

BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMONWEALTH AND NEW SOUTH WALES

Transition to a National Disability Insurance
Scheme

Part 1 — Preliminaries

1. The Commonwealth of Australia (the Commonwealth) and the State of New South Wales (NSW) are committed to the implementation of a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in NSW.
2. This Agreement covers the roles and responsibilities for the transition to full coverage of an NDIS in NSW, building on the lessons learned in trials conducted in NSW, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.
3. The Parties agree to continue work through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Disability Reform Council, or equivalent multilateral forum, to refine and further develop the NDIS over time.
4. This Agreement is entered into on the understanding that NSW will not be disadvantaged or worse off as a result of any subsequent agreement the Commonwealth makes with any other state or territory that could impact on the sequencing of phasing, transition timeframes, or financial contributions in NSW.

Part 2 — Parties and Operation of Agreement

Parties

5. This Agreement is between the Commonwealth and NSW.

Commencement and Duration of the Agreement

6. The Agreement will commence as soon as the Parties have signed the Agreement.
7. This Agreement will cover the transition period during which all existing clients of NSW specialist disability services are moving into the NDIS and other transitional arrangements are being implemented.
8. The Agreement will expire on the date a subsequent agreement is signed by both Parties that expressly intends to replace this Agreement and where the parties agree that the transition phase has concluded.
9. *The Intergovernmental Agreement for the NDIS Launch* and its associated appendices and Memorandums of Understanding will continue to apply to the Local Government Areas of Newcastle, Maitland and Lake Macquarie until 30 June 2016.
10. This Agreement applies to the early transition in the NSW Department of Family and Community Services Nepean Blue Mountains district.

Interoperability

11. This Agreement is to be considered in conjunction with:
 - a. *The National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (the NDIS Act 2013); and

- b. *The Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments on the National Disability Insurance Scheme.*

12. This Agreement is also to be considered in conjunction with the following NSW legislation:

- a. *National Disability Insurance Scheme (NSW Enabling) Act 2013;*
- b. *Disability Inclusion Act 2014;*
- c. *Guardianship Act 1987;*
- d. *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998;*
- e. *Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act 1993;*
- f. *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998; and*
- g. *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002.*

13. This Agreement is separate to the Operational Plan that sets out implementation arrangements for the transition to full scheme in NSW, as agreed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Social Services and the Secretary of the NSW Department of Family and Community Services, and the CEO of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

14. The Operational Plan will be developed following the finalisation of this Agreement and will be reviewed and updated throughout the period of the Agreement.

15. Schedules to this Agreement will include, but not be limited to:

- a. Participant Transition Arrangements;
- b. Financial Contributions for Transition;
- c. Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements;
- d. Continuity of Support Arrangements;
- e. Sector and System Readiness;
- f. Quality and Safeguards;
- g. Performance Reporting;
- h. Workforce;
- i. Mainstream Interfaces;
- j. Supports for Specialist Disability Housing; and
- k. Early Transition of the Nepean-Blue Mountains District.

16. Nothing in this Agreement affects arrangements under the National Disability Agreement unless otherwise specified.
17. Arrangements for implementation of a National Injury Insurance Scheme are outlined in the *Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments on the National Disability Insurance Scheme*.

Part 3 — Role and Purpose of the Agreement

18. This Agreement builds on the NDIS trial in the Hunter area of NSW which commenced in July 2013. It outlines how the NDIS is expected to expand in the period before July 2018.
19. The Agreement details the arrangements for transition to the full scheme NDIS in NSW.

Part 4 — Roles and Responsibilities

Shared Roles and Responsibilities of the Parties

20. In addition to their roles and responsibilities outlined in existing frameworks, outlined in clause 11, and consistent with the detail agreed in the Operational Plan, during the life of this Agreement, the Parties will, to the best of their endeavours:
 - a. work together to minimise risks to the other party and assist the other party to manage unexpected risks through agreed response strategies as issues arise;
 - b. continue to work collaboratively, consulting with the NDIA, on ongoing refinement of the policy settings of the NDIS and settle operational matters as needed;
 - c. engage with people with disability, their families and carers to provide input into ongoing refinements of the policy settings of the NDIS;
 - d. report on progress, results and outcomes to inform ongoing refinement of the policy settings of the NDIS, including through input to and consideration of the NDIS evaluation, and by identifying where arrangements are having unintended impacts;
 - e. share information to assist with policy development and scheme administration, subject to privacy requirements;
 - f. prepare for the phasing of clients into the NDIS by providing the NDIA with access to available data on potential participants;
 - g. prepare Commonwealth and NSW programmes that are in scope for the NDIS for transition into the NDIS by aligning the service offers with the COAG Principles to Determine the Responsibilities of the NDIS and Other Service Systems;

- h. facilitate local implementation of the NDIS by preparing existing providers and clients to transition into the scheme, consistent with the phasing agreed at Schedule A and the Operational Plan agreed between the Parties and the NDIA;
- i. facilitate implementation of the NDIS by maintaining support for people with disability prior to the full roll-out of the NDIS in their area;
- j. support the NDIA to deliver Information, Linkages and Capacity Building by coordinating and promoting links between the NDIS and mainstream services and non-government and community-based support; and
- k. provide continuity of support for existing clients of disability services in accordance with Schedule D.

Part 5 — National Disability Insurance Scheme – Transition to a Full Scheme

Aims of the Transition

21. In addition to the objects and principles outlined in the NDIS Act 2013, the NSW transition will have the following further specific aims to:

- a. build upon the evidence from trial sites;
- b. ensure that the transition of people with disability in NSW to the scheme occurs as smoothly and effectively as possible, with minimal service gaps or disruptions, including in locations which border other jurisdictions;
- c. provide the NDIA with sufficient capacity to meet the commitments outlined in this Agreement;
- d. support the orderly transmission of relevant State-based community and population knowledge and systems to the NDIA where appropriate;
- e. encourage development of a sustainable market, and maintain a skilled workforce, where strategies for market development align with and support the transition of existing NSW services to the non-government organisation sector;
- f. ensure the transition is implemented in a way that does not inflate the cost of the full scheme;
- g. develop an environment where people with disability can exercise choice and control over the supports they choose by supporting a diverse and innovative workforce and market to grow and better meet the needs of its client base; and
- h. ensure that carers and the families of people with disability are active partners with the scheme, and are fully involved in decisions that affect them.

Participant Phasing

22. The Parties agree to priorities for transitioning people from the existing NSW specialist disability system to the NDIS in accordance with Schedule A.
23. Detailed implementation phasing arrangements will be contained in the Operational Plan for transition in NSW, to be finalised following the finalisation of this Agreement.
24. Detailed phasing arrangements will be outlined in a legislative rule under the NDIS Act 2013.

Portability of Supports

25. Governments agree that once the NDIS is fully implemented as a national scheme, NDIS supports will be fully portable across Australia.
26. During the transition, portability will apply in all sites transitioning to the NDIS consistent with existing qualifying and ongoing residence requirements in the *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Becoming a Participant) Rules 2013*. This rule will be amended to ensure qualifying and ongoing residence requirements reflect transitioning sites and cohorts.

Continuity of Support

27. The Parties agree that continuity of support arrangements are required to ensure that existing clients of specialist disability services who are not eligible for individualised NDIS supports are assisted to achieve similar outcomes to the outcomes they were achieving prior to the introduction of the NDIS. This may include providing access to Information, Linkage and Capacity Building supports.
28. Arrangements for Continuity of Support are outlined in Schedule D.

Sector and System Readiness

29. Key elements for readiness of the disability services market, including providers, broader sector, workforce and participants, and existing systems for transition, are outlined in Schedule E. The Operational Plan agreed between the Parties and NDIA will detail implementation arrangements including arrangements to support readiness of the disability services market, including providers, broader sector, workforce and participants.

Workforce

30. The Parties agree that successful transition to the NDIS will require a skilled workforce and workforce infrastructure to support service delivery to people with disability in NSW.
31. Arrangements for the first offer of employment to the NDIA for appropriately skilled NSW Government staff working on programmes in the scope of the NDIS are outlined in Schedule H, which will be finalised by December 2015.

32. A transition taskforce has been established to examine employment issues and workforce strategies to maximise employment opportunities for NSW Government disability staff.
33. NSW will work with the Commonwealth and NDIA to support the orderly transmission of relevant State-based knowledge and systems to the NDIS, where this complements and adds to the intent of the Scheme. Arrangements to ensure continuity of key functions currently provided by the NSW Government that are necessary to full scheme will be outlined in the Operational Plan and Schedule H.

Quality and Safeguards

34. The Commonwealth and jurisdictions are working together with the NDIA on the design of a nationally consistent quality and safeguarding system to be agreed by the Disability Reform Council by early 2016
35. Existing State, Territory and Commonwealth quality assurance arrangements will apply until an approach, including agreed roles and responsibilities and any associated impact on funding contributions to the NDIS, is implemented.
36. Arrangements for Quality and Safeguards during transition in NSW are outlined in Schedule F.
37. These arrangements will be reviewed by June 2016 to ensure they reflect the outcomes of Ministers' decisions.

Consultation

38. The Parties, in conjunction with the NDIA, will jointly use existing consultative forums involving people with disability, families, carers and sector and community representatives to advise on refinements to, and further development of, the NDIS over time.

Collection and Management of Data

39. The Parties agree that during the transition period qualitative and quantitative data and information on any issues relevant to the roll-out of the NDIS, taken together with the outcomes from other jurisdictions, will be shared with all governments to facilitate national data collection and consolidation that will contribute to the analysis of costs, liabilities, service interventions, service delivery models and implementation strategies.
40. The data management approach, including data collection, storage and transfer, will be consistent with the information protocols to be developed between the Parties and the NDIA by December 2015.
41. The Parties agree to share client and provider information and data during the transition to manage continuity of support, financial accountability and effective interactions with supports and services outside the NDIS, subject to privacy and other requirements.

Performance and Financial Reporting

42. The Parties agree to the performance reporting arrangements at Schedule G.
43. The NDIA will provide to a nominated official a download from the database (de-identified as appropriate) of participant data at client unit record and aggregate level.
44. The NDIA will provide access to a nominated number of officials in NSW, with the capacity for this access to be delegated to additional officials for a defined purpose or period of time, to the case management and financial management systems in real time on a read only basis. The officials will need to abide by the NDIA's confidentiality and privacy requirements.
45. Any reporting additional to that set out in the NDIS Act 2013 and this part of this Agreement may be negotiated with the NDIA on a fee-for-service basis and cost neutral changes to reporting may be agreed between the NDIA and the Parties at any time.
46. The NDIA will be required to provide state-specific reports on Commonwealth and NSW funding, covering funding, expenditure and in-kind services provided to participants at the end of every financial year.

Evaluation and Review

47. The Parties agree to provide input into the NDIS evaluation and jointly monitor its progress, results and outcomes to inform arrangements for full scheme.

Management of Risk

48. Pursuant to clauses 25 – 29 of the *Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments on the NDIS*, both Parties agree that the management of risk and unexpected costs to either NSW and/or the Commonwealth is a vital part of ensuring that the NDIS is sustainable.
49. The Parties agree that NSW and the Commonwealth will continually monitor and review risks including, but not limited to:
 - a. market, sector and system readiness to transition to the NDIS in accordance with Schedule E;
 - b. the implementation of the principles agreed by COAG in April 2013 (Schedule I) which determine the responsibilities of the NDIS and other service systems, particularly in terms of any gaps in services that may occur for individuals; and
 - c. cash flow pressures on the Commonwealth, NSW and the NDIA during the transition to full scheme.
50. If financial or other risks, including those outlined between clauses 48 and 49, emerge at any time for either party, the party with primary responsibility for the risk will work with other parties, including the NDIA, to develop agreed mitigation proposals. Response strategies could include:

- a. actions to improve provider and participant readiness, including targeted investment from the Sector Development Fund and initiatives that can be taken within existing programmes run by NSW and/or the Commonwealth; and/or
- b. changes to the participant phasing arrangements outlined in Schedule A, but other strategies will be pursued fully prior to considering this option. Should the agreed strategies include changes to participant phasing, the Parties will jointly assess the need to adjust financial contributions outlined at Schedule B.

51. The Parties agree to use the escalation process outlined in clauses 57 – 59 to resolve issues, including issues that may arise relating to clauses 48 and 49.

Part 6 — Financial Contributions

Funding Contributions

52. The Parties agree to contribute to the NDIS in accordance with Schedule B and with regard to the commitment in the *Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and the NSW Governments on the National Disability Insurance Scheme*.

