

MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE THAN \$3 BILLION TO SUPPORT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

NSW Budget 2018 will invest more than \$3 billion to support people with disability in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Minister for Disability Services Ray Williams said the investment will empower people with disability to live their lives independently and achieve their goals in more inclusive communities.

“The NSW Government is leading the way in delivering this once in a generation social policy reform. Our significant investment in the NDIS ensures people with disability have choice and control over the services and supports they need,” Mr Williams said.

More than 85,000 people with disability in NSW are already benefiting from the NDIS, including over 16,000 people who have not previously accessed government funded specialist disability supports.

“The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government also continues to break down barriers in access and inclusion with investment in disability advocacy services and carers.”

Over \$6 million has also been committed to supporting youth and volunteers in NSW.

“This Budget continues to recognise and invest in the 2.1 million state volunteers, who contribute more than 240 million hours of service. We also remain committed to engaging youth in their local community and helping them to reach their potential,” Mr Williams said.

The 2018-19 NSW Budget includes:

- \$2.7 billion NSW Government cash contribution to support people with disability in the NDIS;
- \$150 million over three years to support people with disability as they transition to the NDIS, including Ability Links;
- \$4.8 million to support the continuation of the NSW Carers’ Strategy, which recognises the role and contribution of carers in the community;
- \$5.2 million to implement youth participation programs, and;

- \$1 million for the NSW Volunteering Strategy, to better recruit, support and recognise volunteers in the community.

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