COAG Disability Reform Council. This is the Quarterly Performance Report for Northern Territory.

This is the December 2017 update on NDIA performance.

Overview

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This report is the sixth quarterly report during the NDIS Transition period, which commenced on 1 July 2016.

A diagram displays the six key parts which will be discussed in the Performance Report. These areas are:

• Participants and Planning,

• Committed Supports and Payments,

• Providers and Markets,

• Information, Linkages and Capacity Building,

• Mainstream Interface; and

• Financial Sustainability.

Summary

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The following are the key statistics discussed in this report:

Participants and Planning

114 additional participants with plans this quarter.

As at 31 December 2017, plans approved represent:

• 46% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017)

• 51% of transition to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2016 to 31 December 2017)

• 58% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 December 2017)

Committed Supports and Payments

$30.9 million has been paid to providers and participants since Scheme inception.

Overall,

• 84% of committed supports were utilised in 2014-15,

• 73% in 2015-16,

• 49% in 2016-17.

2017-18 experience is still emerging.

Providers and Markets

458 approved providers, a 11% increase for the quarter.

16% of service providers are individual/sole traders.

Mainstream Interface

98% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 access mainstream services.

The proportion of participants entering in the current quarter accessing mainstream services is higher compared to prior quarters.

PART 1: Participants and Planning

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As the transition phase to full scheme continues, the NDIS in Northern Territory continues to grow with 114 additional participants with approved plans this quarter.

Summary

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The NDIS is transitioning to full-scheme in line with phasing schedules bilaterally agreed by State/Territory and Commonwealth governments.

The following are the key statistics on Participants and Planning:

170 access decisions in 2017-18 Q2 (including both access met and access not met)

114 initial plans approved in 2017-18 Q2

46% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017)

51% of transition to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2016 to 31 December 2017)

58% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 December 2017)

15% of participants with an initial plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 are children aged 7-14 years

27% of participants with an initial plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 have a reported primary disability of intellectual disability

Quarterly Intake

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There are three charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with access met (Eligible) by Participant Entry point. The second chart displays the number of participants with approved plans by Participant Entry Point. The third chart displays the number of participants with approved plans by Participant Pathway Type.

2017-18 Q2

Of the 124 participants deemed 'eligible' this quarter 27% entered from an existing State/Territory program.

Of the 114 plan approvals this quarter, 61% had transitioned from an existing State/Territory program and 89% entered with a permanent disability.

The diagram displays the following key statistics on quarterly intake:

170 access decisions

124 access met

114 plan approvals

Quarterly Intake Detail

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A chart displays the change in plan approvals between the current and previous quarter.

Plan approvals as at 31 December 2017

Plan approval numbers have increased from 547 at the end of 2017-18 Q1 to 661 by the end of 2017-18 Q2, an increase of 114 approvals.

As at 31 December 2017 there were 16 exits bringing the overall number to 645.

In the quarter of 2017-18 Q2 there were 212 plan reviews. This figure relates to all participants who have entered the scheme.

Cumulative Position

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the comparison between the cumulative plan approvals and the bilateral estimate per quarter. The second chart displays the number of plan approvals by participant referral pathway.

Plan approvals as at 31 December 2017

As at the end of 2017-18 Q2, the cumulative total number of participants receiving support was 661. Of these, 462 transitioned from an existing State/Territory program and 14 transitioned from an existing Commonwealth program.

In addition, 94 participants were awaiting a plan as at 31 December 2017.

Overall, since 1 July 2014, there have been 860 people with access decisions.

Cumulative position reporting is inclusive of trial participants for the reported period and represents participants who have or have had an approved plan.

The following are the key statistics on the cumulative position:

46% of year to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2017 to 31 December 2017)

51% of transition to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2016 to 31 December 2017)

58% of scheme to date bilateral estimate met (1 July 2014 to 31 December 2017)

661 plan approvals to date

Participant Profiles by Age Group

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with an approved plan by age group for the current quarter. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's age group. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2, compared with plan approvals as at 30 September 2017, by age group.

13% of participants entering in this quarter are aged 0 to 6 years, and 15% of participants are aged 7 to 14 years. These are higher compared to prior quarters.

12% of participants entering in this quarter are aged 25 to 34 years, and 12% of participants are aged 35 to 44 years. These are lower compared to prior quarters.

Note: The age eligibility requirements for the NDIS are based on the age as at the access request date. Participants with their initial plan approved aged 65+ have turned 65 since their access request was received.

Participant Profiles by Disability Group

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the number of participants with an approved plan by disability group for the current quarter. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's disability group. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2, compared with plan approvals as at 30 September 2017, by disability group.

27% of participants entering in the quarter of 2017-18 Q2 have a primary disability group of Intellectual Disability. This is lower compared to prior quarters.

Note: Of the 31 active participants identified as having an intellectual disability, 2 (6%) have down syndrome.

Participant Profiles by Level of Function

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A chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's level of function. This chart compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2, compared with plan approvals as at 30 September 2017, by level of function.

