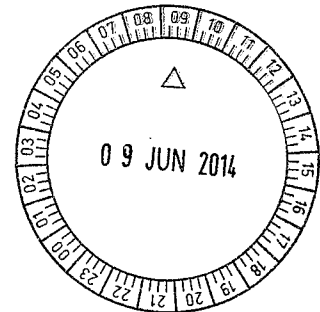


9/6/2014

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING FOR 2014/15 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING****Wednesday, 11 June 2014****Disability Services Commission***Question:*

- 1) *The Hon Lynn MacLaren asked in reference to Budget Paper No 2 Volume 1, "Spending Changes, Young People in Residential Aged Care", at page 405, line 13:*
- a) *How many younger people with a disability are currently living in residential aged care in the State?*

Answer:

The Commission considers people aged under 50 to be 'young people' for the purposes of residence in an aged care facility. While the Commission does not hold figures on the age of residents in facilities throughout the State, it has 11 applications for support from young people who are currently living in these circumstances. It has applications from a further 40 people who, while not in aged care facilities, are accommodated in other residential care facilities or hospitals.

In applying newly identified State funding for Age Appropriate Housing Strategies, the Commission will focus its efforts on those people under 30 in the first instance.

- b) *Why is funding not being allocated to move younger people out of residential aged care before 2017-18?*

Answer:

The State Government, as a State Election commitment, announced an additional \$9 million over four years (2014-18), to provide appropriate housing or to enhance support arrangements so that younger people with disability are not residing inappropriately in emergency, transitional or aged care accommodation. Funding for this initiative will commence in 2014-15. The 2014-15 Budget Papers indicate that the fourth year of funding (\$3 million) will be available in 2017-18.

c) *How old is the youngest person with a disability currently living in residential aged care?*

Answer:

The youngest person in this situation that the Commission is aware of is 23. This individual and their family do not wish to change their existing living arrangements, however, the Commission is working to put additional supports in place to ensure appropriate access and inclusion occurs for this person.

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING FOR 2014/15 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Wednesday, 11 June 2014

Disability Services Commission

Question:

2) *The Hon L MacLaren asked in reference to Budget Paper No 2, Volume 1, "Significant Issues Impacting the Agency", at page 406, bullet 1:*

a) *Can you confirm the currently existing Goldfields area will not be part of the two year trial My Way trial for the NDIS?*

Answer:

That statement is correct. The Goldfields area will not be part of the two year NDIS My Way trial.

b) *Will eligible people in the region still be able to use the My Way approach within existing funding allocations?*

Answer:

Yes.

c) *How much funding remains?*

Answer:

Not applicable, see response (d).

d) *How long until funding ceases for the Goldfields area?*

Answer:

Funding in the Goldfields area will not cease. Growth funding will continue to be provided to the Goldfields at a level proportional to the population in the area.

e) *What are the future plans for Goldfields' funding?*

Answer:

Individualised funding in the Goldfields will continue to be based on the My Way approach and will be allocated at the local level.

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING FOR 2014/15 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Wednesday, 11 June 2014

Disability Services Commission

Question:

3. *The Hon L MacLaren asked in reference to Budget Paper No 2, Volume 1, "National Disability Insurance Scheme", at page 406, bullet 1:*

- a) *Why did the State Government increase car registration premiums, but fail to use this to introduce no fault insurance for the most severely injured from motor vehicle accidents, as has been done in most other States?*

Answer:

The Department of Transport is the agency responsible for the registration of motor vehicles in Western Australia and questions related to an increase in car registration premiums should be directed towards that Department.

- b) *Can you confirm that it is a requirement of the NDIS that States without no fault insurance must bear the costs of those people who are catastrophically injured in motor vehicle accidents?*

Answer:

Yes.

- c) *How does the government propose to fund this cost?*

Answer:

These are matters currently under consideration by the State Government.

- d) *Given the NDIS will cover care and support of individuals only after hospital and rehab, and the NIIS is designed to include hospital and rehab costs, does the government acknowledge that West Australians will once again be disadvantaged in terms of the care and support they can access?*

Answer:

WA is extremely fortunate to have two NDIS trial sites commencing from 1 July 2014. The evaluation of the trials will inform the future provision of disability services in this state.

The Insurance Commission of Western Australia has advised that the current compulsory third party insurance scheme managed by the Insurance Commission of Western Australia provides cover for all people injured in motor vehicle accidents for emergency transport costs and emergency hospital treatment costs, irrespective of fault.

- e) *How long will it take from the launch of the government's proposed green paper on this reform to an effective starting date for no fault insurance in WA?*

Answer:

No timeline for the launch of a potential no-fault compulsory third party catastrophic insurance scheme in Western Australia has yet been determined.

