

## Question on Notice

No. 1126

Asked on Wednesday 5 September 2018

**MR S KNUTH** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITIES AND MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES AND SENIORS (HON C O'ROURKE)—

### QUESTION

With reference to reports from service providers in the Hill Electorate that three out of four applicants who receive Queensland Community Care Service support have been rejected for National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funding—

Will the Minister advise what the Queensland Government is doing to ensure services are not diminished in any way for those who missed out on NDIS funding?

### ANSWER

The existing Queensland Community Care program provides low level support to a range of people with functional impairments which includes people with chronic health conditions and mental health issues as well as people with disability.

Many people receiving Queensland Community Care will be eligible for the NDIS and will move to the scheme by 1 July 2019. However, I am very aware that there are other vulnerable individuals who will not be NDIS-eligible and who – without some support – may experience negative health and social impacts including varying degrees of disconnection from their communities and social isolation.

The NDIS-related 2013 *Heads of Agreement* and the 2016 *Bilateral Agreement* commit Queensland to continue providing basic community care services and supports to people whose support needs are not intended to be met by the NDIS.

In the lead up to the full NDIS, people already receiving community Care services who are assessed by the National Disability Insurance Agency as not eligible for the NDIS will continue to receive their Community Care services. Similarly, new applicants who are assessed as not NDIS-eligible – but are eligible for Community Care services – will commence receiving those services.

The existing Queensland Community Care program will be replaced from 1 July 2019 with a new program – the Queensland Community Support Scheme (QCSS) which will deliver low intensity support services to assist people with daily living, community participation and connection.

People who are still receiving ongoing Queensland Community Care services as at 30 June 2019, and are ineligible for the NDIS, will be 'grandfathered' into the new QCSS.

They will be able to continue receiving services either from their existing service provider if that provider is contracted under the new QCSS or, if not, will be supported to move to an alternative provider. Either way they will not be overlooked.