53. The Parties agree to the long-term arrangements for Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality in accordance with Schedule C and with regard to the 2011 *National Health Reform Agreement*.

Auditing Arrangements

54. The Commonwealth will request the Commonwealth Auditor-General to ensure the financial audit of the NDIA undertaken annually by the Australian National Audit Office under the *Auditor General Act 1997* (Cth) includes certification from him or her that funds paid by host jurisdictions to the NDIA have been acquitted consistently with this Agreement, including the schedules.

Part 7 — Governance of the Agreement

Variation of the Agreement

55. This Agreement may be amended at any time by agreement in writing by the NSW Minister for Disability and the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Social Services.

Variation to Schedules to the Agreement

56. The Parties agree that any amendments to the schedules can be agreed at any time by agreement in writing between the NSW Minister for Disability and the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Social Services.

Escalation of Issues

57. Any Party may give notice to another Party of a dispute under this Agreement.

58. Officials of relevant Parties will attempt to resolve any dispute in the first instance, through bilateral steering committees for transitioning sites and relevant multilateral officials groups.
59. If the issue cannot be resolved by officials, it may be escalated to the relevant Ministers and, if necessary, the Disability Reform Council or equivalent Ministerial Council and COAG.

Termination of the Agreement

60. In exceptional circumstances, either of the Parties may withdraw from this Agreement by giving 12 months' notice of intention to do so, in writing, to the Disability Reform Council or the equivalent Ministerial Council and COAG.
61. Following notification of a Party's intention to withdraw from this Agreement, the terms of the withdrawal, including the date on which the Party will cease to be a Party, and any legislative changes and other arrangements that may be necessary as a consequence of the withdrawal, will be negotiated in good faith and agreed between the Parties, on a basis which ensures continuity of support to participants.
62. The withdrawal of a Party shall not release that Party from meeting its agreed funding commitment to participants unless this is otherwise agreed by COAG through the process outlined in the escalation clauses above.

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Agreement as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the
Commonwealth of Australia by

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Turnbull', followed by a period.

Signed for and on behalf of
New South Wales by

The Hon Michael Baird MP
Premier of New South Wales

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Baird', followed by a period.

16 SEP 2015

Schedule A

Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales

1. This schedule is also to be read in conjunction with:
 - a. Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales; and
 - b. Schedule D: Continuity of Support Arrangements in New South Wales.
2. The transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in New South Wales (NSW) will commence in the Nepean-Blue Mountains Region for children aged 0-17 years on 1 July 2015, with the remainder of NSW to commence on 1 July 2016. The transition of all existing NSW specialist disability clients will be completed by June 2018 and is expected to benefit around 140,000 people with disability when full scheme is implemented.
3. The arrangements in this schedule will be implemented by the CEO of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) in accordance with phasing rules agreed by the Parties which will set out the obligations of the CEO.
4. The participant phasing schedule has been designed with regard to the following considerations:
 - a. the advice of the NDIA on operational matters;
 - b. the readiness of the market and disability sector to transition to the NDIS in NSW as outlined at Schedule E: Sector and System Readiness in New South Wales;
 - c. the transition of existing disability systems managed by the Parties;
 - d. experience to date from the NDIS trials; and
 - e. the balance of high and low cost support packages, existing clients of NSW specialist disability services, and other clients, in order to manage funding flows and fiscal risk to the scheme.
5. In NSW, by July 2018, it is estimated that around 115,000 people will access the NDIS, including around 78,000 people from the existing NSW specialist disability system that will be replaced by the NDIS. The remainder of the estimated population of around 140,000 is expected to access the scheme from July 2018 onwards.
6. The Parties agree that the transition in NSW will prioritise existing NSW specialist disability clients and will be implemented on a geographical and client cohort basis as defined by the 2013–14 National Minimum Data Set.

7. The following regions, based on current NSW service districts will commence transition to the NDIS from 1 July 2016:
 - a. Central Coast;
 - b. the remaining population of Hunter New England;
 - c. the remaining population of Nepean-Blue Mountains;
 - d. Northern Sydney;
 - e. South Western Sydney;
 - f. Southern NSW; and
 - g. Western Sydney.
8. The following regions, based on current NSW service districts, will commence transition to the NDIS from 1 July 2017:
 - a. Illawarra Shoalhaven;
 - b. Mid North Coast;
 - c. Murrumbidgee;
 - d. Northern NSW;
 - e. South Eastern Sydney;
 - f. Sydney;
 - g. Western NSW; and
 - h. Far West.
9. Within the respective year all Local Government Areas within each NSW service district will transition based on the following intake schedule:
 - a. All people currently receiving support from a NSW Large Residential Centre, Group Home or receiving support defined as Community High will transition during the month of July, for the relevant transition year;
 - b. 75 per cent of people currently receiving support defined as Community Access and Community Support will transition during the period 1 July to 31 December, with the remainder to transition by 30 June, for the relevant transition year; and
 - c. 25 per cent of people currently receiving support defined as Respite or Community Care will transition during the period 1 July to 31 December, with the remainder to transition by 30 June, for the relevant transition year.

10. Existing clients are defined as people who are receiving, or are scheduled to receive, specialist disability services funded or directly provided by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services at the time they are due to transition to the NDIS. For funding purposes, existing clients will be identified as one of the following existing cohort categories:
 - a. Large Residential Centres (LRCs);
 - b. Group Home;
 - c. Community High;
 - d. Community Access;
 - e. Community Support;
 - f. Community Care;
 - g. Respite; or
 - h. Hunter Trial, excluding LRCs.
11. To enable NSW to transition all specialist disability funding into the scheme by the end of the transition period, the Parties agree to transition clients of existing disability services as seamlessly as possible, with streamlined eligibility and intake.
12. The Parties agree that dealing with unmet need during the transition period is an important part of this Agreement and provision has been made for new and other participants to access the scheme, including:
 - a. people not previously accessing any specialist disability supports from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services;
 - b. people currently accessing Commonwealth specialist disability or Aged Care supports;
 - c. people who may have sporadically received specialist disability services funded or directly provided by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services in previous years;
 - d. people currently accessing supports through other NSW Government agencies; and
 - e. new incidence of disability.
13. The remaining estimated eligible population will access the NDIS based on available financial and operational capacity from 1 July 2018.
14. The estimated and capped quarterly participant intake (with approved plans) during the transition period, based on paragraphs 6-12 above is outlined at Tables 1-2 below:

Table 1: Estimated 2016-17 Participant Intake (end period)

Client Cohort	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4	2016-17 Total
Large Residential Centres	448	0	0	0	448
Group Home	2,591	0	0	0	2,591
Community High	2,127	0	0	0	2,127
Community Access	1,435	1,435	478	478	3,826
Respite	210	210	629	629	1,677
Community Support	4,814	4,814	1,605	1,605	12,837
Community Care	1,644	1,644	4,931	4,931	13,149
Sub-total Existing NSW Clients	13,268	8,102	7,643	7,643	36,655
New and other Commonwealth Participants	1,653	1,526	1,634	1,755	6,567
Total Intake	14,921	9,628	9,276	9,397	43,222
Total Cumulative Intake¹	27,032	36,659	45,936	55,333	

Note: Discrepancies in total due to rounding.

¹Includes 12,111 participants carried forward from trials.

Table 2: Estimated 2017-18 Participant Intake (end period)

Client Cohort	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4	2017-18 Total
Large Residential Centres	40	0	0	0	40
Group Home	1,949	0	0	0	1,949
Community High	1,744	0	0	0	1,744
Community Access	1,371	1,371	457	457	3,657
Respite	235	235	705	705	1,880
Community Support	3,624	3,624	1,208	1,208	9,664
Community Care	2,080	2,080	6,239	6,239	16,636
Sub-total Existing NSW Clients	11,043	7,310	8,609	8,609	35,570
New and other Commonwealth Participants	6,107	6,138	6,405	5,999	24,650
Total Intake	17,150	13,448	15,014	14,608	60,220
Total Cumulative Intake¹	72,483	85,931	100,945	115,553	

Note: Discrepancies in total due to rounding.

¹Includes 55,333 participants carried forward from trials and 2016-17.

15. The total estimated annual intake of participants (with approved plans), based on paragraphs 6-13 above is outlined at Table 3 below:

Table 3: Estimated Annual Intake of Participants

Client Cohort	Trial	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
Existing NSW Clients	6,583	36,655	35,570	0	78,808
New and Other Participants	5,528	6,567	24,650	26,404	63,149
Total Intake	12,111	43,222	60,220	26,404	141,957
Total Cumulative Intake	12,111	55,333	115,553	141,957	

16. The estimated number of people who turn 65 and choose to remain in the scheme, for which the Commonwealth is fully responsible, is outlined at Table 4 below, and are in addition to the number of participants outlined at Table 3 above:

Table 4: Estimated Number of People Aged 65 and Over

Client Cohort	2016-17	2017-18
Cumulative Participants Aged 65 and Over ¹	1,416	3,617

¹Includes 346 participants carried forward from trials.

17. The Parties agree that detailed planning of transition will be developed following finalisation of this Agreement through the Operational Plan developed by NSW, the Commonwealth and the NDIA.

18. To facilitate the smooth transition of participants into the NDIS, the NDIA will commence Local Area Coordination functions six months in advance of the scheduled phasing of a service district.

19. Where possible, the Parties agree to provide appropriate available data to the NDIA prior to the commencement of transition, to support the transfer of clients to the NDIS and consistent with Schedule E: Sector and System Readiness in New South Wales.

20. Existing NSW specialist disability clients have been identified as one of a number of cohorts as defined by the 2013-14 National Minimum Data Set. The Parties agree that the estimates in these tables will be monitored or reviewed as necessary in light of transition experience as per clause 56 of this Agreement.

Appendix A

NSW Service Districts by Local Government Authority

Central Coast

Gosford
Wyong

Far West

Balranald
Broken Hill
Central Darling
Wentworth

Hunter New England

Armidale Dumaresq
Cessnock
Dungog
Glen Innes Severn
Gloucester
Great Lakes
Greater Taree
Gunnedah
Guyra
Gwydir
Inverell
Lake Macquarie
Liverpool Plains
Maitland
Moree Plains
Muswellbrook
Narrabri
Newcastle
Port Stephens
Singleton
Tamworth Regional
Tenterfield
Upper Hunter Shire
Uralla
Walcha

Illawarra Shoalhaven

Kiama
Shellharbour
Shoalhaven
Wollongong

Mid North Coast

Bellingen
Coffs Harbour
Kempsey
Nambucca
Port Macquarie-Hastings

Murrumbidgee

Albury
Berrigan
Bland
Boorowa
Carrathool
Conargo
Coolamon
Cootamundra
Corowa Shire
Deniliquin
Greater Hume Shire
Griffith
Gundagai
Harden
Hay
Jerilderie
Junee
Leeton
Lockhart
Murray
Murrumbidgee
Narrandera
Temora
Tumbarumba
Tumut Shire
Urana
Wagga Wagga
Wakool
Young

Nepean Blue Mountains

Blue Mountains
Hawkesbury
Lithgow
Penrith

Northern NSW

Ballina
Byron
Clarence Valley
Kyogle
Lismore
Richmond Valley
Tweed

Northern Sydney

Hornsby
Hunters Hill
Ku-ring-gai
Lane Cove
Manly
Mosman
North Sydney
Pittwater
Ryde
Warringah
Willoughby

South Eastern Sydney

Botany Bay
Hurstville
Kogarah
Randwick
Rockdale
Sutherland Shire
Sydney - Inner and East
Waverley
Woollahra

South Western Sydney

Bankstown
Camden
Campbelltown
Fairfield
Liverpool
Wingecarribee
Wollondilly

Southern NSW

Bega Valley
Bombala
Cooma-Monaro
Eurobodalla
Goulburn Mulwaree
Palerang
Queanbeyan
Snowy River
Upper Lachlan Shire
Yass Valley

Sydney

Ashfield
Burwood
Canada Bay
Canterbury
Leichhardt
Marrickville
Strathfield
Sydney - South and West

Western NSW

Bathurst Regional
Blayney
Bogan
Bourke
Brewarrina
Cabonne
Cobar
Coonamble
Cowra
Dubbo
Forbes
Gilgandra
Lachlan
Mid-Western Regional
Narromine
Oberon
Orange
Parkes
Walgett
Warren
Warrumbungle Shire
Weddin
Wellington

Western Sydney

Auburn
Blacktown
Holroyd
Parramatta
The Hills Shire

Schedule B

Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales

1. This schedule is to be read in conjunction with:
 - a. Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales;
 - b. Schedule C: Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements in New South Wales; and
 - c. Schedule D: Continuity of Support Arrangements in New South Wales.

