

UPDATED APPENDIX C – NEW SOUTH WALES PLANNED INTAKE OF PARTICIPANTS

1. This appendix sets out the agreed intake of participants, as agreed in clause 2 of Appendix A and supersedes Appendix B and Appendix C. This quarterly timetable schedule has been designed to facilitate an orderly intake of participants to the NDIS.
2. In this appendix, existing participant refers to an NDIS participant who was accessing or was scheduled to access a state-funded specialist disability program prior to becoming an NDIS participant. New participant means any other participant, including participants previously receiving Commonwealth-funded services.
3. This intake has been designed to ensure consideration is given to:
 - a. the appropriate balance of:
 - i. participants with varying needs of support; and
 - ii. existing and new participants.
 - b. alignment of the number of participants and their support needs with the operational capacity of the National Disability Insurance Agency (the Agency);
 - c. the readiness and willingness of existing participants to participate, including the need for adequate pre-engagement and transition planning with people with disability, carers and families;
 - d. the readiness of existing providers to transition to new payment arrangements, including consideration of existing NSW contractual requirements;
 - e. the need to ensure continuity and no disadvantage for participants who reside outside the trial site, including participants that receive supports from within the trial site; and
 - f. seasonal patterns and life stage transition points in participant pathways.
4. The planned yearly intake of participants includes a mix of new participants from across the trial site and existing participants as outlined below and in Table 1:
 - a. For 2013-14, existing participants resident in the Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA), commence the entry of existing participants in the Lake Macquarie LGA and commence the entry of existing participants resident in the Stockton Large Residential Centre (LRC), plus new participants, up to a total of approximately 3,000 participants;

- b. For 2014-15 existing participants in the Lake Macquarie LGA and the Kanangra LRC and the balance of existing participants resident in Stockton LRC, plus new participants, up to a cumulative total of approximately 5,030 participants; and
- c. For 2015-16, existing participants in the Maitland LGA, the balance of existing participants resident in the Lake Macquarie LGA and Kanangra LRC, plus remaining new participants, up to a cumulative total of approximately 10,111 participants.

Table 1

	Total 2013-14	Total 2014-15	Total 2015-2016
Existing State Clients	2,673	1,200	2,748
New & Other Clients	327	830	2,333
Increment	3,000	2,030	5,081
Cumulative	3,000	5,030	10,111

- 5. Participants will be transitioned in order of their LGA of residence, with flexibility to allow for a relatively even flow of participants across the three years of the NDIS trial, and to ensure that all participants of a specific provider are transitioned at a similar time, wherever possible.
- 6. Within this approach, the following criteria have been applied in determining the timeframes for facilitation of planning under the NDIS within the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie LGAs in the Hunter trial site in 2013-14 so that:
 - a. existing participants in individualised funding arrangements and/or with funding clearly linked to them as individuals will be prioritised for transition from 1 July 2013;
 - b. supported accommodation residents will transition in a way that allows for the intensive planning and support required, focussed on the house or other setting in which the participant lives, and the need to maintain operational capacity for accommodation services throughout the NDIS trial. It is proposed that supported accommodation participants will commence transition from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014;
 - c. Stockton LRC residents will commence transition from 1 January 2014, with remaining participants to transition throughout the year from 1 July 2013 through 30 June 2014; taking account of the above considerations and the need to ensure a relatively even flow of participants throughout the year;

- d. wherever possible, all of the participants of a specific provider will be transitioned at a similar time. Providers operating only in one LGA will be prioritised above providers operating in multiple LGAs to make transition as smooth as possible;
 - e. limited and/or less complex transitions will be planned during December 2013 and January 2014 in view of the reduced workforce capacity during this time and the need to minimise disruptions to participants and families; and
 - f. capacity will be retained for entry of new participants in each month.
7. The notional schedule for participants to have plans facilitated in 2013-14 is set out in Table 2 noting that transition rates may vary based on the factors set out in paragraph 6 and Agency capability:

Table 2

	Jul to Sep 2013	Oct to Dec 2013	Jan to Mar 2014	Apr to Jun 2014
Existing State Clients	564	566	771	772
New & Other Clients	84	81	81	81
Increment	648	647	852	853
Cumulative	648	1,295	2,147	3,000

