Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2016 – 2017 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings

Topic: Young people in residential aged care

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Senator Siewert, asked:

How do you handle the aged care co-payments, such as accommodation bonds and accommodation daily charges and other things? How do they get through?

Answer:

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funds reasonable and necessary supports related to the person's disability. Negotiations are progressing with the Department of Health regarding transition arrangements for younger people who may currently reside in an Aged Care facility. Without amendment to the Aged Care Act the current system of fees and charges applicable under Aged Care will still apply to NDIS participants.

The NDIS will meet those components of the fees and charges that are related to the person's care and support needs with the participant retaining responsibility for payment of a contribution towards rent/board/lodging, daily food and utilities etc.

Where the costs are determined as related to care and support the NDIS will fully cover those costs without the requirement for a co-payment. The administrative arrangements for this are currently being resolved.