



# NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

## Transition

### NDIS roll-out

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is providing individualised support for people with disability, their families and carers. The NDIS is rolling out across New South Wales by local health districts between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2018.

For year two districts (Illawarra Shoalhaven, Mid North Coast, Murrumbidgee, Northern NSW, South Eastern Sydney, Sydney, Western NSW and Far West) people in large residential centres, group homes or those receiving community high supports will transition from 1 July 2017. People receiving community access, community support, respite or community care will transition during the period 1 July to 31 December 2017.

### NSW Health responsibility

NSW Health, in partnership with the broader health system, has key roles and responsibilities along the client pathway. The Council of Australian Governments' *Applied Principles and Tables of Support* recognise that the Health system is responsible for:

- diagnosis, early intervention and treatment of health conditions, including ongoing or chronic health conditions
- funding time-limited, recovery-oriented therapies (rehabilitation) aimed primarily at restoring the person's health and improving the person's functioning after a recent medical or surgical treatment intervention.

The NDIS will be responsible for supports required due to the impact of a person's impairment on their functional capacity and their ability to undertake activities of daily living. This includes maintenance supports delivered or supervised by clinically trained or qualified health professionals (where a person has reached stability in functional capacity).

### Helping people with disability prepare for the NDIS

NSW Health plays an important role in supporting patients by sharing available information about transition and helping people with disability prepare for the NDIS assessment process. With a participant's consent, Health services may support patients to identify whether they are likely to be eligible for the NDIS, and gather evidence of their disability, providing copies of existing reports, letters, assessments and other information about the impact of the impairment on the person's functional capacity, where appropriate.

To access assistance from the Scheme, a person must have a permanent disability that significantly affects their everyday life and their ability to participate in the community; or a disability that is likely to be permanent; or be a child with a developmental delay, and there is evidence that early supports will reduce how much help the person will need to do things in the future.

The Scheme will provide significant opportunities for people with psychosocial disability arising from a mental health condition. New participants will be able to access approximately 24,000 NDIS places in 2017-18, and approximately 26,000 in 2018-19. This includes people who have not previously

### NDIS at a glance

As of 31 March 2017, 75,567 eligible participants nationwide had received individualised plans (35,727 in NSW). Since 1 July 2013, \$6.3 billion has been committed for participant support.

The top four primary disabilities of active NDIS participants are intellectual disability, Autism, psychosocial disability and Cerebral Palsy.

received supports from Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC), and/or people currently receiving supports through Commonwealth mental health programs including Partners in Recovery and Personal Helpers and Mentors.

Planning processes will commence in local areas in line with phasing schedules.

Where NSW Health staff would have previously referred a person to ADHC for support, they should now refer that person to the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The NDIA will make the final decision around new participants accessing the NDIS. They will manage the intake of new participants to minimise impact upon existing disability clients scheduled to phase into the Scheme at each stage of the transition.

In circumstances where a person needs urgent support and an immediate service delivery response, NSW Family and Community Services may:

- work locally with the NDIA to seek to prioritise the person's access to the Scheme
- deliver or fund an interim support to that person while arrangements to access the Scheme are being finalised (pending available funding).

## Resources for staff

A range of materials are available to support staff in assisting people to prepare for the Scheme, such as:

- the *Operational Guidance for NSW Mainstream Services on the Interface with the National Disability Insurance Scheme*, available on the NSW Health staff intranet, which sets out the roles and responsibilities of NSW Health and the NDIA along the participant pathway
- [My NDIS Pathway: Your guide to being an NDIS participant](#)
- [Factsheet: About the NDIS](#)
- [Factsheet: Accessing the NDIS](#)
- [Factsheet: Developing your NDIS plan](#)
- [Checklist: Getting ready for your planning conversation](#)

Further information and resources are available at [www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/fact-sheets-and-publications](http://www.ndis.gov.au/people-disability/fact-sheets-and-publications)

## About the NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is a new way of funding individualised support for people with permanent and significant disability, their families and carers.

The NDIS focuses on eligible people, not programs or services. The Scheme provides funding supports (where necessary), personal plans, and support to access community services and activities.

The NDIS uses an insurance model to invest in and support people over their lifetime. The Scheme changes the way specialist disability services are funded (by governments) and purchased (by consumers).

Around 140,000 people with disability across NSW will benefit from the Scheme when fully implemented. This includes approximately 45,000 people who currently do not receive NSW specialist disability supports.

When fully implemented, the Productivity Commission has estimated the NDIS will cost \$22 billion per year.

## More information

Enquiries about NDIS can be made via email at [ndis@doh.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ndis@doh.health.nsw.gov.au)

For more information on the NDIS in NSW visit [www.ndis.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ndis.nsw.gov.au)