



Inquiry into the Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Treasurer

Redirected to: Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services

Reference: New South Wales and Federal Government healthcare cost contributions

Hearing: 2 June 2026

In relation to: New South Wales and Federal Government healthcare cost contributions

Question received: 6 June 2026

Answer Due: 15 July 2026

1. What are the ACT budget implications in 2026-27 of Federal changes to NDIS funding?
2. What are the likely impacts on the hospital system in 2026-27 in terms of bed block as a result of Federal changes to NDIS funding?
3. Does the ACT Government expect to incur any extra costs in 2026-27 as a result of NDIS changes?
4. Does the ACT Government expect that the ACT community will need any additional services provided by the ACT Government in 2026-27 as a result of NDIS changes?
5. What are the likely impacts in future years?
6. If any of these questions can't yet be answered, when does ACT Government expect to have these answers?

Ms Suzanne Orr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Recently announced changes to the NDIS under 2026-27 Federal Budget measures have yet to be finalised as the *Securing the NDIS for Future Generations Bill* (NDIS Bill) remains under consideration by the Australian Parliament. The ACT Government will closely monitor the development of the NDIS Bill to understand the potential financial risks and impacts these changes will have on ACT service systems.

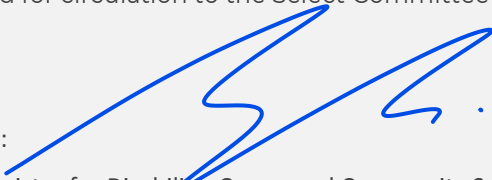
At this time, the known budget implications are set out in the bilateral agreement on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) with the Commonwealth, where the ACT's contribution was \$225.5 million in 2025-26. This will increase at a fixed 4 per cent each year until 2027-28.

From 2028-29, the ACT's contribution will increase each year by the lower of the actual Scheme growth rate or 8 per cent. The ACT Government also provides in-kind contributions, which may offset its cash obligations. Any additional implications to the ACT budget following the passing of the NDIS Bill will have to be considered by Government.

2. The ACT Government is closely monitoring the impacts of proposed NDIS changes introduced by the NDIS Bill to understand any implications for local ACT service systems, including the ACT hospital system. The ACT Government remains committed to supporting access to appropriate care and services regardless of proposed NDIS changes.
3. Changes to the NDIS being brought forward in the NDIS Bill will result in people exiting the Scheme. It is unclear at this stage how many people in the ACT will be impacted, or what their support needs are. No agreement has been made with the Commonwealth for the establishment of support services outside the NDIS for people impacted by these changes. The ACT Government provisioned \$90 million over five years in the 2024-25 Budget for Foundational Supports. Of this, the ACT contribution to Thriving Kids is \$63.4 million over five years, equivalent to \$12.68 million per year. Any additional services would be expected to be funded from this provisioned funding.
4. The ACT Government is actively planning and designing services and supports to deliver the Thriving Kids program. Thriving Kids will provide services and supports for children aged 0-8 years with developmental delay and/or autism who have low to moderate support needs, as well as their families, carers and kin. Any future Foundational Supports cohorts or programs are yet to be agreed by governments.
5. All governments have committed \$10 billion to deliver foundational supports outside the NDIS. \$4 billion of this funding has been allocated to Thriving Kids. Governments will continue to work together to consider and agree future Foundational Supports cohorts and associated funding arrangements.
6. Consistent with the governance arrangements set out in the Heads of Agreement on Health and Disability Reform, National Cabinet remains the decision-making body for future cohorts and approaches to Foundational Supports.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on the Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT.

Signature:



Date: 22/07/26

By the Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services, Ms Suzanne Orr MLA