



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 2 – HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MEDIA RELEASE

REPORT TABLED – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NDIS AND THE PROVISION OF DISABILITY SERVICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6 December 2018

An Upper House committee inquiring into the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the provision of disability services in New South Wales has today tabled its report, calling for action to address the challenges of the Scheme's implementation in the state and to provide greater clarity and certainty for people with disability seeking support outside of the NDIS.

The Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC, Chair of the Committee said: 'The committee acknowledges that for many people with disability the NDIS is truly a transformative reform that has significantly changed lives. At the same time, we want to ensure that *all* people with disability in New South Wales, whether they are participants of the NDIS or not, receive the support they need to lead fulfilling lives'.

Mr Donnelly stated: 'The committee recognises the challenging task of managing complex reform in an area of service provision that crosses multiple policy jurisdictions and levels of government. We also understand that the changing landscape will take time to settle, including the full assembly and maturation of the Scheme'.

'However,' the Chair continued, 'the committee received evidence that, while the shift to a person-centred approach to disability support through individualised funding is widely supported, its translation into reality has been fraught with challenges. These challenges relate not only to the Scheme's implementation in New South Wales but to the decision of the NSW Government to transfer all specialist disability services to non-government organisations under the NDIS'.

Mr Donnelly said: 'Ultimately, we must look beyond the NDIS and ensure that the support available outside of the Scheme is adequate and responsive to the needs of all people with disability in New South Wales, regardless of their participation in the NDIS. To this end, we look to the NSW Government to recognise and fulfil its responsibilities under the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014* as a priority'.

The committee made two findings and 23 recommendations to the NSW Government either for direct action or for pursuit of issues through its role on the Council of Australian Governments Disability Reform Council.

For a full copy of the committee's report and other inquiry documents, please visit the committee's [website](#).

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC, on 9230 2280.