



CHECKUP UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2018
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WHAT WE DO



- **PEAK BODY** - community mental health sector in Queensland.
- **SUPPORT** - members, the wider mental health community and individuals with lived mental health experience.
- **MEMBERS** - We have 130+ members across Queensland.
- Our **FOCUS** is:
 - *Advocacy*
 - *Policy and reform analysis*
 - *Building innovative partnerships – regionally across Queensland*
 - *Promoting the meaningful integration of CMMH services into the broader health system*





Advocacy & impacts of government reform

QAMH CURRENT ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES:

- Submission underway - Parliamentary Inquiry into NDIS and Market Readiness (collecting information from service providers)
- Meeting with Minister Stephen Miles, Queensland Health
- Advocacy Day in Canberra, discussing with Prime Minister, Opposition Leader, Minister for Health and other Ministers the issues around Mental Health and wellbeing.

INQUIRIES / SUBMISSIONS OVER LAST TWELVE MONTHS

1. Australian National Audit Office – Decision-making controls for sustainability – NDIS access
2. NDIS – The provision of services under the NDIS for people with psychosocial disabilities related to a mental health condition
3. Consultation on NDIS pricing arrangements discussion paper
4. National Disability Insurance Scheme – Code of Conduct
5. Productivity Commission Issues Paper – National Disability Insurance Scheme Costs
6. Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee Inquiry on the NDIS Savings Fund Special Account Bill 2016
7. 2017-18 Federal pre-budget submission
8. Fifth National Mental Health Plan
9. Inquiry – Introducing competition & informed user choice into human services
10. Commission Inquiry – Introducing competition & informed user choice into human services





CURRENT FOCUS

- Our primary **FOCUS** at the moment is the transition of the NDIS across Queensland.
- It is the biggest health reform since the introduction of Medicare.
- There are lots of challenges – particularly for people in regional, rural and remote regions!

