

## **Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education**

### **Inquiry into education for students with a disability or special needs in New South Wales schools**

**Hearing: Monday 3 April 2017**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Supplementary questions for Lifestart</b> |
|--|

1. Where does your organisation receive its funding from?

Lifestart receives funding and income from a variety of sources:

**1. NSW government**

- a) Block funding from Family and Community Services (Ageing, Disability and Home Care). This funding has traditionally supported early childhood intervention, therapy and skill-building services, school age years inclusion and family support. The funding is phasing out as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) phases in
- b) Intervention Support Program (ISP) Funding (Department of Education)  
This funds support that is supplementary to improve educational opportunities, learning outcomes and personal development of children with disabilities

**2. Commonwealth government**

- a) Block funding from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIS) to provide Early Childhood Intervention Services in the Penrith and Blue Mountains areas of NSW

**3. Individual purchasing (fee for service) using funded packages or private paying**

Families/carers may purchase services for their child/young person from Lifestart by paying privately or using funds from an individualised package provided by:

- a) National Disability Insurance Scheme
- b) Department of Social Services (Helping Children with Autism and Better Start)

**4. Medicare items**

Families/carers may access therapy and psychology support services for their child/young person from Lifestart using Medicare item numbers (Chronic Disease Management Plans and Better Access to Mental Health)

**5. Philanthropic funding and donations**

As a charity, Lifestart relies on additional philanthropic funding and donations in order to provide supports to families that may not be funded by the above