Funding Arrangements

2. The Parties agree that, during the transition period, funding responsibilities are consistent with arrangements under the *Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and New South Wales (NSW) on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)*, with:
 - a. NSW responsible for providing an agreed, fixed per client contribution for each existing client that has transferred from State specialist disability services to the NDIS, and other participants, for an agreed number of participants under the age of 65 (Indigenous Australians under the age of 50);
 - b. the Commonwealth responsible for an agreed, fixed per client contribution for each existing client that has transferred from State specialist disability services to the NDIS, other participants, participants 65 years and over, and 100 per cent of National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) operational and administration costs (including Information, Linkages and Capacity Building funded within the NDIS and NDIA operational costs); and
 - c. the Commonwealth responsible for meeting 100 per cent of the risk of cost overruns above the contributions outlined above.
3. Table 1 details the estimated contribution to package costs of NSW and the Commonwealth. The agreed funding contribution by client cohort reflects an average estimated funding contribution and not the cost of individualised plans. The weighted average funding contribution is based on the entire NSW population that is expected to transition to the NDIS and, therefore, is not representative of the expected average package cost at any point in time during the transition period.

Table 1: Agreed annualised funding contribution to the NDIS for participants under the age of 65

	2016-17	2017-18
Large Residential Centres (LRCs)	\$248,181	\$258,853
Group Homes	\$176,964	\$184,573
Community High	\$96,035	\$100,165
Community Access	\$66,901	\$69,778
Respite	\$47,478	\$49,520
Community Support	\$28,595	\$29,824
Community Care	\$35,069	\$36,577
Hunter Trial, excluding LRCs	\$54,567	\$56,914
Residential Aged Care	\$86,324	\$90,036
New and Other Commonwealth Participants ¹	\$21,666	\$23,037
Weighted Average	\$39,677	\$41,383

¹Other Participants include people currently receiving support from a Commonwealth Home Care package.

4. The Parties agree that NSW will contribute funding on a monthly basis in arrears, based on the actual number of existing clients (including trial participants) and other participants entering the NDIS each month, multiplied by the agreed per client funding contribution. The number of existing and other participants who will enter into the scheme during transition will be limited to the sequencing detailed in Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales.
5. NSW is contributing its existing available funding for specialist and other disability services and supports, therefore:
 - a. NSW contributions are based on the actual intake of existing clients who have transitioned to the NDIS;
 - b. NSW contributions are based on an agreed per client funding contribution for different cohorts, and may increase or decrease based on actual participant intake;
 - c. the agreed per client funding contribution for different cohorts is based on a weighted full scheme national average cost per participant;
 - d. NSW contributions for participants are capped at the total estimated intake of existing and the quarterly intake of other participants, as outlined in Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales; and
 - e. for the purpose of NSW making a contribution, an existing NSW client is assessed as having transitioned to the NDIS at the time of plan approval.
6. The Parties agree that:
 - a. the NDIA is responsible for funding all support costs associated with the plan once a participant has an approved plan in place; and

- b. administrative details of this arrangement will be finalised through the Operational Plan developed by NSW, the Commonwealth and the NDIA.
7. The NSW contribution for other participants is capped and subject to the agreed ratio of other participants to existing clients and the timing of other participants as outlined in Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales.
8. The anticipated phasing means that the expected average cost during transition will not equate to the full scheme national average. The indicative average cost of participants during transition is outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Agreed annualised funding contribution to NDIS package costs for participants under the age of 65 at the end of the financial year.

	2016-17	2017-18
Weighted Average Package Cost during transition ¹	\$54,514	\$49,259

¹The average funding contribution is based on the agreed transition arrangements as outlined at Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements, and therefore does not reflect the expected long-term average funding contribution.

9. The Parties will separately agree, by December 2015, the method of calculating invoices to enable the provision of the required contribution by each party as outlined in Tables 3 and 4.
10. The Parties commit to making all contributions in respect of the trial period prior to 1 July 2016. As NSW will contribute funding on a monthly basis in arrears during transition, the Commonwealth may need to make earlier cash contributions to address any cash flow issues associated with this arrangement. These early payments, if made by the Commonwealth to address cash flow issues, will be offset against later payments once cash has built in the scheme and before the end of the financial year in which they are made. At the commencement of full scheme NSW will pay all outstanding invoices for the transition period in addition to its contribution to full scheme.
11. The Parties will allow cash to build up in the scheme up to a ceiling. The cash ceiling will be equivalent to three months of total agreed annualised funding contributions in respect of those participants in the scheme with an approved plan as at the end of each month. Calculations of the cash ceiling will be updated each month by the NDIA. Where the level of cash that has built in the scheme approaches the cash ceiling, the NDIA invoicing will limit contributions by the parties to the level of the cash ceiling, as calculated at the end of that month.
12. The Parties agree that cash that builds in the scheme can be used by the NDIA to manage cash flow risks and to manage costs back to the agreed total funding, if commitments in plans are higher than expected. If the NDIA cannot manage costs back to the agreed total funding then consistent with the responsibilities in paragraph 2(c) the Commonwealth will work with other parties, including the NDIA, to develop agreed mitigation proposals which could include changes to participant phasing arrangements to allow the Commonwealth to supplement the NDIA so that it can meet its commitments.
13. The NDIA will issue all invoices within 15 days of the end of every month. NSW will pay all invoices issued by the NDIA within 30 days of the end of each month. This

allows sufficient time for the NDIA to calculate an invoice based on actual participant numbers, and for NSW and the Commonwealth to agree the value of the invoice.

14. The expected funding contribution from NSW, subject to the client phasing in Schedule A and the agreed annualised funding contribution in Table 1 above, is outlined at Table 3:

Table 3: Estimated NSW funding contribution for participants under the age of 65

	2016-17 (m)	2017-18 (m)	Total (m)
Existing clients	\$1,136.6	\$2,017.5	\$3,154.1
Other participants	\$156.9	\$393.0	\$550.0
Estimated NSW contribution¹	\$1,293.6	\$2,410.5	\$3,704.1

¹NSW's contribution is based on the actual intake of clients multiplied by the agreed per client funding contribution and therefore may be higher or lower than the estimated total contribution outlined in this table.

15. The estimated financial contribution from the Commonwealth is outlined at Table 4:

Table 4: Estimated Commonwealth funding contribution for participants

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)	Total (m)
Existing clients	\$609.9	\$1,558.8	\$2,168.6
Other participants	\$83.6	\$300.2	\$383.8
Participants aged 65 and over	\$49.9	\$147.9	\$197.7
Estimated Total Commonwealth contribution¹	\$743.3	\$2,006.8	\$2,750.2

¹Does not include administration and other costs not associated with a participant's plan.

Intergovernmental Payments

16. The Parties agree that the intergovernmental payments currently provided by the Commonwealth to NSW for the purpose of providing disability services to individuals should be paid to the NDIA on behalf of the Commonwealth by NSW.

17. Intergovernmental payments include:

- a. the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment (NDSPP);
- b. the relevant portion of the National Partnership Agreement on Pay Equity for the Social and Community Services Sector (SACS NP); and

- c. Cross-billing arrangements for Indigenous participants aged 50 to 64 years in specialist disability services as set out in Schedule C: Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements in New South Wales (Cross-Billing).

18. The Parties agree that there will be a separate process to cease the NDSPP from 1 July 2018 and that this process will consider any changes to indexation rates during the transition period.

19. The Parties agree that:

- a. repayment of Intergovernmental Payments will be calculated based on the actual number of existing state specialist disability clients that transfer to the NDIS, with payments arrangements consistent with paragraph 4 above; and
- b. NSW will provide the Budget Neutral Adjustment to the Commonwealth as an additional payment administered via the NDSPP, to be provided in even monthly instalments to NDIA over the transition period, as outlined in Schedule C: Future Arrangements for Budget Neutrality and Cross Billing in New South Wales.

20. Repayment of funding under the SACS NP is subject to the extension of the current National Partnership, which is due to expire on 30 June 2016.

21. The Parties agree that the Commonwealth will no longer provide Intergovernmental payments to NSW, relating to Specialist Disability Services, from 1 July 2018.

22. The agreed annualised repayment by client cohort is outlined at Table 5:

Table 5: Annualised repayment of Intergovernmental payments for NDIS participants

	2016-17	2017-18
LRCs	\$29,709	\$31,031
Group Home	\$21,184	\$22,126
Community High	\$11,496	\$12,008
Community Access	\$8,009	\$8,365
Respite	\$5,684	\$5,936
Community Support	\$3,423	\$3,575
Community Care	\$4,198	\$4,385
Hunter non LRC	\$6,532	\$6,823
Weighted Average	\$6,177	\$6,451

23. The estimated repayment of Intergovernmental payments is outlined at Table 6:

Table 6: Estimated Repayment of Commonwealth intergovernmental payments for participants

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Repayment of Commonwealth intergovernmental payments	\$209.1	\$428.7
Budget Neutral Adjustment, via NDSPP ¹	\$68.1	\$70.5
Total	\$277.2	\$499.2

¹Additional repayment of the NDSPP as outlined in schedule C: Future Arrangements for Cross-Billing and Budget Neutrality.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

24. The Parties agree to minimise in-kind contributions to the NDIS, and where possible cash out in-kind programmes to accelerate the transition from in-kind services to cash contributions. The Parties agree that where it is not possible to cash out programmes before they transition to the NDIS, they will:

- a. ensure that contracts with providers can be adjusted to facilitate the cashing out of programmes once the transition to the scheme has commenced, where reasonable; and
- b. consider whether the remainder of the contract can be novated to the NDIA and, where contract novation occurs, provide funding to the NDIA at the value of the novated contract on a monthly basis (or as otherwise agreed with the NDIA) until the contract terminates.

25. The estimated Commonwealth cash and in-kind contribution is outlined at Table 7:

Table 7: Commonwealth cash and in-kind contributions

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
In-kind: Continence Aids Payment Scheme	\$1.8	\$2.7
In-kind: Disability Employment Assistance: Australian Disability Enterprises	\$13.1	\$38.5
In-kind: Hearing Services Program	\$4.9	\$14.3
In-kind: Partners in Recovery	\$9.8	\$28.3
In-kind: Support for Day to Day Living in the Community	\$0.3	\$0.8
In-kind: Repayment of Commonwealth Intergovernmental Payments via NSW	\$45.7	\$68.1
Total Commonwealth In-kind Contribution	\$75.6	\$152.7
Cash	\$436.2	\$1,423.1
Cash - Repayment of Commonwealth Intergovernmental Payments via NSW	\$231.5	\$431.1

Total Commonwealth Cash Contribution	\$667.7	\$1,854.2
Total Commonwealth Contribution	\$743.3	\$2,006.8

26. NSW's in-kind contribution includes the costs of NSW-provided supported accommodation for services expected to transfer to the non-government sector during the transition period, and some non-accommodation state-wide services which will be required to operate throughout the transition. NSW will progressively cash out all third-party funding arrangements in accordance with phasing agreements established prior to transition.

27. In-kind contributions during transition will be based on the current cost of delivering the services. The pricing and value of any in-kind contributions at full scheme will be separately agreed by June 2018.

28. The estimated NSW cash and in-kind contribution is outlined at Table 8:

Table 8: NSW cash and in-kind contributions

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Estimated NSW in-kind contribution	\$452.2	\$705.1
Estimated NSW cash contribution	\$841.4	\$1,704.4
Estimated total NSW contribution	\$1,293.6	\$2,410.5

Full scheme Arrangements

29. Full scheme in NSW will be implemented by 1 July 2018. This agreement outlines how all existing NSW specialist disability clients will enter the NDIS during the transition period from July 2016 to June 2018. It is expected that full scheme funding arrangements for NSW will commence from July 2018, following the intake of all existing NSW specialist disability clients (or an agreed majority).

30. Funding arrangements for full scheme will need to consider:

- a. the extent to which participant phasing schedules have been achieved, in particular whether all existing NSW specialist disability clients have entered the NDIS by the end of the transition period;
- b. the extent to which NSW has achieved a withdrawal from the delivery and administration of specialist disability services; and
- c. any changes for full scheme agreed by governments arising from new policy design (such as quality and safeguards and housing), scheme experience and the 2017 Productivity Commission review of scheme costs.

