

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ17-000290

Topic: Continuity of Support

Hansard page: 12

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

What are the formal words that were agreed in 2012-13 around the Government's commitment to continuity of support. Particularly, what was said in relation to 'lifetime' supports.

Answer:

As outlined in the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Launch, the Government's commitment to continuity of support is as follows:

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has committed to provide continuity of support to people with disability currently receiving services to ensure that they are not disadvantaged in the transition to the NDIS. People resident in a launch site who are currently receiving support but do not meet the definitions of eligibility or are receiving supports that do not meet the definition of reasonable and necessary support in the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012, as enacted into legislation, will continue to receive support consistent with their currently agreed arrangements (support outcomes and levels) if:

- a. the funding for this support is attributed to a program/service, or part of a program/service, has been (or will be) transferred – or phased out and funding redirected – to the NDIS in a launch site in accordance with the Schedules A-E.*

The IGA does not use the term 'Lifetime supports' to meet the COAG commitment, the Commonwealth will provide continuity of support for its programs through existing program funding arrangements to 30 June 2019. Arrangements beyond 30 June 2019 are currently being determined and expected to be finalised by the end of 2017.