

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: SQ17-000384

Topic: National Disability Strategy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

How is the Commonwealth ensuring that all levels of Government are meeting their expressed commitments under the National Disability Strategy?

Answer:

Commonwealth, state and territory disability ministers provide two-yearly reports to the Council of Australian Governments outlining achievements and progress under the Strategy, including where more work needs to be done.

In addition, the Commonwealth Government established the National Disability and Carers Advisory Council in December 2016. The Council members include experts from industry and service sectors, non-government organisations, people with disability and carers.

The Council provides advice to Government on issues of strategic importance in relation to the disability and carer sectors. A key focus is driving the implementation of the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 including:

- development of options to improve outcomes for people with disability in mainstream systems;
- development of options to drive improved outcomes for people with disability across the Strategy's six outcome areas;
- engaging with employers and industry to assist in providing more employment opportunities for people with disability and carers; and
- identifying and responding to emerging issues impacting the disability and carer sectors.

The Council has established a time-limited Working Group specifically focussed on reinvigoration of the National Disability Strategy.