31. The Parties agree that a funding mechanism for full scheme contributions will be agreed by March 2018 and will include details of timing and basis of payments.

32. The Parties agree to consider temporarily altering full scheme funding contributions if transition arrangements do not go as expected (such as delays to the intake of existing NSW specialist disability clients and the withdrawal of NSW from the delivery and administration of specialist disability services).
33. If NSW continues to provide in-kind contributions to the NDIS from Intergovernmental payments at full scheme, adjustments to funding arrangements will be made to allow the Intergovernmental payments to be ceased by 1 July 2018 and to ensure that overall funding to the NDIS is unchanged.

Schedule C

Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements in New South Wales

1. This schedule is to be read in conjunction with:
 - a. Schedule A: Participant Phasing Arrangements in New South Wales;
 - b. Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales;
 - c. Schedule D: Continuity of Support Arrangements in New South Wales; and
 - d. The Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Schedule for Aged Care and Disability Services in New South Wales: 2013-14 to 2015-16.
2. The Parties agree that the roles and responsibilities outlined in Schedule F of the National Health Reform Agreement will be maintained. The Commonwealth will continue to have financial responsibility for aged care and specialist disability services for older people aged 65 years and over (and Indigenous Australians aged 50 years and over). In addition, the Commonwealth will progressively take over service delivery responsibility for specialist disability services for older people as the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) continues to rollout.
3. New South Wales (NSW) will continue to have financial responsibility for disability and aged care services for younger people aged under 65 years (Indigenous Australians aged under 50), until such time as those people transition to the NDIS. This schedule does not change existing responsibilities outside the scope of these services, including health and hospital services and the supply of aids and equipment to people not eligible for the NDIS.
4. This schedule covers the cross-billing arrangements for transition in 2016-17 and 2017-18
5. The Parties agree that the change in roles and responsibilities will be made cost neutral through a Budget Neutral Adjustment payment, which will end in 2017-18. The Budget Neutral Adjustment is fixed at the 2013-14 level identified in the *Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Schedule for Aged Care and Disability Services in New South Wales: 2013-14 to 2015-16* and grown through time at 3.5 per cent per annum.

Cross-billing

Younger People in Commonwealth Residential Aged Care and Home Care Packages

6. NSW agrees to pay the Commonwealth for the estimated costs of younger people aged under 65 (Indigenous Australians aged under 50 years) in residential aged care and Home Care Packages, for the period 2016-17 to 2017-18.
7. The agreed amount that NSW will pay the Commonwealth will be calculated by multiplying the agreed number of younger people in residential aged care and Home Care Packages by an agreed average unit cost, with:
 - a. the agreed average unit cost calculated by growing the average unit cost for 2013-14 identified in the Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Schedule

for Aged Care and Disability Services in New South Wales: 2013-14 to 2015-16 by 3.5 per cent annum;

- b. the agreed number of younger people each year equal to the number of Younger People in Residential Aged Care and Home Care Packages identified in 2013-14 less the number of younger people that are estimated to transition to the NDIS (or that have otherwise exited), as outlined in Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in NSW; and
- c. where a younger person transitions during the year, part year effects are taken into account.

8. The agreed unit costs for cross-billing are outlined at Table 1:

Table 1: Agreed Cross-billing Unit Costs

Cohort	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Younger People in Residential Aged Care	\$66,987	\$69,331	\$71,758
Younger People with Home Care Packages	\$23,378	\$24,197	\$25,044

9. The agreed number of people subject to Cross-billing arrangements is outlined at Tables 2 and 3:

Table 2: Cross-billing Population (at 30 June)

Cohort	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Younger People in Residential Aged Care	2,208	985	0
Younger People with Home Care Packages	327	175	0

Table 3: Cross-billing Population (full year equivalent)

Cohort	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Younger People in Residential Aged Care	2,208	1,504	376
Younger People with Home Care Packages	327	228	57

10. The agreed NSW cross-billing payment to the Commonwealth for younger people in Aged Care is outlined at Table 4, and is the product of multiplying Tables 1 and 3.

Table 4: Total NSW Cross-billing Contributions

Cohort	2015-16 (\$m)	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Younger People in Residential Aged Care	\$147.9	\$104.3	\$27.0
Younger People with Home Care Packages	\$7.6	\$5.4	\$1.4
Total NSW Contribution	\$155.6	\$109.6	\$28.4

Older People in NSW Specialist Disability Services

11. The Commonwealth agrees to pay NSW for the cost of delivering Specialist Disability Services to Older People (aged 65 years and over, or Indigenous Australians aged over 50), for the period 2016-17 to 2017-18, less:

- a. the agreed amount of funding provided to NSW through the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment for Older People in NSW Specialist Disability Services; and
- b. the agreed amount of funding provided to NSW through the National Partnership Agreement on Pay Equity for the Social and Community Services Sector for Older People in NSW Specialist Disability Services, subject to the extension of the current National Partnership which is due to expire on 30 June 2016.

12. The total agreed amount that the Commonwealth will pay NSW will be calculated by growing the cost for 2013-14 identified in the Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Schedule for Aged Care and Disability Services in New South Wales: 2013-14 to 2015-16 by 3.5 per cent annum.

Table 5: Agreed Commonwealth Cross-billing Contributions to NSW

Cohort	2015-16 (\$m)	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Older People in Specialist Disability Services (Aged 65 and Over)	\$132.5	\$137.1	\$141.9
Older People in Specialist Disability Services (Indigenous Aged 50-64)	\$11.0	\$11.4	\$11.8
Total Commonwealth Contribution	\$143.5	\$148.6	\$153.8

13. As the Commonwealth is progressively taking administrative responsibility for Older People in Specialist Disability Services, as outlined in Schedule D: Continuity of Support Arrangements in NSW, NSW will repay the Commonwealth the costs associated with older people who transition to Commonwealth continuity of support arrangements.

14. Where an Indigenous person aged 50-64 transitions as a participant of the NDIS, NSW will transfer funding to the NDIS, as a Commonwealth contribution, as outlined in Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in NSW.

Funding Arrangements

15. The funding arrangements for Cross-billing, will be consistent with the NDIS, as outlined in Schedule B: Funding Contributions for Transition in NSW, with:
- a. NSW payments for Younger People in Residential Aged Care and Home Care Packages, to be provided on a monthly basis in arrears based on the actual number of people who have yet to transition to the NDIS; and
 - b. contributions from NSW capped at the total estimated value of older people in NSW Specialist Disability Services and Younger People in Residential Aged Care and Home Care Packages, as at 30 June 2016, grown by 3.5 per cent per annum.
16. Parties agree that all cross-billing payments will cease on 30 June 2018.

Budget Neutral Adjustment

17. The Parties agree that during transition a Budget Neutral Adjustment is made each year to offset the additional cost to the Commonwealth of net additional financial responsibilities taken on as part of the National Health Reform Agreement (i.e. the additional cost to the Commonwealth of Home and Community Care for older people, and the cost of specialist disability services for older people, less the costs of responsibilities transferred to NSW for younger people in aged care).
18. The Parties agree that the Budget Neutral Adjustment for 2016-17 and 2017-18 is calculated by growing the Budget Neutral Adjustment for 2013-14 identified in the Cross-billing and Budget Neutrality Schedule for Aged Care and Disability Services in New South Wales: 2013-14 to 2015-16 by 3.5 per cent annum.
19. The Budget Neutral Adjustment over the period 2016-17 to 2017-18, which reflects a net contribution to the Commonwealth, is outlined in Table 6.

Table 6: Budget Neutrality Adjustment to the Commonwealth:

Amounts	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Budget Neutral Adjustment	\$68.1	\$70.5

20. Both parties agree that during the NDIS transition period, 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018, NSW will provide the Budget Neutral Adjustment to the Commonwealth as an additional repayment of the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment (NDSPP) as outlined in Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales.
21. As the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment will have fully transitioned to the NDIS by the end of 2017-18, the Parties agree that, from 1 July 2018 NSW will increase its contribution to the National Disability Insurance Agency by \$73 million (indexed at 3.5 per cent per year). This will be in addition to the NSW full scheme contribution of \$3,133 million as set out in the *Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments on the National Disability Insurance Scheme*.
22. The Parties agree that the maximum amount of in-kind that NSW can contribute in full scheme will increase to \$477.5 million in 2018-19.

Schedule D

Continuity of Support Arrangements in New South Wales

1. The Parties agree that it is important that the roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in New South Wales (NSW) is managed so that people are not disadvantaged during the transition to the full roll-out of the NDIS.

Continuity of Support: Definition and Principles

2. People with disability, their families and carers will be provided with continuity of support that will ensure that the support they receive once the NDIS is introduced will enable them to achieve similar outcomes to the outcomes they were aiming to achieve prior to introduction of the NDIS.
3. Continuity of support will apply for people resident in an area or part of a cohort that is transitioning to the NDIS if:
 - a. They currently receive support but do not meet the access requirements outlined in the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (the NDIS Act 2013), or are receiving supports that do not meet the definition of reasonable and necessary supports in the NDIS Act 2013; and
 - b. the funding for this support is attributed to a programme/service that will cease when the NDIS is introduced.
4. The assistance provided to people through continuity of support will aim to support people to live as independently as possible by working with them to reduce their need for supports or to access supports from other systems, where appropriate. Where a person's support needs are reduced through capacity building work, or are met by other service systems, the assistance through continuity of support will be phased out. The Parties agree that people with significant ongoing needs will be provided with assistance to prevent hardship where this would significantly undermine the person's wellbeing, or social and economic participation.
5. The types of assistance provided through continuity of support should be flexible because the assistance that best builds the person's capacity to live independently may be different from the supports the person was accessing previously. The flexibility could, for example, include up-front investments that assist people to live more independently. If a person receiving continuity of support is under 65 years of age and has had a change in their circumstances which means they may meet NDIS access requirements, the person can make an access request to the NDIA to become a participant at any time.

Continuity of Support: People Aged 65 and Over and Indigenous People Aged 50 and Over

6. The Parties agree that:
 - a. administrative responsibility for people aged 65 and over receiving specialist disability services will transfer to the Commonwealth, consistent with the timeframes for transition of NDIS-eligible participants in NSW; and
 - b. administrative responsibility for Indigenous people aged 50 and over receiving specialist disability services, and ineligible to participate in the NDIS, will transfer to the Commonwealth, consistent with the timeframes for transition of NDIS-eligible participants in NSW.
7. The Commonwealth will, in consultation with NSW, determine the administrative arrangements for providing continuity of support for people aged 65 and over (Indigenous people aged 50 and over) referred to in clause 3 above by March 2016. In developing these arrangements, the Commonwealth and NSW will confirm current service delivery data including the number of in scope clients.
8. The schedule to transfer administrative responsibility to the Commonwealth has been designed with consideration of an orderly approach in line with the transition of eligible participants from NSW specialist disability services to the NDIS.
9. In NSW, it is estimated that a total of 1,770 people currently in receipt of specialist disability services will transfer to the Commonwealth.
10. The Parties agree that the transfer of this cohort in NSW will be implemented on a staged geographical basis in the following sequence:
 - a. Hunter New England will transfer on 1 July 2016;
 - b. Nepean Blue Mountains and Southern NSW will transfer on 1 October 2016;
 - c. Central Coast and South Western Sydney will transfer on 1 January 2017;
 - d. Northern Sydney and Western Sydney will transfer on 1 April 2017;
 - e. Mid-North Coast and Western NSW will transfer on 1 July 2017;
 - f. Illawarra Shoalhaven and Murrumbidgee will transfer on 1 October 2017;
 - g. South Eastern Sydney and Sydney will transfer on 1 January 2018; and
 - h. Far West and Northern NSW will transfer on 1 April 2018.
11. The Parties agree that detailed planning of transfers will be developed following finalisation of this Agreement, as part of the Operational Plan developed by NSW, the Commonwealth and the NDIA for the transition of NDIS-eligible participants.

12. The estimated quarterly transfer, based on transition arrangements in paragraph 10, above is outlined at Tables 1 and 2 below:

Table 1: Estimated Transfer of Administrative Responsibility in 2016-17

	2016-17 Q1	2016-17 Q2	2016-17 Q3	2016-17 Q4
Estimated number of participants to transition to Commonwealth Administration	308	137	315	373
Total cumulative transfer	308	445	760	1,133

Table 2: Estimated Transfer of Administrative Responsibility in 2017-18

	2017-18 Q1	2017-18 Q2	2017-18 Q3	2017-18 Q4
Estimated number of participants to transition to Commonwealth Administration	88	154	324	71
Total cumulative transfer	1,221	1,375	1,699	1,770

13. The estimate in Table 1 and 2 above is the estimated number of existing clients in NSW-funded services who will require continuity of support arrangements and who are aged 65 and over. If the actual number of people who require continuity of support arrangements and who are aged 65 and over exceeds the estimate outlined at Tables 1 and 2 above, the Commonwealth will provide access to existing programmes on the same basis as other people with a need for support who are aged 65 and over.

