Health. Questions about these programs should be referred to the Department of Health.
6. The Department is monitoring the numbers of people in various Commonwealth disability support programs who are found ineligible for the NDIS as the roll-out progresses.
7. No.