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Dear Ms Hong

**Questions on notice for Early Childhood Intervention Australia pursuant to the Inquiry into the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and provision of disability services in New South Wales**

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Please see below our response to the two questions on notice.

**1. What percentage of the NSW ECI Sector are ECIA members?**

This is a difficult question to answer in terms of a percentage. We know that there are currently 1204 registered providers of early childhood supports under the NDIS in NSW (NDIS NSW Public Dashboard 30 June 2018). We also know that from these 1204 registered providers, 25% percent are providing 90% of all services for early childhood intervention (NDIS NSW Performance Report 30 June 18). Many of the registered providers are indeed inactive in the early childhood intervention space.

ECIA currently has a total approximate membership of 1070 staff across NSW. We are unable to quantify what percentage of the active NSW ECI sector workforce these 1071 staff account for.

**2. If you do not have a plan, have you found prices have gone up?**

We have not had any feedback from our members about pricing for early childhood intervention services from in the private market which is outside the NDIS regulatory framework. However, some ECIA members offer privately funded and Medicare MBS item services for children age 0-6 and their families.

ECIA has observed significant shortage of supply and high demand for subsets of Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) services such as behaviour supports delivered by child psychologists. Furthermore, in some regions there is high demand for ECI services due to limited availability as the majority of NDIS registered and private ECI services have significant waiting lists due to larger number of families in densely populated urban regions or scarcity of supply in regional and rural NSW. These two factors may be contributing to an upwards pressure on private and self-managed NDIS package pricing for ECI services.



This points to the larger issue of workforce capacity building to meet demand. ECIA is taking action on this issue through our research project with Sydney University on the Involvement of Allied Health Students in ECI services and our forthcoming Professional Development Programme targeting new graduates.

Sincerely yours

Yvonne Keane

Chief Executive Officer  
Early Childhood Intervention Australia