14. The estimated cost to the Commonwealth of providing continuity of support for people aged 65 and over, and Indigenous people aged 50 to 64, currently in NSW specialist disability systems, is outlined at Table 3 below.

Table 3: Estimated Cost – Continuity of Support for Older People

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Estimated cost of Continuity of Support for older people in NSW specialist disability services	\$58.6	\$137.6

15. Table 3 reflects the estimated cost of continuity of support for the people identified in Tables 1 and 2. If the actual cost to the Commonwealth of providing continuity of

support for existing clients in state-funded services exceeds the estimate outlined at Table 3 above, the Commonwealth will provide access to existing programmes on the same basis as other people with a need for support who are aged 65 and over.

Continuity of Support: People under 65 years

16. The Parties agree that the NDIA will establish Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) arrangements to support people who have been in receipt of state-based specialist disability supports but are not eligible for the NDIS. The ILC supports will enable the person to transition to alternative arrangements over time. This is consistent with clauses 4 and 5 of this Schedule.
17. The details of continuity of support arrangements will be outlined in the Operational Plan developed by NSW, the Commonwealth and the NDIA prior to transition.

People who are under 65 years who meet age and disability requirements; however do not meet residency requirements

18. The Parties agree that people who meet the age and disability access requirements and are currently receiving supports in Commonwealth and state-funded services; however do not meet the residency requirements as defined in the NDIS Act 2013, will be supported as participants in the scheme.
19. The Parties agree that NSW will have no role for administering arrangements for people who do not meet the residency requirements after 30 June 2018.

Intergovernmental Payments

20. Both parties agree that the intergovernmental payments currently provided by the Commonwealth to NSW will be repaid to the Commonwealth based on the actual number of existing state specialist disability services clients who transferred to Commonwealth administrative arrangements in that year, consistent with funding arrangements outlined in Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales.
21. Intergovernmental payments include:
 - a. the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment (NDSPP);
 - b. the relevant portion of the National Partnership Agreement on Pay Equity for the Social and Community Services Sector (SACS NP); and
 - c. Cross-billing arrangements for older people in specialist disability services aged over 65 and Indigenous People aged 50-64 who are ineligible for the NDIS, as set out in Schedule C: Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements (Cross-Billing).
22. Repayment of funding under the SACS NP is subject to the extension of the current National Partnership, which is due to expire on 30 June 2016.

Funding Arrangements

22. The funding arrangements for continuity of support, will be consistent with the NDIS, as outlined in Schedule B: Funding Contributions for Transition in New South Wales, with NSW repayments for Older People in Specialist Disability Services, to be provided on a monthly basis in arrears based on the actual number of people who have left NSW specialist disability services.

23. The agreed funding contribution by client is outlined at Table 4 below:

Table 4: Annualised repayment Unit Costs for Continuity of Support clients

	2016-17	2017-18
Older People in Specialist Disability Services	\$89,433	\$93,163

24. The estimated amount that NSW will repay the Commonwealth will be calculated by multiplying the number of older people who have left NSW Specialist Disability Services by the agreed average unit cost, with the estimated number of Older People in NSW Specialist Disability Services equal to the number older people who are estimated to transition to continuity of support arrangements. Where a person aged over 65 transitions during the year, part year effects are taken into account.

25. Where a person aged over 65 leaves a NSW Specialist Disability Service, and does not transfer to Commonwealth continuity of support arrangements, NSW will provide the Commonwealth with funding equal to the agreed unit cost, adjusted for part year effects.

26. The estimated repayment of Commonwealth grants are outlined in Table 5

Table 5: Estimated repayment of Commonwealth grants

	2016-17 (\$m)	2017-18 (\$m)
Repayment of Commonwealth Grants ¹	\$59.2	\$141.3

¹The estimated repayment of Commonwealth grants is greater than the estimated cost (Table 3) of providing Continuity of Support. This reflects the fact that while continuity of support applies to a fixed and declining cohort, the Commonwealth has taken responsibility for all older people with disability through the NDIS and aged care.

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

27. The Parties agree that NSW will not provide any in-kind services as part of continuity of support arrangements.

Schedule E

Sector and System Readiness in New South Wales

1. The Parties agree that full scheme costs for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) must be sustainable.
2. The Parties agree that transition arrangements will be managed so that providers, the workforce, individuals, the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and existing systems are prepared to operate in the NDIS system.
3. The Parties agree to recognise and support practical steps to support sector and system readiness.
4. The Parties recognise and support that to be able to meet the timeframes envisaged for processing access requests and developing plans under this Agreement, the NDIA will need:
 - a. access to data from governments and providers that is in the form, and quality, required to support the transition of people in existing programmes into the NDIS;
 - i. including data from current programmes that allows the NDIA and governments to understand the characteristics of clients and the support they receive, and to remove potential double counts for transitioning clients; and
 - b. to establish mechanisms to efficiently and effectively transfer information between the NDIA, stakeholders and providers that avoid regulatory burden on providers.
5. The Parties recognise and support that to be able to operate in the market-based system envisaged for the NDIS within the timeframes outlined for transition under this Agreement, providers and participants will need to be ready to move to the NDIS system at the point of transition consistent with Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales.
 - a. For providers, this means they understand the costs of their business and are able to operate within a contestable environment and interact with the NDIA system; and
 - b. For participants, this means being ready to undertake goal-based planning and exercise control and choice over the supports they receive.
6. The Parties agree that existing funding and contracting arrangements and the Sector Development Fund will be used to build readiness in the following areas:
 - a. building participant capacity for choice and control;
 - b. developing the capacity of providers to participate in a more contestable market; and
 - c. workforce growth and development.

7. The Parties are committed to leveraging existing government investment in sector development activities and infrastructure and will work with the NDIA to determine how existing tools, resources and systems can be adopted or funded to support the NDIS where appropriate.
8. The Parties agree that they will facilitate the NDIA working with prospective participants and providers ahead of phasing in.
9. The Parties agree to monitor market, sector, participant, workforce and system readiness, including through:
 - a. monitoring the completeness and quality of data available to the NDIA about people in existing programmes who are due to transition into the NDIS;
 - b. the NDIA building a picture of provider characteristics, numbers, and capacities;
 - c. developing a mechanism to determine workforce requirements based on the population to phase in against reference packages;
 - d. monitoring the capacity of providers to recruit locally; and
 - e. using New South Wales-held information about regions to assist the NDIA with service and workforce mapping.
10. The Parties agree that these monitoring arrangements will take account of the challenges associated with rural and remote service delivery.
11. The Parties agree that these arrangements will be used to continually review market, sector, participant, workforce and system readiness to transition to the NDIS and that if this monitoring indicates significant concerns that put agreed transition arrangements at risk, then a strategy for addressing the issues will be developed.
12. The Parties agree that participants should not be put at risk and that the agreed strategy could include changes to the phasing schedule.

Schedule F

Transition arrangements for quality and safeguards in New South Wales

1. This schedule sets out quality and safeguards assurance arrangements during the transition to the full National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in New South Wales (NSW) from July 2016 to July 2018.
2. All governments agree that quality and safeguards are important to effectively support the phasing of a large number of participants into the NDIS, including vulnerable and high-need cohorts.

National Framework for Quality and Safeguards

3. The Parties and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) are working together on the design of a nationally consistent quality and safeguarding system to be agreed by the Disability Reform Council (the Council) by early 2016.
4. The NDIS quality and safeguarding system will be consistent with the principles agreed by the Council as set out in the Consultation paper released on 17 February 2015.
5. Existing NSW and Commonwealth quality and safeguarding systems will apply until the new system, including agreed roles and responsibilities, is implemented.
6. This schedule will be reviewed by June 2016 to reflect the outcomes of Ministers' decisions and incorporating consequent implementation arrangements.

Transition arrangements

7. During the transition to full scheme, NSW and the Commonwealth will continue to operate existing quality systems for providers seeking to register with the NDIA to offer supports funded by the NDIS and existing safeguarding arrangements for participants, including existing approaches to the regulation of restrictive practices.
8. **Table 1** sets out the quality and safeguarding arrangements that will be in place in NSW during transition. This reflects current responsibilities and would be amended, subject to any transitional arrangements agreed by governments as part of transition to a nationally consistent risk-based NDIS quality and safeguarding system by July 2018 (as per clause 5).

Table 1 – Quality and safeguard assurance arrangements during transition

	Applicable legislation	Quality standards	Accreditation and assurance processes	Complaints and investigation	Critical incident reporting	Regulation of the use of restrictive Practices
NSW funded programmes	<p>NSW Disability Inclusion Act 2014 and Disability Inclusion Regulation 2014</p> <p>Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act 1993</p> <p>Ombudsman Act 1974</p> <p>Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012</p> <p>Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act (1998) and Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012</p>	<p>NSW Disability Services Standards or comparable standards as approved by the secretary.</p> <p>Other relevant state standards including NSW Children's Guardian standards for statutory out of home care</p>	<p>Third party verification</p> <p>NSW Children's Guardian's accreditation and Quality Improvement program.</p>	<p>NSW Ombudsman</p> <p>NSW Health Care Complaints Commission</p>	<p>As required by the Ombudsman Act 1974 (NSW) and Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act 1993 (NSW)</p>	<p>Policy enforced via contract</p>
Commonwealth funded programmes including employment services	<p>Disability Services Act 1986</p>	<p>National Standards for Disability Services</p>	<p>Accreditation bodies for AEDs and Advocacy</p> <p>Additional Program specific accreditation for early intervention</p> <p>Relevant government departments</p>	<p>Commonwealth Ombudsman</p> <p>Aged Care Commissioner</p>	<p>Policy enforced by contract</p>	<p>N/A</p>

9. In regard to decisions or actions taken by the NDIA, NDIS participants will have access to Administrative Appeals Tribunal for merits review of decisions. They can also access the Commonwealth Ombudsman if they have a complaint about administration of the NDIA.
10. Parties agree to work together to manage any inconsistencies with existing NSW quality and safeguard legislation for compatibility with transition arrangements.

New providers

11. During the transition to full scheme, it is anticipated that there will be a large number of new entrants to the market as well as individuals wishing to register as providers in their own right. NSW or Commonwealth quality and safeguarding arrangements will apply to these new providers.
12. The Parties will work collaboratively with the NDIA to streamline registration processes for new providers and minimise duplication and costs for both the Agency and support providers during the transition to full scheme.
13. For example, where applicants for NDIA registration have not previously been assessed or accredited to provide services for people with disability, but have received equivalent recognition of their compliance against standards in respect of a relevant human service program, for example an aged care or family and children's services, these would be taken into account to streamline assessment of suitability to provide NDIS funded supports.
14. The Parties also agree to closely monitor registration processes to ensure choice and control for participants is not undermined and that safeguards remain risk-based, particularly for the registration of new providers.

Monitoring and risk management

15. The Parties agree to monitor quality and safeguards arrangements during transition.
16. Working arrangements between the Commonwealth, NSW and the NDIA to ensure appropriate management and monitoring of quality and safeguard arrangements during transition will be set out in the Operational Plan to support the implementation of transition in NSW to be agreed following finalisation of this Agreement. Operational Plans will include specific roles and responsibilities, information exchange details and will specify the relevant NDIA processes for serious incident reporting.
17. The Parties agree to work with the NDIA, through the development of operational plans, to ensure that working arrangements are established to give effect to this schedule, in particular, in the areas of monitoring, complaints management, incident management and reporting, and provider registration.
18. If monitoring of quality and safeguard arrangements indicates that participants and agreed transition arrangements are at risk, a jointly agreed strategy for addressing issues will be developed, consistent with clauses 48-51 of this Agreement.

Schedule G

Integrated National Disability Insurance Scheme Performance Reporting Framework

Purpose

1. This Schedule sets out the mechanisms that will be used to assess the performance of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and specifies how that performance will be reported.
2. It incorporates relevant content contained in the Annex to the Intergovernmental Agreement on NDIS Launch on performance reporting, which is superseded for the transition to full scheme by this Schedule. This Schedule should be read in conjunction with clauses 42-46 of this Agreement.
3. The parties agree that a number of the outcome measurements are being piloted during the transition period to full scheme and will therefore be reviewed and possibly revised at the annual review of this Schedule.