- f) *What does the government say to the approximately thirty people who will likely be injured during this time and will not be covered? (based on approx 12 months)*

Answer:

The Government has provided in-principle support for the introduction of a no-fault insurance scheme for motor vehicle accidents, and will shortly issue a Green Paper to inform the community about the proposed changes to motor vehicle personal injury insurance cover and seek community feedback.

- g) *Is it not true that this reform could be funded from sources other than car registrations and be introduced at any time?*

Answer:

It is my understanding that compulsory third party personal injury insurance schemes for owners and drivers of motor vehicles in all States are funded through the collection of annual compulsory third party insurance premiums.

- h) *Does the Disability Services Commission acknowledge that the State is lagging behind other States in implementing this scheme?*

Answer:

Western Australia has an excellent opportunity to benefit from the NDIS trial sites soon to be launched and to utilise the learnings from the trials in the future development of disability services.

The Government has provided in-principle support for the introduction of a no-fault insurance scheme for motor vehicle accidents and is proceeding to a public consultation period through the release of a Green Paper.

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING FOR 2014/15 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Wednesday, 11 June 2014

Disability Services Commission

Question:

4. *The Hon L MacLaren asked in reference to Budget Paper No 2, Volume 1, "Significant Issues Impacting the Agency", at page 406, bullet 6:*
- a) *Can the Department list the alternative service providers for 60% of accommodation places currently handled by the Disability Services Commission?*

Answer:

There are thirty seven organisations who have indicated their interest in participating in the process and they are listed below.

- Activ
- Adventist Residential Care
- Anglicare WA (In Consortium With Silverchain and Foundation Housing)
- Autism
- Baptistcare
- BGSR
- Cam Can
- Community Vision
- Crosslinks Incorporated
- Directions Family Support Association
- Elba Incorporated
- Enable
- Empowering People In Communities (Epic) Inc
- Identity WA
- Life Without Barriers
- Lifestyle Solutions (Aus) Ltd
- Midwest Community Living Association
- Midway Community Care
- Mosaic
- My Place
- Nascha
- Nulsen
- One To One Pty Ltd
- Peel Community Living
- Perth Home Care Services

- Rise
- Richmond Fellowship WA
- Rocky Bay
- Senses
- Southcare Inc
- Teem Treasure Pty Ltd
- The Centre for Cerebral Palsy
- The Multiple Sclerosis Society of WA
- Unitingcare West
- WA Blue Sky
- We Can Community Services
- Wheatbelt Individual and Family Support Association

b) How were these alternative service providers sourced?

Answer:

Organisations already on the Commission's panel contract for the delivery of individualised services were offered the opportunity to express their interest in potentially providing future support to people currently supported by the Commission. This interest was expressed on the understanding that it did not guarantee that any individuals would transition to the organisation: it would be the decision of individuals and their families as to which organisations they transferred their services to. To be on the Commission's panel contract (and able to participate in this process), organisations were required to undertake the process outlined in the response (c).

c) What pre-requisite training will be expected of alternative service providers to handle the diverse needs of people with disability?

Answer:

The Commission undertakes extensive screening of organisations prior to awarding them preferred provider status and a position on the panel contract. This occurs through a tender process which is undertaken in line with the State Government's policies on procurement of community services. The tender process requires service providers to respond to qualitative requirements about the delivery of their service (including referee reports and reference to any existing Quality Evaluations), the training and expertise of the organisation's staff, what strategies and supports they can offer to people with disability, and information regarding relevant insurance, governance and business practice aspects of the organisation. This includes things like Police and Working with Children Checks. All organisations must adhere to the National Disability Standards and are regularly evaluated through the Commission's Quality Framework.

Recommendations made by the Commission through this tender process are reviewed not only by the Commission's Board, but also the State Government's Community Services Procurement Review Committee.

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING FOR 2014/15 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Wednesday, 11 June 2014

Disability Services Commission

Question:

5. *The Hon L MacLaren asked in reference to Budget Paper No 2, Volume 1, "Explanation of significant movements", at page 407, bullet 4:*

a) *How many Disability Access and Inclusion Plans (DAIPs) are currently being reviewed?*

Answer:

There are 11 public authorities currently reviewing their DAIPs. Seven are State Government agencies and the remainder are local governments.

b) *How many DAIP's have exceeded their five year cycle without requesting an extension?*

Answer:

There are 38 public authorities that have exceeded their five year cycle without requesting an extension for their DAIP. This includes seven state government agencies and 31 local governments. All have been reminded of their legislated responsibilities and DAIP officers continue to work with them to ensure that DAIP's are current.