

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ16-000193

Topic: NDIS

Hansard page: Written

Senator Kim Carr asked:

Can you confirm that the operation of the NDIS will commence on 1 July 2016?

Answer:

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) trials commenced in July 2013 in four locations: Hunter region in New South Wales (NSW), Barwon region in Victoria (Vic), and aged based cohorts in South Australia (SA) and Tasmania (Tas). From July 2014, trial also commenced in the Perth Hills region (NDIA site) and Lower South West region (*My Way* site) in Western Australia (WA); the Barkly region in the Northern Territory (NT); and in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). From July 2015, the WA *My Way* trial site expanded to the Cockburn-Kwinana region.

Arrangements for the transition to full scheme NDIS in each state and territory are detailed in the Bilateral Agreements for Transition. The Bilateral Agreements are consistent with timeframes outlined in the Heads of Agreements signed with states in 2012 and 2013.

Transition has already commenced in the ACT. From 1 July 2016 all residents in the ACT will have access to the scheme.

Transition to the NDIS will commence in Vic and Tas from July 2016.

In NSW, an early transition site in the Nepean Blue Mountains region commenced in July 2015 for children aged 0-17 years. The remainder of the eligible population in NSW will commence transition from 1 July 2016.

Transition to the NDIS commenced in SA from 1 February 2016 focusing initially on children and young people who have not yet accessed the NDIS in the South Australian trial. The remainder of the eligible population in South Australia will commence transition from 1 July 2016.

In Queensland (Qld), an early transition to the NDIS for children and young people (0-18 years) in Townsville and Charters Towers and all eligible participants in Palm Island commenced, on 1 January 2016.