

The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC
Chair
Portfolio Committee No. 2 – Health and Community Services
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Chair

Clarification of evidence from Monday 17 September 2018 public hearing

I am writing to clarify evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) in relation to your inquiry *into the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the provision of disability services in NSW*.

I refer to the below extract from the transcript:

The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS: *I am familiar with what it is, but I am interested in what "a more strategic and programmatic approach" means.*

Ms RUNDLE: *It means we will be focusing more on building individual capacity; that is, things like peer support, advocacy, individual advocacy because we know that people do better when we work in that area, and community capacity and helping communities to be more accessible for people with disability. These are just some examples and we will be looking at taking a more direct programmatic approach to building an ILC infrastructure.*

I wish to advise that I unintentionally used the term 'individual advocacy', when I intended to convey 'self-advocacy'. To clarify, under the current Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Policy, the NDIA does not fund activities that provide individual legal representation or systemic advocacy. The new ILC investment strategy being developed does not contemplate funding these either.

Self-advocacy type activities are able to be funded through ILC as they involve supporting people with disability to exercise their rights by helping them build their capacity to voice their concerns, access information, resolve issues and identify available support options.

I note that since the inquiry, this part of my evidence has been commented on by a small number of external stakeholders. I thought it important to formally correct the record.

The NDIA is currently developing the ILC Investment Strategy which will guide the NDIA's approach to ILC investment from 2019 onwards. The NDIA will shortly commence communication with stakeholder which will further clarify the NDIA's approach.

Yours sincerely

Vicki Rundle
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Government, Communications and Stakeholder Engagement
9/10/2018