

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000751

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: NDIS

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

During Estimates there was discussion around those people who will not be eligible for the NDIS. Can the Department provide an update on the work it is undertaking with the Department of Social Services since Estimates? Is the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services now at a point where it has some plan to address this issue? 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? Can the Department detail the number of people who will not be eligible for the NDIS across each state and territory? 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? Has the Department undertaken any assessment or analysis to establish the number of people that will not be eligible for the NDIS? Has the Department ever given any advise to the Health Minister about the numbers of people that will not be eligible for the NDIS?

Answer:

Health continues to work DSS and other Commonwealth agencies as appropriate to identify strategies to address any potential gaps in service provision that may emerge for people with mental illness who will not be eligible for the NDIS. DSS is currently taking the lead on this process.

Individuals not eligible for the NDIS will continue to be supported through the extension of the PIR and D2DL program until 30 June 2019.

Without PIR and D2DL clients testing their eligibility for NDIS support, the Department cannot provide details around the number of clients who are expected to be found not eligible for the NDIS. Early anecdotal information from transition sites suggests that the majority of PIR clients and a significant portion of D2DL clients (who meet the age and residency requirements) will be found eligible.

Client numbers for the PIR and D2DL program for 2016-17 according to jurisdiction are set out below.

	PIR	D2DL
NSW	4738	2511
VIC	2416	1476
QLD	2936	2041
WA	982	568
SA	543	854
TAS	399	211
NT	333	272
ACT	231	413

Given NDIS rollout commenced on 1 July 2016 in some regions according to the bilateral agreements, reliable estimates around the number of people that will not be eligible is not currently available. Accordingly, there has been no advice provided to the Health Minister about the numbers of people that will not be eligible for NDIS.