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Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

via email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Radcliffe

I am writing to you ahead of the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) appearance at the 2018-19 Budget Estimates on 1 June 2018 in order to provide an update on Younger People in Residential Aged Care (YPIRAC).

Further to the pre-Estimates overview on YPIRAC provided to the Committee ahead of the 2017-18 Additional Estimates hearing, I have enclosed an update on the NDIA's progress and YPIRAC statistics for consideration by the Committee.

I would also like to refer the Committee to the NDIA's latest quarterly report to the COAG Disability Reform Council, covering the period 1 January to 31 March 2018. A copy of the Quarter 3 report is available at: www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/information-publications-and-reports/quarterly-reports.html.

I would be grateful if you could circulate the above report and the enclosed paper to senators ahead of the NDIA's appearance before the Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert De Luca', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert De Luca
Chief Executive Officer
National Disability Insurance Agency

31 May 2018

Encl.

Update: Younger People in Residential Aged Care

The number of younger people in residential aged care (YPIRAC)

As at 31 December 2017, there were around 6,100 people under the age of 65 living in residential aged care across Australia. Since the commencement of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on 1 July 2013, 2,749 younger people living in residential aged care have met the NDIS eligibility criteria as of 31 March 2018. Of these:

- 2,546 have met the NDIS access criteria (and have not exited the Scheme); and
- 2,082 have approved NDIS plans.

A breakdown by jurisdiction is provided in the table below.

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Access met decisions made	1,623	603	323	24	113	3	50	10	2,749
Exits from the Scheme	120	43	27	3	1	0	8	1	203
Current participants	1,503	560	296	21	112	3	42	9	2,546

28.6 per cent of all plans were distributed between annualised values of \$0 to \$100,000 and 71.4 per cent were distributed across plan values of \$150,000 to \$500,000.

A full NDIS statistical analysis of YPIRAC as at 31 March 2018 is provided at [Attachment A](#).

NDIS funded reasonable and necessary supports

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) undertakes an assessment of the reasonable and necessary supports for each participant. For supports to be reasonable and necessary they must meet section 34 of the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (NDIS Act), and the NDIS Rules and Operational Guidelines.

A participant's supports will be met through a combination of:

- 1) existing supports provided by their aged care facility, funded under the *Aged Care Act 1997* (Aged Care Act); and
- 2) reasonable and necessary supports funded in their NDIS plan, according to their goals and individual circumstances (and not otherwise funded or provided by the aged care facility).

Participants in an aged care facility will receive an NDIS plan that funds reasonable and necessary supports, which may include:

- supports to access and participate in age-appropriate social, civic and community activities that sustain informal support networks with family, friends and carers, including additional personal care to access these networks as required;
- therapy supports, including from allied health practitioners to maintain or improve daily functions, independence and social and economic participation;

- assistive technology to support a participant in building their independence and capacity to undertake daily functions; and
- supports to assist participants who have identified a housing goal in exploring their potential housing solutions and required supports, including finding alternative suitable age-appropriate living arrangements.

Roles and responsibilities in relation to personal care supports for a younger person in a residential aged care facility

The Department of Health (DoH), the Department of Social Services (DSS), and the NDIA have been working together to clarify how the NDIS Act and Aged Care Act work together to ensure a participant's needs are met, supporting the provision of both Acts.

Under the Aged Care Act, aged care facilities must provide all necessary services relating to activities of daily living, including personal supports to meet residents' needs. In the event an NDIS participant's personal support needs exceed that provided by the aged care facility, the NDIA will work with the participant and the aged care provider to ensure all reasonable and necessary personal supports are provided.

The Aged Care Act requires aged care facilities to deliver the care required by each of their residents. Aged care subsidies and supplements are not directly apportioned to individuals, and providers are not required to acquit the funds they receive against individual residents. Funding determined by the Aged Care Funding Instrument is not required to be spent on a particular resident. Rather, providers pool this funding as aggregate funds to deliver care and services to all residents across the facility.

At the time an NDIS participant enters the residential aged care service, the aged care provider is required to undertake individual assessment and care planning with the participant. This assessment and planning informs how the aged care service will deliver appropriate care services to the participant, including to ensure they meet the participant's needs, goals and preferences. Care plans are required to be monitored and regularly reviewed (including as needs, goals and preferences change).

Personal care delivered under the aged care legislation is in the vast majority of situations likely to be adequate. This is because the aged care service must provide all necessary services relating to activities of daily living (including in relation to bathing, personal hygiene, dressing, moving and eating, and continence) based on the participant's needs. This addresses personal care supports an NDIS participant may otherwise require in their core budget. Further, the provider must deliver such care in a way that is consistent with the Accreditation Standards.

If an NDIS participant feels that their provider is not delivering sufficient care within the aged care facility, the participant, family member or carer should raise their concerns with the facility. If these concerns are not addressed, the participant, family or carer can raise their concerns with the Aged Care Complaints Commissioner.

