

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: SQ16-000432

Topic: Young People in Nursing Homes

Hansard page: 72

Senator Linda Reynolds asked:

State breakdown of young people in nursing homes.

- a) How many young people in nursing homes (6,240 people) have become NDIS participants? How many in the NDIS trial sites at the moment are scheduled to become participants but have not yet? Are you aware of people who are going through the process or should be who have not been?
- b) Map cohort against the bilateral agreements to see how many people there are and, therefore, what time they are likely to enter the scheme.
- c) How many years are you looking at some of them staying in aged care until those transitional arrangements kick into place?
- d) Is there some way we could look into fast tracking this cohort?
- e) In terms of what it would take under the bilateral arrangements, what would need to occur and any other advice you have on removing young people from nursing homes.

Answer:

As at 30 September 2016, there are 211 young people in residential aged care in the NDIS with a plan and a further 357 who have had access met. It is expected that all young people in residential aged care will become NDIS participants by 30 June 2019.

As the NDIS transitions from trial to full scheme, the Commonwealth and States are working together to ensure individual needs are put first. The Department of Social Services is consulting and engaging with the Department of Health and the National Disability Insurance Agency to ensure young people in residential aged care receive the care and support they need.

Young people in residential aged care are a priority for transition to the NDIS and the Commonwealth is currently working with the States and Territories on their transition arrangements. The provision of Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) is expected to assist the transition of young people out of residential aged care. Through the provision of specific funding for SDA, the NDIS is encouraging existing and potential providers to invest in housing and ultimately grow the supply of suitable accommodation for people with very high needs.

The Commonwealth is monitoring the transition of young people in residential aged care to the NDIS. The Commonwealth will work with the States and Territories if any opportunities to fast track this cohort to the NDIS arise, as any changes to agreed transition arrangements would require the Commonwealth and the States and Territories to agree new transition arrangements through the existing bilateral agreements.