Integrated NDIS Performance Reporting Framework

4. The Integrated NDIS Performance Reporting Framework is based on the accountability requirements of the governance structure for the NDIS. It will comprise the following components:

NDIS Performance

- a. Reporting requirements at this level are designed to meet the accountability requirements of the Council of Australian Governments Disability Reform Council (DRC).
- b. NDIS Performance comprises agreed outcomes, key performance indicators (KPIs) and measures designed to assess the extent to which the NDIS is achieving the outcomes intended by governments, as set out in the NDIS legislation.
- c. Because of the longer-term focus on NDIS outcomes, reports at this level will be provided annually to the DRC from the NDIA Board.

National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Operational Performance

- d. Reporting at this level has two purposes. First, it satisfies the requirements specified in the legislation for the NDIA Board to report on expenditure and activities in relation to the NDIS. Second, it provides information on various aspects of NDIA operations that will contribute directly to the achievement of NDIS outcomes and KPIs. This will give DRC insight through the year on progress towards achieving the outcomes of the NDIS.
- e. Reports at this level will be provided quarterly by the NDIA Board to the DRC, and will be disaggregated to jurisdictional levels, as well as providing national totals.

NDIS Activity in Jurisdictions

- f. Reporting at this level is designed to provide jurisdictions with the information they require to meet their own individual accountability requirements, especially in the budgetary reporting context.
- g. This information will be provided monthly by the NDIA to nominated officials in each jurisdiction.
- h. This information will be provided in datasets accessed through the data warehouse, rather than in written reports. This will include de-identified participant data at the level of client unit record and aggregate level for all services provided in the trial area, if so specified by individual jurisdictions.

Data Sources

- 5. All data for these reports will be sourced from the NDIA's IT systems. In the longer term data may also be sourced from the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and linked to the NDIA's data in order to measure increases in social and economic participation for people with a disability and for people caring for people with a disability.

Annual Review

- 6. This Schedule will be reviewed annually through the transition period, and amended as agreed.

Level A – Annual NDIS Performance

- 7. Outcomes, KPIs and performance measures for the NDIS (Level A) are set out in Table 1 below. Data for this level of reporting will be generated from the NDIA's IT systems, and written reports will be provided annually by the NDIA Board to the DRC.

Table 1: NDIS Outcomes, KPIs and Performance Measures

Outcome	KPIs	Performance Measures
1. People with disability lead lives of their choice	3.1 People with disability achieve their goals for independence, social and economic participation	1.1.1 Proportion of participants, and their families and carers, who report improved economic and social outcomes (as measured by the NDIA outcomes framework) 1.1.2 Proportion of participants who attain the goals outlined in their plans (as measured by the NDIA's Goal Attainment Scale) 1.1.3 Participant satisfaction
	3.2 Increased mix of support options and innovative approaches to provision of support in response to assessed need	1.2.1 Mix and number of provider services 1.2.2 Proportion of participants with capacity building supports
	3.3 People with disability are able and are supported to exercise choice	1.3.1 Proportion of participants, and their families and carers, who report being able to exercise choice (as measured by the NDIA outcomes framework)
2. NDIS is a financially sustainable, insurance-based NDIS	2.1 Effective estimation and management of short-term and long-term costs	2.1.1 Comparison of actual expenditure against projected expenditure 2.1.2 Changes in medium and long-term expenditure projections 2.1.3 Projected expenditure matches projected revenue over the medium-term and long-term 2.1.4 NDIANDIA operating expenses ratio 2.1.5 Reduction of long-term cost trends against population, price and wages growth 2.1.6 Estimated future lifetime costs of support for current clients (NPV) - Including disaggregation for new and existing clients by client group
	2.2 Benefits are realised from targeted investment strategies in enhanced disability support	2.2.1 Effectiveness of early intervention in reducing estimated lifetime costs of support measured: - in the short-term thorough case studies which include targeted investment; - in the long-term through estimated returns from this investment
3. Greater community inclusion of people with disability	3.1 People with disability are able to access support from mainstream services	3.1.1 Referrals to mainstream services (participants and non-participants through Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC)) 3.1.2 Proportion of participants accessing mainstream services
	3.2 Community awareness of people with disability	3.2.1 Activities undertaken by the NDIA to Increase community awareness of the issues that affect people with disability.
	3.3 Effectiveness of Local Area Coordination (LAC) and other funded community capacity building	3.3.1 Number of people supported through ILC

Level B – Quarterly NDIA Performance Reporting

8. The NDIA Board will report quarterly to DRC on aspects of operational performance that contribute directly to the achievement of outcomes for the NDIS. These requirements, and their relationship to the overarching NDIS outcomes and KPIs, are set out in Table 2 below. Also set out in Table 2 below are the requirements for quarterly reporting from the NDIA Board to the DRC under the legislation. This information will be provided at the national level, and also disaggregated to the level of individual host jurisdictions.
9. Participant outcomes will be measured using a draft outcomes framework, which is currently being piloted in the NDIS trial sites by the NDIA. Trends in indicators will be monitored, as well as comparisons between Australians without disability and people with a disability in other OECD countries. In addition to the outcomes framework, individual participant goal attainment as outlined in participant plans will be measured using the Goal Attainment Scale (GAS).

Table 2: Quarterly Reporting from the NDIA Board to DRC

Outcome	Measures	Indicators
1. People with disability lead lives of their choice	1.1 Outcomes for participants and their families	1.1.1 Proportion of participants, and their families and carers who report improved economic and social outcomes (as measured by the NDIA outcomes framework)
		1.1.2 Proportion of participants who attain the goals outlined in their plans (as measured by the NDIA's Goal Attainment Scale)
		1.1.3 Participant satisfaction
	1.2 Provision of support in response to assessed need	1.2.1 Number of registered service providers by characteristics and market profile 1.2.2 Access request to receiving support within different timeframes
2. NDIS is a financially sustainable, insurance-based NDIS	2.1 Participant characteristics and their families	2.1.1 Access requests made by outcome
		2.1.2 Eligible participants against bilateral targets, including key characteristics
		2.1.3 Participants with approved plans against bilateral targets
		2.1.4 Trends in plan approvals
		2.1.5 Access request to plan approval within different timeframes
		2.1.6 Ineligible participant numbers and key characteristics
	2.2 Support packages	2.2.1 Committed support
		2.2.2 Actual payments
		2.2.3 Average and median package costs by sub-groups of the population and for all participants compared with the expected averages and medians, including trends
		2.2.4 Details of participants with second plans, including length and value of supports
		2.2.5 Distribution of package costs
	2.3 Projections	2.3.1 Cost of the NDIS in dollar terms and as a percentage of GDP (split by participants aged under 65 and over 65). This measure will include NDIA operating costs
3. Greater community inclusion of people with disability	3.1 Mainstream services	3.1.1 Number of participants accessing mainstream services by service type
	3.2 LAC	3.2.1 Number of participants and other people with a disability supported by LACs by participant characteristics
		3.2.2 Descriptions of activities undertaken on ILC including dollars spent by regions and activities
	3.3 ILC	3.3.1 Number of participants and other people with a disability supported by ILC activities by participant characteristics
		3.3.2 Descriptions of activities undertaken on ILC including dollars spent by regions and activities

Level C – NDIS Activity in Jurisdictions

10. The NDIA will provide certain financial and NDIS activity information to the Commonwealth Minister and each host jurisdiction's Minister, as provided for in section.175 of the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013*. This information will be provided on a monthly basis (including year to date totals), in datasets accessed through the data warehouse. It will not be provided through written separate reports.

Release of Information

11. Release of information provided under this Schedule will be consistent with the information protocols to be developed between the Parties and the NDIA by December 2015.

Relationship to NDIS Evaluation Strategy

12. Reporting under the Integrated NDIS Performance Reporting Framework will complement the NDIS Evaluation. The evaluation will provide a series of point-in-time snapshots, largely focussing on outcomes for individuals, carers and families. By contrast, information under the Performance Reporting Framework will be provided on a regular schedule (monthly, quarterly or annually) and will provide insights into the operation of the NDIS and the way it is being administered by the NDIA. It will include information on NDIS participants, but also on providers of supports and fiscal sustainability.

Schedule I

Arrangements for the interface between the NDIS and mainstream services in transition

1. This schedule sets out the arrangements between the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and other service systems during the transition to the full NDIS in New South Wales (NSW).
2. The Parties agree that the effective interfaces between the NDIS and other service systems (mainstream systems) are critical to ensure that participants in the scheme achieve positive outcomes, and cost-shifting, duplication and/or the creation of service gaps is avoided.
3. In April 2013, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed the interactions between the NDIS and mainstream services would be guided by a set of Principles to determine the responsibilities of the NDIS and other service systems.
4. All governments agree the funding and delivery responsibilities of the NDIS and mainstream services will continue to be guided by the Principles set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Principles to Determine the Responsibilities of the NDIS and Other Service Systems

1. People with disability have the same right of access to services as all Australians, consistent with the goals of the National Disability Strategy which aims to maximise the potential and participation of people with disability.
2. The NDIS will fund personalised supports related to people's disability support needs, unless those supports are part of another service system's universal service obligation (for example, meeting the health, education, housing, or safety needs of all Australians) or covered by reasonable adjustment (as required under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act or similar legislation in jurisdictions).
3. Clear funding and delivery responsibilities should provide for the transparency and integrity of government appropriations consistent with their agreed policy goals.
4. There should be a nationally consistent approach to the supports funded by the NDIS and the basis on which the NDIS engages with other systems, noting that because there will be variation in non-NDIS supports funded within jurisdictions there will need to be flexibility and innovation in the way the NDIS funds and/or delivers these activities.
5. In determining the approach to the supports funded by the NDIS and other service systems governments will have regard to efficiency, the existing statutory responsibilities and policy objectives of other service systems and operational implications.
6. The interactions of people with disability with the NDIS and other service systems should be as seamless as possible, where integrated planning and coordinated supports, referrals and transitions are promoted, supported by a no wrong door approach.

5. **Attachment A** details the applied principles that assist to further define the funding responsibilities of the following eleven service systems:

1. Health;
2. Mental Health;
3. Early Childhood Development;
4. Child Protection and Family Support;
5. School Education;
6. Higher education and Vocational Education and Training;
7. Employment;
8. Housing and Community Infrastructure;
9. Transport;
10. Justice; and
11. Aged Care.

6. The NSW Operational Plan will further consider the implementation of the intersections between the principles, noting that further policy to align with these principles is being considered nationally.

Review

7. In addition to the six general principles, the Applied Principles and Tables of Support previously agreed by COAG are currently being reviewed. Following consideration by COAG, an updated version will be published on the COAG website that will further define the responsibilities of the NDIS and other systems during transition to the NDIS.

Escalation

8. The 2015 review of the Applied Principles and Tables of Supports identified that escalation procedures are required to address areas where operationalisation of the Applied Principles and Tables of Supports results in unintended consequences.
9. The escalation clauses in this Agreement (clauses 57-59) will be used to address these areas.
10. The Disability Reform Council, or equivalent, will continue to review the operation of the Applied Principles and Tables of Supports and provide advice to COAG, as needed.

PRINCIPLES TO DETERMINE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NDIS AND OTHER SERVICE SYSTEMS

All governments have agreed that our vision is for an inclusive Australian society that enables people with disability to fulfil their potential as equal citizens. To achieve this vision, all Australian governments, non-government organisations, business and the wide community have a role to play. The interactions of the NDIS with other service systems will reinforce the obligations of other service delivery systems to improve the lives of people with disability, in line with the National Disability Strategy.

Governments agree that the principles outlined in this document will be used to determine the funding and delivery responsibilities of the NDIS and other systems in achieving this vision. The NDIS launch sites provide governments with an opportunity to review interactions between the NDIS and other service systems and consider any lessons arising out of launch.

These applied principles, and arrangements needed to operationalise them, will be reviewed through the process set out in Part 8 of the Intergovernmental Agreement for the NDIS Launch. Based on this review and on the lessons from launch, the Standing Council on Disability Reform may provide advice to COAG on amendments to the Applied Principles and 'tables of supports', in consultation with other Ministerial Councils as appropriate. The Agency Board may also report to the Standing Council and COAG on the operation and effectiveness of the interface with other service systems.