For participants with a plan approval in the current quarter:

• 16% of active participants had a relatively high level of function

• 43% of active participants had a relatively moderate level of function

• 41% had a relatively low level of function

These relativities are within the NDIS participant population, and not comparable to the general population.

Participant Profiles by Gender

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The figure on the right displays the amount and percentage of participants with an approved plan per the participant's gender group. This figure compares the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2, compared with plan approvals as at 30 September 2017, by gender.

The majority of participants are males.

Participant Profiles

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There are three charts. The first chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Aboriginal & Torres-Strait Islander status. The second chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Young people in residential aged care status. The third chart displays the percentage of participants with an approved plan by the participant's Culturally and Linguistically Diverse status. All three charts compare the current quarter against all prior quarters.

Demographic profile of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2, compared with plan approvals as at 30 September 2017.

Of the participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2:

• 76.3% were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, compared with 78.0% for prior periods.

• 3.5% were Young people in residential aged care, compared with 0.0% for prior periods.

• 30.7% were Culturally and linguistically diverse, compared with 39.0% for prior periods.

Plan Management Support Co-ordination

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Two charts displays the proportion of support coordination and plan management for participants. These charts compare the current quarter against all prior quarters.

The proportion of participants who are fully or partly self-managing their plan was lower in 2017-18 Q2 (3%) compared with prior quarters of transition (5%). The proportion of participants whose plan was partly agency managed and partly plan managed was higher in 2017-18 Q2 (18%) compared with prior quarters of transition (14%).

99% of participants who have had a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 have support coordination in their plan, compared with 95% in prior quarters during transition.

Plan Activation

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Two charts display the proportion of the duration to activate plans. These charts compare plans approved in 2017-18 Q1, against plans approved in prior quarters.

Plan activation refers to the amount of time between plan approval and the commencement of the participant receiving support.

The percentage of plans activated within 90 days of approval were:

• 54% of plans approved in prior quarters

• 41% of plans approved in 2017-18 Q1.

Plan activation can only be approximated using data on payments. As there is a lag between when support is provided and payments made, these statistics are likely to be conservative. That is, it is likely that plan activation is faster than presented. Further, in-kind supports have been excluded from the calculation, which further contributes to the conservative figures.

Note: Given that plans approved in 2017-18 Q2 are relatively new, it is too early to examine the duration to plan activation for these plans and hence these have been excluded from the charts.

Participant Outcomes

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A chart displays selected key baseline indicators for participants.

Baseline outcome measures were collected from 97% of participants receiving their initial plan since 1 July 2016.

• 62% of participants aged 0 to before school are able to make friends outside of family/carers, compared to 70% of participants from school age to 14

• 78% of participants aged 0 to before school are engaged in age appropriate community, cultural or religious activities, compared to 42% - 61% for other age groups

• 45% of participants from school age to 14 attend school in a mainstream class, compared to 17% of participants aged 15 to 24

• 9% of participants aged 25 and over have a paid job, compared to 7% of participants aged 15 to 24

• 28% of participants aged 25 and over choose what they do every day, compared to 19% of participants aged 15 to 24

Family/Carers Outcomes

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A chart displays selected key baseline indicators for family and carers of participants.

The percentage of participants' family/carers:

• working in a paid job was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (33%)

• able to advocate for their child/family member was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (40%)

• who have friends and family they can see as often as they like was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (48%)

• who feel in control selecting services was highest for participants aged 25 and over (17%)

• who support/plan for their family member through life stage transitions was highest for participants aged 0 to 14 (60%)

Note: Results are not shown if there is insufficient data in the group.

Has the NDIS helped?

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There is insufficient data to present information on responses to the 'Has the NDIS helped?' questions in NT.

Participant Satisfaction

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There is insufficient data to present information on participant satisfaction in NT.

PART 2: Committed Supports and Payments

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Both committed and paid supports to participants are increasing in line with the growing scheme.

To date funding committed to participants with an approved plan amounts to $134.0 million (including support periods in the future), of which $30.9 million has been paid.

Summary

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This section presents information on the amount committed in plans and payments to service providers and participants.

The following are the key statistics on Committed Supports and Payments:

$134.0 million of supports has been committed to 661 participants

$27.2 million of supports in respect of prior financial years including trial

$88.6 million of supports in respect of 2017-18

$18.2 million of supports in respect of later years

$30.9 million has been paid to providers & participants

Overall, 84% of committed supports were utilised in 2014-15, 73% in 2015-16 and 49% in 2016-17.

The 2017-18 experience is still emerging.

Note: The $88.6 million in respect of 2017-18 only includes approved plans to date, and not all of these plans cover the full 2017-18 year.

Note: The $18.2 million committed in future years is due to current plans in place that have an end date past 30 June 2018.

Committed Supports and Payments

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A table and a graph show the comparison between the total committed supports and paid support for each year since scheme inception.

Committed amount by year that the support is expected to be provided, compared with committed supports that have been used (paid).

Of the $134.0 million that has been committed in participant plans, $30.9 million has been paid to date.