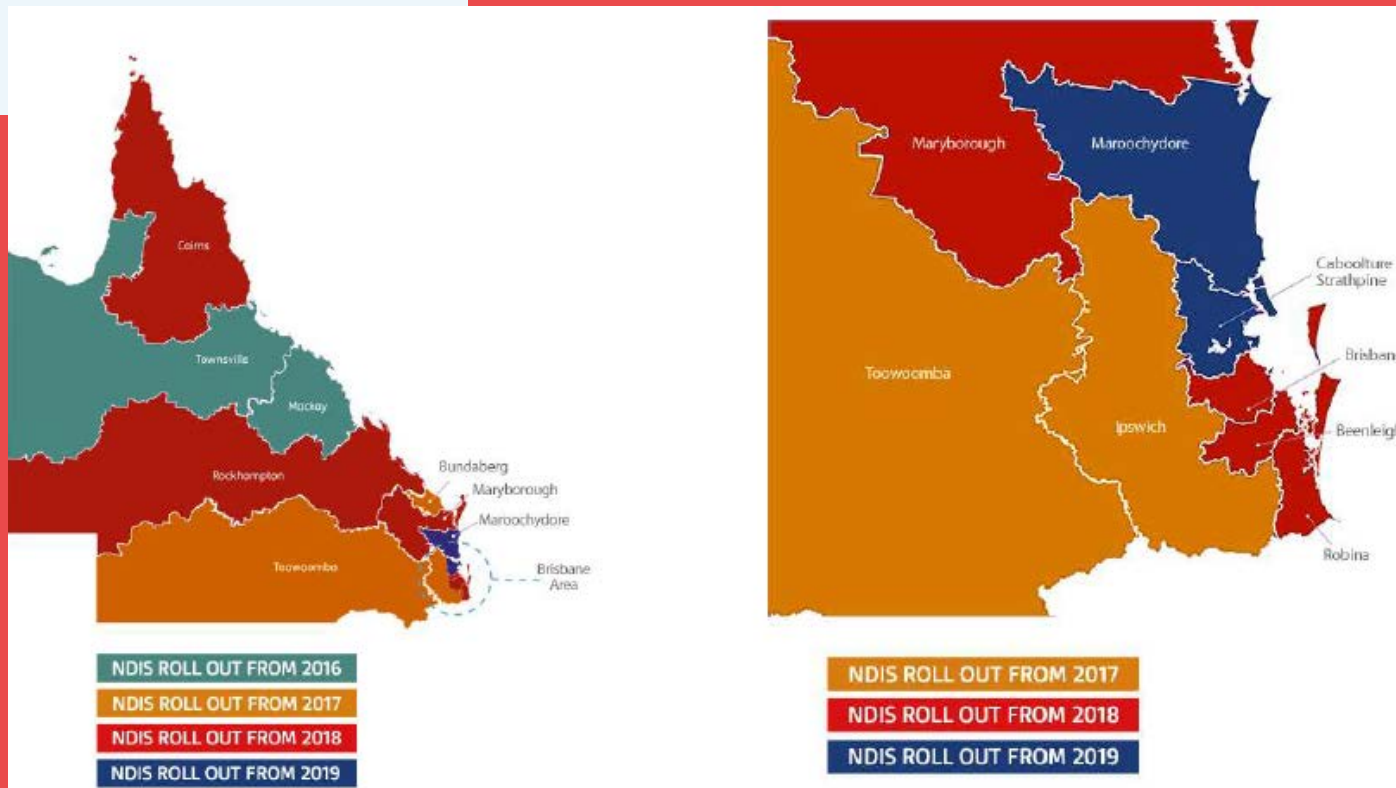




NDIS - Queensland Transition



NDIS rollout continues across Australia





TRANSITION TO THE NDIS | WHAT WE'RE HEARING...



Mind the Gap: The National Disability Insurance Scheme and psychosocial disability

Final Report: Stakeholder identified gaps and solutions

January 30th, 2018



<http://qldalliance.org.au/uni-of-sydney-mind-the-gap-the-national-disability-insurance-scheme-and-psychosocial-disability-report/>





Scheme Engagement & Application Process...

- Poor knowledge of the NDIS scheme
- Barriers that stop people finding out about NDIS
- Difficulty gathering evidence for application & expensive
- 'Permanence' requirement → does not fit with recovery model of mental health
- Existing evidence is often disregarded
 - health professionals often unwilling to submit reports
- Need NDIS staff that understand psychosocial disability and understand cultural and language diversity.
Carer and family members need to be included





TRANSITION TO THE NDIS | WHAT WE'RE HEARING... (2)

- Planning
 - Individuals are often unwell, or further challenged, throughout the planning meeting
 - Planning tool → appears to be a 'tick box' response
 - Face-to-face meetings have not been widely used
 - Inability to review plan prior to sign off → often do not align with needs
 - Travel challenges to access planning meetings.
- Hard to reach & complex needs → people are being missed





Funding | sustainability of business

- Service providers are under significant pressure & facing solvency challenges, including:
 - Running at a loss due to high need & insufficient funding
 - Providing a 'free' (unfunded) services to clients in need
 - Pre-planning & applications are not funded
 - NDIS hourly rate is lower than current staff pay
 - Delivering more services than in the NDIS plan
 - Communication frustrations with the NDIA/LAC
 - Gap in funding between the NDIS packages & Commonwealth funding
 - Up to 3 month delay from plan being approved to uptake of services





Workforce

- Workforce issues:
 - Price low (deskilling workforce)
 - No funding for continued training / development
 - Change in type of staff (full-time to casual)
 - Restructures, redundancies – changes
 - Changes in what people do and when they do it






Closing points

- New Participant Pathway – tailored entry into NDIS for specific groups – will that be enough?
- Qld Transition to NDIS for Mental Health Strategic forum – keeping a watch on Qld
- Reviews – keep coming – now QAMH will be pushing to see how Commonwealth & States implement solutions
- NDIA is being more engaging – more open to change
- Need to ensure those that are not eligible for NDIS still receive services (Continuity of support) – outside NDIS



OUR REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT FOOTPRINT



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Thank You
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