

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 446

Topic: NDIA – Best practice service provision

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

- 1) Has the NDIA developed a competencies and minimum standards framework for registered disability service providers and those employed and contracted in the provision of services within the NDIS?
- 2) Has or will the NDIA consult with services providers, professional associations and industry associations in the development of this framework?
- 3) Please provide a list of the service providers, professional associations and industry associations the NDIA will consult or have consulted with in the development of this framework.
- 4) Given states are responsible for delivering and overseeing the delivery of services within the NDIS, how will the NDIA implement and enforce this framework?
- 5) What proposed audit processes/systems/programs are in place or envisaged as part of overseeing and implementing this framework?

Answer:

- 1) The Intergovernmental Agreement on the National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch (IGA), and each of the bilateral agreements between the Australian Government and host jurisdictions appended to the IGA, provide that existing state or territory based quality assurance and safeguards frameworks will continue to apply in each jurisdiction during the trial phase of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Accordingly, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has not developed a separate “competencies and minimum standards framework”.

In deciding whether to approve a person or entity as a registered provider of supports under the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*, the Chief Executive Officer of the NDIA must be satisfied that the applicant meets the criteria prescribed in the NDIS (Registered Providers of Supports) Rules 2013, including that the applicant is a suitable person or entity, having regard to considerations such as their qualifications and approvals.

The NDIA has published guidance for applicants on the kind of qualifications and approvals that are relevant to the provision of different kinds of supports, which is available at: www.ndis.gov.au/document/286.

- 2) See 1) above (i.e., existing state or territory based quality assurance and safeguards frameworks will continue to apply in each jurisdiction during the trial phase of the NDIS).
- 3) See 1) above (i.e., existing state or territory based quality assurance and safeguards frameworks will continue to apply in each jurisdiction during the trial phase of the NDIS).
- 4) See 1) above (i.e., existing state or territory based quality assurance and safeguards frameworks will continue to apply in each jurisdiction during the trial phase of the NDIS).
- 5) See 1) above (i.e., existing state or territory based quality assurance and safeguards frameworks will continue to apply in each jurisdiction during the trial phase of the NDIS).