

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

Outcome Number: 3.1 Disability, Mental Health and Carers Question No: SQ17-000381

Topic: Disability Employment Service (DES)

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

Can the Department indicate how the new DES program will interface with the NDIS? What will the Department be including in the new DES Deed to clearly demonstrate the interface between DES and the NDIS?

Answer:

It is anticipated that as the NDIS increases its coverage to reach full scheme by 2019-20, many NDIS participants will be eligible to participate in DES. Indeed it is expected that many NDIS participants will already be participating in DES.

The Department will work with the National Disability Insurance Agency to ensure that NDIS participants who are of working age, are not employed or in full-time study, and who have a future work capacity of at least eight hours per week, are encouraged to participate in DES to support them to pursue employment in the open labour market.

The new grant agreement (which will take the place of the current DES Deed) is still under development.