

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: SQ17-000386

Topic: National Disability Strategy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

Footnote 9 (P. 8 Driving Action 2015 - 2018) states there was an original, sixth action area focusing on the appointment of a Champion Minister from mainstream portfolios to take a leadership role in support of the strategy's implementation. What was the Department/ Government's reason for the discontinuation of the proposal? When was the decision taken?

Answer:

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Disability Reform Council agreed to discontinue this action in April 2016.

As reported on page 12 of the *2010–2020 National Disability Strategy Progress Report to the Council of Australian Governments 2014* “since the implementation of the strategy in 2011, the appointment and retention of Disability Champions has been challenging, due to changes in government portfolio responsibilities, state and territory elections, and a streamlined COAG ministerial council system.”

Disability ministers across all jurisdictions maintain a leadership role in driving the National Disability Strategy within their jurisdictions.