Building plans for NDIS participants who newly enter an aged care facility as a permanent resident

Aged Care Assessment Teams

Across Australia, residential aged care is often the most appropriate supported accommodation option available for younger people who have high or complex care needs. Persons under the aged of 65 must meet strict requirements under the Aged Care Act in order to enter residential aged care. These strict eligibility requirements are managed by the state and territory Aged Care Assessment Teams (ACAT) funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health with whom the NDIA is working closely.

In adhering to the strict eligibility requirements, the ACAT must first determine whether the younger person has exhausted all other available accommodation options, including state specialist disability services or the NDIS, and determine that no other appropriate services are available.

Where a younger person accesses an aged care facility after an assessment by ACAT, the NDIS works with participants to develop an NDIS plan that includes reasonable and necessary supports to meet their goals. This may include funding for things such as support over weekends to allow home stays on weekends, home modifications, the purchase of equipment, and supports to build access to the community and engage in activities of interest.

Overview of the extensive stakeholder engagement that the NDIS is continually undertaking in transitioning YPIRAC to the NDIS

The NDIA continues to engage key stakeholders for the transition of YPIRAC to the NDIS. This includes meeting with a number of key aged care peak bodies and providers who are supporting younger people transitioning to the NDIS.

The NDIA has recently met with four aged care peak bodies: Aged and Community Services Australia, Leading Age Services Australia, COTA, and the Aged Care Guild. The NDIA appreciates these opportunities to exchange information with the sector, as well as discuss future best practice for communicating with members of each peak body.

The NDIA will continue to schedule meetings with aged care providers to support younger people to transition from residential aged care to the NDIS.

Attachment A

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME STATISTICAL INFORMATION AS AT 31 MARCH 2018¹

Table 1: Cumulative Intake into and exit from the Scheme as at 31 March 2018, by State/Territory

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Access met decisions made	1,623	603	323	24	113	3	50	10	2,749
Exits from the Scheme	120	43	27	3	1	0	8	1	203
Current participants	1,503	560	296	21	112	3	42	9	2,546

Table 2: Persons determined to be ineligible for the Scheme as at 31 March 2018, by State/Territory

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
Ineligible	105	36	14	2	13	0	3	1	173

Table 3: Participants as at 31 March 2018, by State/Territory, by Age Group

Age Group	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
19 to 24	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
25 to 34	15	5	3	0	1	2	0	0	26
35 to 44	42	39	14	0	5	0	0	0	100
45 to 54	273	110	56	1	25	1	3	1	470
55 to 64	994	348	188	15	74	0	30	7	1,656
65+	177	57	35	5	7	0	9	1	291
Total	1,503	560	296	21	112	3	42	9	2,546

¹ Data in this section was provided by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). The statistics in this section are based on data extracted from the NDIA Data Warehouse on 9 April 2018. Future extracts of these data are subject to change.

The Department of Health periodically provides the NDIA with information on people aged under 65 who are in receipt of Permanent Residential Aged Care. The statistics in this section are concerned with participants identified through that data exchange.

The term 'YPIRAC' refers to people under the age of 65 with disabilities receiving Permanent Residential Aged Care who have made an access request to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), including those who are participants of the Scheme, and who have been identified through the data matching arrangements.

- There may have been younger people with disabilities receiving permanent residential aged care on 31 March 2018 who were not part of the October 2017 data match. These people are not included in the statistics reported in this paper, even where they are participants with approved plans.
- Some of the young people included in the October 2017 data match may no longer have been in permanent residential aged care on 31 March 2018. These people are included in the statistics reported in this paper where they have had their eligibility for the NDIS assessed.

Table 4: Active Participants with an approved plan as at 31 March 2018, by State/Territory, by Age Group and by Disability Group

	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Australia
Age Group									
19 to 24	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
25 to 34	15	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	23
35 to 44	39	22	9	0	0	0	0	0	70
45 to 54	252	90	40	1	8	0	2	1	394
55 to 64	892	234	150	14	14	0	27	5	1,336
65+	163	47	29	5	2	0	9	1	256
Disability Group									
Intellectual/Learning									
Autism	6	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	13
Developmental Delay	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Down Syndrome	36	18	1	0	2	0	0	0	57
Global Developmental Delay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intellectual Disability	173	60	45	1	6	0	4	0	289
Physical									
ABI	239	94	38	0	4	0	8	1	384
Cerebral Palsy	28	14	8	0	0	0	0	0	50
Multiple Sclerosis	57	35	12	1	3	0	2	1	111
Spinal Cord Injury	15	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	25
Stroke	191	31	29	7	5	0	7	3	273
Other Neurological	411	91	57	8	3	0	12	2	584
Other Physical	64	19	11	0	0	0	2	0	96
Psychosocial Disability	124	21	21	3	0	0	1	0	170
Sensory/Speech									
Hearing Impairment	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
Visual Impairment	16	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	20
Other Sensory/Speech	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
Total	1,363	399	231	20	24	0	38	7	2,082

