Inquiry into Foundational and Disability Supports Available for Children and Young People in New South Wales

(Select Committee)

Department of Communities and Justice

Post-hearing responses

Hearing: Friday 30 May 2025

Answers due to Committee Office: Friday, 27 June 2025

Question taken on notice: identifying gaps in federally funded service providers (page 44)

The CHAIR: Before I hand over to the Deputy Chair, I have one other question about some of those gaps. It was raised today and we're aware of some organisations that received Federal funding that no longer can access those grants. For some of them, I understand, their funding will run out by 30 June this year. What work is being done around identifying those service providers at the moment that will not be able to continue to provide a service and to make sure people don't fall through the cracks?

ANNE CAMPBELL: I can probably take that on notice. We can talk with the Commonwealth, who funds those programs. Obviously, we've now got a new government that has come in federally and changes are occurring between what was DSS and now the new movement to the health and disability area. We'll do our best to follow up and take that on notice.

Answer:

I am advised:

The Information Linkages and Capacity Building **(ILC)** program funds community projects for people with disability, their carers and families. Information about the ILC program, including all currently funded projects and grant funding opportunities, is published on the Australian Government Department of Social Services website at <u>https://www.dss.gov.au/funding-disability-projects</u>.

In the 2025/26 Budget, the Australian Government committed **\$364.5 million** over **five years** to reform the ILC program to improve the consistency, quality and national coverage of community projects supporting people with disabilities, their carers, and families. Further information about reform of the ILC program is available at <u>https://www.dss.gov.au/reform-information-linkages-and-capacity-building-program</u>.

Question taken on notice: Unmet needs in general supports (page 51-52)

The CHAIR: My final question is not related to foundational supports but to supports in general. For people who are no longer eligible for the NDIS or who are foreseen to be not able to get onto the NDIS with the reforms that have come through, what work is being done to bring those people in to get the State supports that would be required?

ANNE CAMPBELL: I think that's part of the work that we need to look at and understand what the unmet need is, and people who aren't accessing mainstream services. I think it continues to be to work with the relevant agencies, including DCJ. Obviously, there are often funding constraints that impact on how many services can be delivered, and they're real constraints at the moment. I probably can't give you much more, but happy to take it on notice and come back to you—unless Ms White, you had anything to add?

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Answer:

I am advised:

Information about changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is available on the Australian Government Department of Social Services website at <u>https://www.dss.gov.au/national-disability-insurance-scheme-review-and-</u> <u>reforms/changes-ndis-legislation</u> and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) website at <u>https://www.ndis.gov.au/changes-ndis-legislation</u>.

All governments recently signed a **one-year** agreement that provides an additional **\$1.7 billion** for public hospitals, with negotiations to continue long-term health and disability agreements (consistent with December 2023 National Cabinet outcomes) throughout 2025.

All governments remain committed to the existing collaborative process on NDIS rules and work on foundational supports, including the design of supports for children under nine with autism and developmental delay with low-to-moderate support needs and their families; and general supports for all other people with disability aged under 65 and their families.

Governments are working together on how and when these services will be rolled out after they sign long-term agreements on foundational supports and health funding.

States and territories will keep working to ensure that the NDIS continues to support participants as foundational supports are developed.

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