1. People with disability have the same right of access to services as all Australians, consistent with the goals of the National Disability Strategy which aims to maximise the potential and participation of people with disability.
2. The NDIS will fund personalised supports related to people's disability support needs, unless those supports are part of another service system's universal service obligation (for example, meeting the health, education, housing, or safety needs of all Australians) or covered by reasonable adjustment (as required under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act or similar legislation in jurisdictions).
3. Clear funding and delivery responsibilities should provide for the transparency and integrity of government appropriations consistent with their agreed policy goals.
4. There should be a nationally consistent approach to the supports funded by the NDIS and the basis on which NDIS engages with other systems, noting that because there will be variation in non-NDIS supports funded within jurisdictions there will need to be flexibility and innovation in the way the NDIS funds and/or delivers these activities.

5. In determining the approach to the supports funded by the NDIS and other service systems governments will have regard to efficiency, the existing statutory responsibilities and policy objectives of other service systems and operational implications.
6. The interactions of people with disability with the NDIS and other service systems should be as seamless as possible, with a no wrong door approach, and minimising the impact of system and organisational boundaries on people with disability, enabling coordinated and integrated plans, supports, referrals and transitions.

Applied principles

In addition to the six general principles, applied principles have been developed in a range of other service systems to assist governments to further define the funding responsibilities during the launch of the NDIS.

Applied principle have been developed for:

1. Health
2. Mental health
3. Early childhood development
4. Child protection and family support
5. School education
6. Higher education and Vocational Education and Training (VET)

7. Employment
8. Housing and community infrastructure
9. Transport
10. Justice
11. Aged care

1. HEALTH

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — HEALTH

1. Commonwealth and State and Territory health systems have a commitment to improve health outcomes for all Australians by providing access to quality health services based on their needs consistent with the requirements of the National Healthcare Agreement and other national agreements and in line with reasonable adjustment requirements (as required under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act or similar legislation in jurisdictions).
2. The above health system will remain responsible for the diagnosis and clinical treatment of health conditions, including ongoing or chronic health conditions, and other activities that aim to improve the health status of Australians, including general practitioner services, medical specialist services, dental care, nursing, allied health services (including acute/post-acute), preventive health, care in public and private hospitals, pharmaceuticals, and other universal health entitlements.
3. The above health system will also be responsible for funding time limited, goal-oriented services and therapies where the predominant purpose is treatment directly related to the person's health status or after a recent medical or surgical event, with the aim of improving the person's functional status including rehabilitation, palliative care, or post-acute care.
4. The NDIS will be responsible for supports related to a person's ongoing functional impairment and that enable the person to undertake activities of daily living, including "maintenance" supports delivered or supervised by clinically trained or qualified health practitioners where this is directly related to a functional impairment and integrally linked to the care and support a person requires to live in the community and participate in education and employment.

2. MENTAL HEALTH

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — MENTAL HEALTH

1. The health system will be responsible for:
 - a. supports related to mental health that are clinical in nature, including acute, ambulatory, continuing care, rehabilitation/recovery and early intervention, including clinical support for child and adolescent developmental needs; and
 - b. any residential care where the primary purpose is for inpatient treatment or clinical rehabilitation, where the service model primarily employs clinical staff.
2. The health and community services system will be responsible for supports relating to a co-morbidity with a psychiatric condition where the co-morbidity is clearly the responsibility of that system (e.g. treatment for a drug and/or alcohol issue).
3. The NDIS will be responsible for non-clinical supports that focus on a person's functional ability, including those that enable people with mental illness or a psychiatric condition to undertake activities of daily living and participate in the community and in social and economic life.

3. CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

1. In recognising the statutory role of the child protection system and in line with the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020:
 - a. Other parties will be responsible for promoting the safety of children from abuse and neglect, including public education on child safety, management of the statutory child protection system including reports of child protection.
 - b. The NDIS will ensure its rules and processes are consistent with jurisdictional child protection legislation, including reporting requirements.
2. The child protection, community services, family support, education and/or health sectors will continue to be responsible for general parenting programs, counselling and other supports for families, including making these accessible and appropriate for families with disability, that are provided both to the broad community and families at risk of child protection intervention.
3. The child protection system will be responsible for meeting the needs of children with disability in out-of-home care, where these supports are not additional to the needs of children of similar age in similar out of home care arrangements, including support to carers of children in out-of-home-care.
4. Where a child with disability is in out of home care, the NDIS will fund supports specific to the child's disability (or development delay) which are additional to the needs of children of similar ages, in similar out of home care arrangements. The diversity of out of home care arrangements is recognised and the level of 'reasonable and necessary' supports will reflect the circumstances of the individual child. The standard supports provided by the child protection system to carers relevant to their out of home care arrangement will continue.
5. The NDIS will be responsible for support for children, families and carers required as a direct result of the child's disability, including supports that enable families and carers to sustainably maintain their caring role, including community participation, therapeutic and behavioural supports, additional respite and aids and equipment.

4. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

1. The early childhood education and care sector will continue to be responsible for meeting the education and care needs of children with a development delay or disability, including through inclusion supports that enable children to participate in early childhood education and care settings.
2. The health system, including child and maternal health services, will be responsible for supports which are clinical in nature, including acute, ambulatory, continuing care and new-born follow-up.
3. The NDIS will be responsible for personalised individualised supports, specific to a child's disability (or development delay) which are additional to the needs of children of a similar age and beyond the reasonable adjustment requirements of early childhood development service providers.
4. The NDIS will be responsible for early interventions for children with disability (or development delay) which are:
 - specifically targeted at enhancing a child's functioning to undertake activities of daily living (not supports, such as school readiness programs, which are specifically for the purpose of accessing a universal service, such as education); and
 - likely to reduce the child's future support needs which would otherwise require support from the NDIS in later years, including through a combination and sequence of supports (not including medical and health treatments outlined in the health interface).
5. The implementation of the NDIS' responsibilities in regard to early childhood development services will need be aligned with other early childhood services being provided and take account of relevant workplace relations arrangements, duty of care, quality standards and state-based scheme such as 'working with children checks'.

[Note: Linkages with the 'Child Protection and Family Support Applied Principles' and 'Education Applied Principles']

5. SCHOOL EDUCATION

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — SCHOOL EDUCATION

1. The allocation of responsibilities between the NDIS and schools will be consistent with the legal obligations of schools, and governments' policy objectives for education including:
 - a. the compulsory nature of schooling
 - b. the current responsibilities schools have for reasonable adjustment, under the Disability Standards for Education;
 - c. curriculum and planning, including requirements for students to receive the legislated number of hours instruction or meet class attendance requirements.
2. In recognising the universal and statutory role of the schooling system:
 - schools will be responsible for personalising learning and support for students that primarily relate to their educational attainment (including teaching, learning assistance and aids, school building modifications and transport between school activities); and
 - the NDIS will fund supports that the student would require which are associated with the functional impact of the student's disability on their activities of daily living (i.e. those not primarily relating to education attainment), including personal care and support and transport to and from school. Any funding arrangements for individual students will recognise the operational requirements and educational objectives of schools.
3. The allocation of funding responsibilities will avoid placing inappropriate legal or financial obligations on schools or on the NDIS.

[Note: Further work will be undertaken on how students personal care needs will be assessed, the calculation of the level of funded supports for personal care and how these funds will be managed/administered.]

6. HIGHER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — HIGHER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

1. The allocation of funding responsibilities between the NDIS and both the Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers will be consistent with the legal obligations and governments' policy objectives for education including the current responsibilities education providers have for 'reasonable adjustment', under the Disability Standards for Education;
2. Higher Education and VET providers will be responsible for the learning and support needs of students that primarily relate to their educational and training attainment (including teaching, learning assistance and aids, building modifications and transport between education or training activities), as well as general transition supports from education or training to employment.
3. The NDIS will fund supports that the student would require which are associated with the functional impact of the student's disability on their activities of daily living (i.e. those not primarily relating to education or training attainment), including personal care and support, transport from home to and from the education or training facility and specialist transition supports required as a result of the person's disability, consistent with the individualised approach to funding that is to be adopted by an NDIS.

7. EMPLOYMENT

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — EMPLOYMENT

1. Employment services and programs, including both disability-targeted and open employment services, will continue to be responsible for providing advice and support to:
 - a. people with disability to prepare for, find and maintain jobs; and
 - b. employers to encourage and assist them hire and be inclusive of people with disability in the workplace (e.g. support, training and resources, funding assistance to help employers make reasonable adjustments, and incentives for hiring people with disability, such as wage subsidies).
2. Employers will continue to provide work-specific support to people with disability related to recruitment processes, work arrangements and the working environment in line with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, including workplace modifications, work-specific aids and equipment, and transport within work activities.*
3. The NDIS will be responsible for supports related to daily living that a person would require irrespective of the activity they are undertaking (including personal care and support and transport to and from work) consistent with the individualised approach to funding that is to be adopted by the NDIS.
4. The NDIS will be responsible for frequent and ongoing supports that assist people with disability to take part in work where the person has work capacity and is unlikely to be able to find or retain work in the open market, including with the assistance of employment services.
5. The NDIS will be responsible for individualised assistance to support a person with disability to transition into employment, where these support needs are additional to the needs of all Australians and specifically required as a result of a person's functional impairment, such as training on dress, workplace relationships, communication skills, punctuality and attendance, and travelling to and from work. **

*[*Where a person's employment includes a program of training, such as apprenticeships the, training organisations will also be responsible for providing reasonable adjustment, in line with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standard for Education.]*

*[** Commonwealth officials will continue to work through arrangements with the Departments of Human Services and Education, Employment and Workplace Relations where supports offered by the NDIS are similar to those offered by Centrelink and/or employment services.]*

8. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — HOUSING AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Public and community housing providers will continue to provide accommodation for people in need of housing assistance in line with existing allocation and prioritisation processes, including appropriate and accessible housing for people with disability, routine tenancy support, and ensuring that new publicly-funded housing stock, where the site allows, incorporates Liveable Design features.
2. Housing and homelessness services remain responsible for homelessness-specific services, including through homelessness prevention and through outreach and access to temporary and long term housing for people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness.
3. Parties responsible for community infrastructure will continue to improve the accessibility of the built and natural environment (including roads and footpaths) through planning and regulatory systems and through building modifications and reasonable adjustment where required.
4. The NDIS will be responsible for support to assist individuals with disability to live independently in the community, including by building individual capacity to maintain a tenancy and support for appropriate behaviour management.
5. The NDIS will be responsible for home modifications for accessibility specific to individuals in private dwellings, and in some cases in legacy public and community housing dwellings on a case-by-case basis and not to the extent that it would comprise the responsibility of housing authorities to develop, maintain and refurbish, stock that meets the needs of people with disability.
6. The NDIS is also responsible for user costs of capital in some situations where a person requires an integrated housing and support model and the cost of the accommodation component exceeds a reasonable contribution from individuals.

9. TRANSPORT

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — TRANSPORT

1. The public transport system will be responsible for ensuring that transport options are accessible to people with disability, including through concessions to people with disability to use public transport (including parties choosing to provide concessions for the total cost of transport) and compliance with relevant non-discrimination legislation including the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport.
2. Others parties will continue to be responsible for transport infrastructure, including road and footpath infrastructure, where this is part of a universal service obligation or reasonable adjustment, including managing disability parking and related initiatives.
3. The NDIS will be responsible for funding supports for individuals that enable independent travel, including through personal transport-related aids and equipment, training to use public transport and modifications to private vehicles (i.e. not modifications to public transport or taxis).
4. The NDIS will be responsible for reasonable and necessary costs associated with the use of taxis or other private transport options for those not able to travel independently

[Note: links with the 'Education Applied Principles' and 'Employment Applied Principles' regarding transport to and from work/school]

10. JUSTICE

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — JUSTICE

1. The criminal justice system (and relevant elements of the civil justice system) will continue to be responsible for meeting the needs of people with disability in line with the National Disability Strategy and existing legal obligations, including making reasonable adjustments in accordance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth), through:
 - a. ensuring its systems, supports and buildings are accessible for people with disability including appropriate communication and engagement mechanisms, adjustments to the physical environment, accessible legal assistance services and appropriate fee waivers;
 - b. general programs for the wider population, including programs to prevent offending and minimise risks of offending and reoffending and the diversion of young people and adults from the criminal justice system;
 - c. the management of community corrections, including corrections-related supervision for offenders on community based orders.
2. Other parties and systems will be responsible for supports for people subject to a custodial sentence or other custodial order imposed by a court. This includes where a court has order a person reside in a prison, or other facility accommodating people on custodial orders such as youth detention and training facilities, secure mental health facilities or secure facilities for people with disability. These parties are responsible for meeting the day-to-day care and support needs of people with disability in this custodial settings, including supervision, personal care and general supports which are also required by the general custodial population, and also general supports to enable skill development and living skills and promote the effective transition of people with disability out of custodial settings, in line with supports offered to other people in custodial settings.
3. The health system, mental health system and other parties will be responsible for operating secure mental health facilities which are primarily clinical in nature.
4. The NDIS will continue to fund the full range of supports related to the impact of a person's disability in a person's support package where the person is not serving a custodial sentence or other custodial order imposed by a court. As such the NDIS would fund supports where the person is on remand or a community based order which places controls on the person to manage risks to the individual or the community (except in the case of secure mental health facilities).
5. The NDIS will fund specialised supports to assist people with disability live independently in the community, including supports delivered in custodial settings aimed at improving transitions from custodial settings to the community, where these supports are required as a result of a person's functional impairment and additional to supports required by all Australians in similar custodial settings.

