



9.1 FINAL NDIS REPORT

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: TONY KEENAN, GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PREPARED BY: MARY MCGORRY, MANAGER DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Council with a final status report on the NDIS transition for the City of Port Phillip.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Councillors will recall several reports being provided about the transition of eligible clients, under the age of 65 years, who received services funded by the Victorian State Government, to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- 2.2 The last of these reports was provided on 20 February 2019 with an undertaking given to provide a final status report after the completion of the transition to the NDIS.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 That Council receives and notes this report

4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 The issues and process undertaken to carefully prepare clients and ensure a maximum number were deemed eligible for the NDIS have been discussed in reports provided to Council on 4 July 2018, and on 20 February 2019. The NDIS is the biggest social program in Australia since the introduction of Medicare.
- 4.2 Many clients who transitioned have experienced positive life-changing outcomes as a result of the implementation of their new NDIS Plan.
- 4.3 Those who have experienced difficulty testing their eligibility and establishing a plan were assisted and supported through the pathway by dedicated staff resources from Council's Community Support Team.
- 4.4 Three years ago, it was anticipated that only up to 25% of the Council's under 65 year old cohort would achieve NDIS Plans due to their complex needs, often in the psychosocial and/or homelessness areas.
- 4.5 The detailed and painstaking process adopted by Council ensured that the eventual percentage of those who achieved eligibility and Participant Plans was 46%.
- 4.6 Those not eligible continue to receive community support funded by the State government under its residual Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC PYP). There are currently 170 people receiving services funded by this program.

5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 As detailed in the earlier reports, there has been extensive consultation with stakeholders including clients, their families and the Local Area Co-ordination



organisation, Brotherhood of St Laurence, as well as the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Risks to individual clients and their families have been carefully managed by direct social work intervention from the Community Support Team as well as advocacy and direct involvement from other areas of the Diversity and Inclusion senior leadership team as required.

7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

7.1 46% of the under 65 year old cohort transferred

7.2 Similarly, 46% of the State Government funding for this cohort was redirected to the NDIA. The Council anticipated and managed this funding withdrawal with no operational overspend by targeted reduction of operating costs and removal of agency staff as clients transitioned.

7.3 The Department delivered savings to Council over and above this funding loss of approximately \$300K operating, due to efficiencies in combining this work with our older people's services, funded by the Commonwealth, and restructuring our back of house support positions to deliver those efficiencies.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

8.1 None

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

9.1 The NDIS has provided positive life-changing outcomes for many of the under 65-year-old clients who transitioned.

9.2 There does remain a market failure in the municipality for planned activity groups for social inclusion in the NDIS as there are no local service providers offering these programs. This has been raised with the NDIA for resolution for a few impacted clients.

10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

10.1 The work in line with the national implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme delivers key outcomes under Strategic Direction One; We Embrace Difference and People Belong

10.2 It also delivers contractual requirements to deliver this transition.

11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

11.1 TIMELINE

11.1.1 The end of our transition period was 30 October 2019.

11.2 COMMUNICATION

11.2.1 Communication with stakeholders has been strong and constant throughout leading a successful transition for the City of Port Phillip.

12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

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ATTACHMENTS Nil