In particular, for supports provided in:

2014-15: $1.6m has been paid

2015-16: $4.1m has been paid

2016-17: $9.8m has been paid

2017-18 to date: $15.4m has been paid

Committed Supports by Cost Band

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Two charts (including and excluding SSA) show the comparison of the distribution of average annualised committed supports by cost band for the current and previous quarter.

A greater proportion of initial plan approvals in 2017-18 Q2 have average annualised committed supports between $20,000 and $200,000 compared with participants who entered in prior quarters when participants with shared supported accommodation (SSA) supports are included.

When SSA participants are excluded, the distribution of average annualised committed supports compares more closely to participants with initial plans in prior quarters.

Committed Supports by Age Band

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by age band for the current and previous quarter.

Average annualised committed supports increase steeply to age 19 and decreases steadily at older ages.

Average annualised committed supports has decreased in the current quarter for participants across most ages.

Note: Average annualised committed supports are not shown if there are insufficient data in the group

Committed Supports by Disability Group

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by primary disability group for the current and previous quarter.

Participants with Cerebral Palsy, Acquired Brain Injury and Intellectual Disability have the highest average annualised committed supports.

Note: Average annualised committed supports are not shown if there are insufficient data in the group

Committed Supports by Level of Function

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A graph shows the comparison between the average annualised committed supports by level of function for the current and previous quarter.

The average annualised committed supports generally increase for participants with lower levels of function.

Note 1: Average annualised committed supports are not shown if there are insufficient data in the group.

Note 2: High, medium and low function is relative within the NDIS population and not comparable to the general population.

Utilisation of Committed Supports

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A graph shows the comparison between the utilisation of committed supports by the year that the support was expected to be provided.

Utilisation of committed supports by year that the support was expected to be provided as at 30 September 2017, compared with 31 December 2017.

As there is a lag between when support is provided and when it is paid, the utilisation in 2017-18 will increase.

The utilisation of committed supports in 2017-18 YTD is still emerging and the utilisation rate is expected to increase as there is a lag between when support is provided and when it is paid.

PART 3: Providers and Markets

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The scale and extent of the market continues to grow, with a 11% increase in the number of providers during the quarter to 458.

Summary

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This section contains information on registered service providers and the market, with key provider and market indicators presented.

Provider registration

• To provide supports to NDIS participants, a service provider is required to register and be approved by the NDIA.

• Providers register with the NDIA by submitting a registration request, indicating the types of support (registration groups) they are accredited to provide.

How providers interact with participants

• NDIS participants have the flexibility to choose the providers who support them.

• Providers are paid for disability supports and services provided to the participants.

The following are the key statistics:

458 approved providers

16% of service providers are individual/sole traders

Communication and information equipment has the highest number of approved service providers, followed by assistance products for personal care and safety and personal mobility equipment

Providers over time

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There are two charts. The first chart displays the number of approved service providers over a time period (since March 2017). The second chart displays the type of service provider split into individuals/sole traders and company/organisations over a time period (since March 2017).

As at 31 December 2017, there were 458 registered service providers of which 73 were individual/sole trader operated business while the remaining 385 providers were registered as a company or organisation.

The number of approved service providers increased by 11% from 414 to 458 in the quarter.

16% of approved service providers are individual/sole traders.

1.24 average number of providers per participant

Proportion of Active Providers

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The figure displays the proportion of active and not yet active providers.

Change in the activity status of providers.

As at 31 December 2017, 63% of providers have been active and 37% were yet to have evidence of activity. Of the overall stock of providers, 32 providers began delivering new supports in the quarter.

Registration Groups

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A chart displays the approved providers by the changes in registration group and percentage over the quarter.

The number of approved providers has increased for most registration groups over the quarter.

Communication and information equipment has the highest number of approved service providers and has seen a 20% increase since the previous quarter.

The largest percentage increase in approved providers was for the Management of funding for supports in participants plan registration group in the quarter. This was followed by Specialised Disability Accommodation, Assistance with daily life tasks in a group or shared living arrangement and Support Coordination.

Market share of top providers

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There is insufficient data to present information around market share of the largest providers in the NT.

PART 4: Information, Linkages and Capacity Building

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Information, Linkages and Capacity Building was covered in the national version of the COAG Quarterly Performance Report

PART 5: Mainstream Interface

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The proportion of participants entering in the current quarter accessing mainstream services is higher compared to prior quarters.

Mainstream Interface

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An object displays the comparison of the percentage of participants accessing mainstream supports. The object compares the current quarter against all prior quarters (transition only).

98% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 access mainstream services, an increase from prior quarters. Participants are accessing mainstream services predominantly for health and wellbeing, daily activities and independence.

The following are the key statistics:

92% of active participants with a plan approved in prior quarters (transition only) access mainstream supports, across the following domains:

- Health and wellbeing (49%)
- Daily activities (9%)
- Independence (4%)

98% of active participants with a plan approved in 2017-18 Q2 access mainstream supports, across the following domains:

- Health and wellbeing (55%)
- Daily activities (15%)
- Independence (7%)

PART 6: Financial Sustainability

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Financial Sustainability was covered in the national version of the COAG Quarterly Performance Report.