11. AGED CARE

APPLIED PRINCIPLES — AGED CARE

1. The aged care system will continue to be responsible for access to quality and affordable aged care and carer support services, including through subsidies and grants, industry assistance, training and regulation of the aged care sector, information assessment and referral mechanisms, needs-based planning arrangements and support for specific needs groups and carers.
2. Consistent with Principle 6 of the *Principles to Determine Responsibilities of the NDIS and Other Service Systems*:
 - a. where a participant chooses to move from the NDIS to the aged care system there will be a seamless approach to the person's transition between these systems, with the person supported at all points during the transition to ensure people receive appropriate supports as they age
 - b. The NDIS and the aged care system will recognise their relative areas of expertise and seek to leverage this expertise as appropriate.
3. A participant can choose to continue to receive supports from the NDIS after age 65, or can choose to take up an aged care place.
 - a. A person ceases to be a participant in the NDIS when the person enters a residential care service on a permanent basis, or starts being provided with community care on a permanent basis, and this first occurs only after the person turns 65 years of age (residential care service and community care have the same meanings as in the *Aged Care Act 1997*).
 - b. All parties will fulfill the responsibilities set out under Schedule F of the National Health Reform Agreement in relation to aged care and disability services, to the extent relevant to Parties of the Agreement (Clause 17 NDIS IGA).
4. An NDIS participant under the age of 65 can choose to purchase support from an aged care provider and the NDIS will fully meet these 'reasonable and necessary' support costs.

Schedule J

Supports for specialist disability housing

1. The NDIS 'user cost of capital' funding stream will support the availability of specialist disability housing for participants with high support needs who require and prefer such specialist accommodation to live independently. Residents will be expected to make a reasonable contribution to the cost of their accommodation.
2. The Parties agree that participants of the NDIS who require specialist disability housing support will not be disadvantaged during the transition to the full NDIS and will be supported to pursue their independent living goals.
3. The Parties recognise that NSW is moving the direct provision of specialist disability housing to the non-government sector, and that New South Wales will no longer be the service provider for these clients.
4. The NDIS will support specialist disability housing, including for:
 - a. participants¹ in existing supported accommodation, such as group homes, large residential centres, cluster or village based accommodation, and who use centre-based respite;
 - b. participants who currently reside in a residential aged care facility; and
 - c. participants who access alternative or innovative accommodation that is appropriate for people who require specialist disability housing to live independently, as determined by NDIA.
5. The Parties recognise that the NDIS will not be responsible for delivering general housing for people with disability, such as affordable options for those on lower incomes. Consistent with the mainstream principles at Schedule I: Mainstream Interfaces, the NDIS will complement, but not replace, the efforts of the housing sector, Commonwealth, State and Local governments, and families.
6. The NDIS will support access to affordable housing options for people with disability through local area coordination and Information, Linkages and Capacity Building, by helping people with disability link to other systems such as social and community housing; and support people with disability to engage with the private rental market to identify appropriate options. Where reasonable and necessary, participants will also be able to access, through individual package funding, accommodation-related supports such as home modifications, assistance with tenancy obligations, linen service, food preparation, garden maintenance, and the like.

Funding principles

7. The assistance provided for specialist disability housing will follow the principles of choice and portability for clients, and innovation and sustainability for providers. There are a number of NDIS design and pricing elements that will underpin the approach to funding specialist disability housing:
 - a. a mix of potential funding streams may be utilised to address existing and new specialist disability housing;

- b. funding would be based on the efficient lifecycle cost of delivery of specialist disability housing representative of typical providers;
 - c. residents will be expected to provide a reasonable contribution towards their accommodation;
 - d. funding is provided for both existing and new supply of specialist disability housing, as well as for both private and publicly owned specialist disability housing;
 - e. providers of specialist disability housing will be expected to finance ('cash-flow') the purchase or build of accommodation and their operations; and
 - f. funding will allow for the continuity of supply from providers and also ensure there is scope for change and innovation over time.
8. The lifecycle costs that will need to be addressed by the NDIS, resident contributions and land appreciation include:
- a. an efficient cost of purchase, lease or construction for new specialist disability housing, including land and buildings;
 - b. an efficient cost of capital (finance) for new and existing specialist disability housing
 - c. an efficient cost of depreciation, which allows for the replacement of specialist disability housing (existing and new supply) at the end of their useful life; and
 - d. an efficient accommodation-related operational cost of specialist disability housing, including facilities management, rates, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance.
9. Therefore, the NDIS funding support for specialist disability housing will be based on the following formula:
- $$\text{NDIS funding support} = (\text{asset base} \times \text{cost of capital}) + \text{accommodation related operating costs} + \text{depreciation} - \text{land appreciation} - \text{resident contribution}$$
10. The Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments (the States) have agreed to develop by December 2015 a framework for funding participants and/or providers for specialist disability housing, including the treatment of land under existing buildings. This may include a suite of prices or adjustments (loadings) for geography, accommodation type, occupancy (individual or group based) or other factors as appropriate.

Participants

11. Funding to support participants who require specialist disability housing will be available, if it is reasonable and necessary, for:
- a. participants who are currently in specialist disability housing and wish to stay there;

- b. participants who are currently in specialist disability housing who wish to explore options to change their accommodation arrangements; and
 - c. over time, participants who are not currently in specialist disability housing, but for whom specialist disability housing would be reasonable and necessary, including participants whose circumstances change or who represent new or unmet demand
12. The Parties recognise it is likely that people currently residing in supported accommodation have already established, through State processes, a need for reasonable and necessary housing based supports, but requires confirmation by the NDIA.
- a. It is envisaged that at a minimum, funding for specialist disability housing will fund current clients in the existing stock of supported accommodation; and that participants deemed eligible from existing waiting lists for which support would be reasonable and necessary would be given priority.
13. The Commonwealth and the States have agreed to develop by December 2015 a framework to identify the participants for whom funding for specialist disability housing is reasonable and necessary and its appropriate uses.
14. Administrative and funding responsibility for people aged 65 and over in specialist disability housing will transfer to the Commonwealth, consistent with the timeframes for transition of NDIS eligible participants in NSW. Refer to Schedule A: Participant Transition Arrangements in New South Wales and Schedule C: Cross Billing and Budget Neutrality Arrangements.

Reasonable resident contribution

15. The life-cycle costs associated with specialist disability housing will need to be addressed through NDIS funding, land appreciation and a reasonable resident contribution.
16. Most participants who require specialist disability housing will be reliant on social welfare payments. All residents will be expected to make a reasonable contribution to the cost of their accommodation based on their circumstances.
17. The Commonwealth and the States have agreed to develop a framework by December 2015 to determine how much residents will be expected to contribute and how that will impact NDIS funding for specialist disability housing. This may be similar to current supported accommodation arrangements, approaches to resident contributions in social housing or any other approaches considered appropriate.

ⁱ Including participants with psycho-social disability.

Schedule K

Early Transition of the Nepean-Blue Mountains District

1. This schedule is to be read in conjunction with:
 - a. Schedule A: Participant Transition arrangements in New South Wales;
 - b. Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales; and
 - c. the Memorandum of Understanding for the Early Transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for Children and Young People in the Nepean Blue Mountains Area of NSW.

Participant Arrangements

2. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) transition in the Nepean-Blue Mountains district will commence early with:
 - a. Local Area Coordination by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) from 1 July 2015;
 - b. the transition of up to 2,000 children, aged 0-17, to commence on 1 September 2015 and be completed by 30 June 2016; and
 - c. the remaining population of the Nepean-Blue Mountains district to transition to the NDIS consistent with arrangements outlined in Schedule A: Participant Transition arrangements in New South Wales.
3. The estimated participant intake is outlined at Table 1:

Table 1: Estimated 2015-16 Participant Intake (end period)

Client Cohort	2015-16 Q1	2015-16 Q2	2015-16 Q3	2015-16 Q4	2015-16 Total
Participants aged 0-14	195	580	565	428	1768
Participants aged 15-17	5	20	35	172	232
Total Intake	200	600	600	600	2,000
Cumulative Intake	200	800	1400	2000	

4. The Parties agree that within the above participant intake schedule, 1,000 children will transition from existing NSW specialist disability services.
5. The Parties agree that the NDIA will give priority to children aged 0-6 years old, in recognition of the long term benefits arising from early intervention, with:
 - a. existing NSW clients supported through Early Childhood Intervention providers to be transitioned from 1 September 2015 to 31 March 2016;

- b. other existing NSW clients aged 0-17 to transition from 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016;
 - c. other participants aged 0-17 to transition from 1 September 2015, subject to available financial and operational capacity; and
 - d. all remaining children aged 0-17, who do not transition in 2015-16, to be prioritised by the NDIA in 2016-17.
6. Where possible, the Parties agree to provide appropriate available data to the NDIA prior to the commencement of transition, to support the transfer of clients to the NDIS and consistent with Schedule E: Sector and System Readiness.

Financial Arrangements

7. NSW will contribute funding consistent with financial arrangements for transition to full scheme, as defined in Schedule B: Financial Contributions for Transition in New South Wales.
8. The agreed average unit cost is outlined at Table 2 below:

Table 2: Agreed unit costs for children aged 0-17

Client Cohort	0-14	15-17
All participants	\$17,045	\$25,662

9. The expected funding contribution from both parties is outlined at Table 3, with the overall NSW contribution capped.

Table 3: Estimated funding contribution

	2014-15 (m)	2015-16 (m)	Total (m)
New South Wales (packages)	\$0.0	\$8.6	\$8.6
Commonwealth (packages)	\$0.0	\$5.9	\$5.9
Commonwealth (operating costs) ¹	\$0.6	\$10.6	\$11.2
Total²	\$0.6	\$25.2	\$25.8

¹Does not include capital costs associated with the establishment of an NDIA office in the Nepean-Blue Mountains District.

²In total, the Commonwealth is investing an additional \$20.0 million in 2015-16.

10. The Parties will separately agree the method of calculating invoices to enable the provision of the required contribution by each party as outlined in Table 3.

Intergovernmental Payments

11. The Parties agree that the intergovernmental payments currently provided by the Commonwealth to NSW for the purpose of providing disability services to individuals in the Nepean-Blue Mountains district should be paid to the NDIA on behalf of the Commonwealth by NSW.

12. For the purpose of early transition in the Nepean-Blue Mountains district, Intergovernmental payments relate to the National Disability Specific Purpose Payment (NDSPP) and the transition of existing clients from NSW specialist disability services.

13. The agreed unit cost contribution for the NDSPP is outlined at Table 4:

Table 4: 2015-16 per client, annualised repayment of the NDSPP

	NDSPP
Existing NSW clients	\$1,429

14. The estimated repayment of the NDSPP is outlined at Table 5:

Table 5: Estimated Repayment of Commonwealth Grants for participants

	2015-16 (m)
NDSPP	\$0.58

Cash and In-Kind Contributions

15. The estimated Commonwealth cash and in-kind contribution for package costs is outlined at Table 6:

Table 6: Commonwealth cash and in-kind contributions for package costs

	2015-16 (\$m)
In-kind: Hearing Services	\$0.04
In-kind: National Auslan Booking Service	..
In-kind: Continence Aids Payment Scheme	\$0.02
Total Commonwealth In-kind contribution	\$0.1
Cash	\$5.3
Cash - Repayment of Commonwealth grants via NSW	\$0.6
Total Commonwealth Cash contribution	\$5.8
Total Commonwealth Contribution	\$5.9

.. = less than \$5,000

16. NSW will not provide any in-kind contribution in 2015-16.