8. The following criteria have been applied in determining the timeframes for facilitation of planning under the NDIS in the Lake Macquarie LGA, the Stockton LRC and the Kanangra LRC in the Hunter trial site in 2014-15 so that:
- a. existing participants in individualised funding arrangements and/or with funding clearly linked to them as individuals will be prioritised for transition from 1 July 2014;
 - b. supported accommodation residents will transition in a way that allows for the intensive planning and support required, focussed on the house or other setting in which the participant lives, and the need to maintain operational capacity for accommodation services throughout the NDIS trial. It is proposed that supported accommodation participants will transition from 1 July 2014 through 30 June 2015;
 - c. Stockton LRC residents will continue to transition from 1 July 2014 to 31 March 2015, taking account of the above considerations and the need to ensure a relatively even flow of participants throughout the year;
 - d. Kanangra LRC residents will commence transition from 1 April 2015;

- e. wherever possible all of the participants of a specific provider and/or a specific outlet will be transitioned at a similar time;
 - f. participants will transition at a steady rate each month throughout the year, with the exception of December 2014 and January 2015 when limited and/or less complex transitions will be planned in view of the reduced workforce capacity during this time and the need to minimise disruptions to participants and families; and
 - g. capacity will be retained for entry of new participants in each quarter;
 - h. in the event that any existing Newcastle LGA participants have not transitioned by 30 June 2014, they will be prioritised for transition in 2014-15 and will be addition to the 2014-15 transition target of 2,030 (with the exception of the remaining Stockton LRC residents who are scheduled to transition during 2014-15).
9. The notional schedule for participants to have plans facilitated in 2014-15 is set out in Table 3, noting that transition rates may vary based on the factors set out in paragraph 8 and Agency capability:

Table 3

	Jul to Sep 2014	Oct to Dec 2014	Jan to Mar 2015	Apr to Jun 2015
Existing State Clients	300	300	300	300
New & Other Clients	207	207	208	208
Increment	507	507	508	508
Cumulative	507	1,014	1,522	2,030

10. The Commonwealth will use the State phasing methodology for existing Commonwealth participants currently accessing both Commonwealth and State programs. Participants currently accessing Commonwealth programs only will be equitably phased into the NDIS.
11. The Agency will manage the intake of participants in line with the quarterly targets and mix of participants set out in Tables 2 and 3, as well as the sequence of providers transitioning in the 2013-14 and 2014-15 phasing plans. Any variations should be agreed with NSW and the Commonwealth.
12. Within this approach, the Parties agree that the Agency may also apply other administrative criteria to ensure participants' access to the scheme is consistent with the Agency's capacity.

13. The Agency and NSW will work cooperatively with providers, participants and their families and carers to ensure a smooth transition for all existing participants to the NDIS. The Agency will facilitate access to the scheme for individuals not currently accessing disability programs but who are eligible for the NDIS in line with the phasing timetable to ensure equity of access.
14. It is noted that the current support arrangements (both cost and type of support) within NSW for existing participants do not necessarily reflect the assessed support needs and subsequent support that will result from the NDIS. As such NSW cannot provide details on the potential support needs of all individuals currently receiving specialist disability supports. Assessed cost of support will be a matter for the Agency to determine and meet within the context of the overall NDIS Agreement – including risk shares.
15. The above estimated participant intake totals are based on:
 - a. the known number of people who are currently receiving existing specialist disability services;
 - b. the known number of people who have registered a need for existing specialist disability services;
 - c. the known number of younger people with disability currently residing in residential aged care or in receipt of community aged care packages; and
 - d. an estimate of the likely number of new Participants as yet not known to the state or Commonwealth systems who may meet the access requirements of the Scheme, but are not covered by other programs; and
 - e. Agency capacity.
16. The planned intake assumes timely provision of information from the Agency to NSW to allow the tracking of existing state clients through the transition process. Subject to privacy and information legislation considerations, this includes the provision of participant information from their first point of contact with the NDIA to NSW.
17. The planned intake of participants outlined above may be amended subject to:
 - f. Adjustments to the NDIS policy framework including design rules, eligibility, Tier 2 services, interfaces with other service systems, and portability;
 - g. review of the progress of client transition in the trial site, including the impact on bilateral financial arrangements; and
 - h. Agency capacity.

18. Specific arrangements will be negotiated between the Commonwealth and NSW in relation to participants that move in and out of the Hunter trial site from NSW but remain in NSW, recognising both parties' commitment to the implementation of a full scheme NDIS in NSW. These arrangements will be consistent with the national agreement on participant portability and will not impact on the financial arrangements set out in this Agreement.
19. Participant phasing arrangements for 2015-16 will be under a similar arrangement, although subject to adjustment taking into account lessons learnt during 2013-14 and 2014-15, and will be agreed between New South Wales and the Commonwealth at a future date, with the expectation that 2015-16 numbers will be agreed by February 2015.