Table 5: Amounts included in participant plans as at 31 March 2018

Annualised Value of Plan	Number of Plans	Percent
Under \$5,000	7	0.3%
\$5,000 to \$10,000	14	0.7%
\$10,000 to \$20,000	45	2.2%
\$20,000 to \$50,000	188	9.0%
\$50,000 to \$100,000	342	16.4%
\$100,000 to \$150,000	1,166	56.0%
\$150,000 to \$200,000	243	11.7%
\$200,000 to \$250,000	52	2.5%
\$250,000 to \$500,000	25	1.2%
All plans	2,082	100.0%

AGED CARE STATISTICAL INFORMATION – PEOPLE AGED UNDER 65 IN RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE – AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017²

Table 6: Intake into and exit from Residential Aged Care of people aged under 65, by Quarter³

	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2
In residential care at the start of period	6,248	6,267	6,267	6,291	6,243	6,158
Admitted during the period	554	532	491	536	543	517
Discharged during the period	362	340	266	353	388	330
In residential care at the end of the period	6,267	6,267	6,287	6,243	6,158	6,135

Table 7: People aged under 65 in Residential Aged Care, at the end of each Quarter, by age group

Age Group	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2
0 to 24	<5	<5	<5	< 5	<5	<5
25 to 34	<50	<50	<50	< 50	<50	<50
35 to 44	190	182	191	181	178	172
45 to 54	1,053	1,073	1,082	1,059	1,049	1,033
55 to 64	4,985	4,974	4,974	4,962	4,887	4,886
Total	6,267	6,267	6,287	6,243	6,158	6,135

Table 8: People aged under 65 in Residential Aged Care as at 31 December 2017, by age group

Age Group	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
0 to 24	<5	<5	–	–	–	–	–	–	<5
25 to 34	<20	<20	<10	<5	<5	<5	–	–	<50
35 to 44	54	58	<50	<10	<20	<10	–	<5	172
45 to 54	384	286	211	66	55	<50	<5	<10	1,033
55 to 64	1,737	1,254	956	391	362	106	<50	<50	4,886
Total	2,194	1,609	1,210	465	430	139	<50	<50	6,135

Table 9: People aged under 65 first admitted to Residential Aged Care in Q1 2017-2018, by age group

Age Group	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Australia
0 to 24	<5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<5
25 to 34	–	<5	–	–	–	–	–	–	<5
35 to 44	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	–	–	<20
45 to 54	<50	<50	<20	<10	<10	<5	–	<5	94
55 to 64	142	117	67	<50	<50	<10	<5	–	405
Total	176	153	88	<50	<50	<20	<5	<5	517

² Data in this section was provided by the Department of Health. The tables report counts of residents at the end of the relevant periods and all first ever admissions and last reported discharges during the relevant periods. This report uses live recipients data extracted on 3 May 2018. Future extracts of these data are subject to change.

– Nil. “<n” data represents figures that are confidentialised to protect potentially identifying information.

³ Note: Columns do not sum to totals because some individuals may have turned 65 during the reporting period.

AGED CARE STATISTICAL INFORMATION – PEOPLE AGED UNDER 65 IN HOME CARE PACKAGES – AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017⁴

Table 10: Intake into and exit from Home Care Packages of people aged under 65, by Quarter⁵

	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2
In home care at the start of period	2,364	2,434	2,459	2,516	2,488	2,465
Admitted during the period	353	322	381	259	300	382
Discharged during the period	213	238	268	207	225	216
In home care at the end of the period	2,434	2,459	2,516	2,488	2,465	2,546

Table 11: People aged under 65 in receipt of a Home Care Package at the end of each Quarter, by age group

Age Group	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2
0 to 24	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
25 to 34	<10	<20	<10	<10	<10	<10
35 to 44	81	77	76	73	69	70
45 to 54	678	674	683	681	684	694
55 to 64	1,662	1,694	1,746	1,723	1,699	1,770
Total	2,434	2,459	2,516	2,488	2,465	2,546

Table 12: People aged under 65 in receipt of a Home Care Package as at 31 December 2017, by age group

Age Group	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
0 to 24	<5	–	<5	<5	–	–	–	–	<5
25 to 34	–	–	<10	<5	<5	–	–	–	<10
35 to 44	<20	<20	<50	<10	<5	–	–	<5	70
45 to 54	179	246	130	55	<50	<5	<5	<50	694
55 to 64	420	560	385	169	82	<50	<20	90	1,770
Total	617	822	550	234	118	53	<20	133	2,546

Table 13: Admissions of people aged under 65 to a Home Care Package in Q1 2017-2018, by age group

Age Group	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
0 to 24	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25 to 34	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
35 to 44	<5	–	<5	–	–	–	–	–	<10
45 to 54	<50	<20	<20	<10	<5	–	–	<5	66
55 to 64	98	76	75	<50	<20	<10	<5	<20	310
Total	119	90	98	<50	<20	<10	<5	<20	382

⁴ Data in this section was provided by the Department of Health. The tables report counts of residents at the end of the relevant periods and all first ever admissions and last reported discharges during the relevant periods. This report uses live recipients data extracted on 3 May 2018. Future extracts of these data are subject to change.

– Nil. “<n” data represents figures that are confidentialised to protect potentially identifying information.

⁵ Note: Columns do not always sum to totals because some individuals may be admitted to or discharged from a Home Care Package more than once during a reporting period.