



Tuesday, May 7, 2024

*Mr Ray Griggs AO CSC
Secretary
Department of Social Services*

*Mr David Hazlehurst
Chief Executive Officer
Services Australia*

Dear Secretary and Mr Hazlehurst,

We write on behalf of Opposition Senators, ahead of Senate Estimates, to request that both Services Australia and the Department of Social Services come prepared to answer questions including but not limited to the following areas within their purview during the upcoming Budget Estimates hearings.

We trust this advanced notice will give you ample time and guidance on what to prepare for ahead of the hearings.

Department of Social Services

The Coalition Requests DSS to be prepared to provide:

- Answers to outstanding Questions on Notice
- Information on all payments in Outcome 1;
- Detailed information on all areas of expenditure (grants, programs, funding for groups) in Outcome 2, 3 and 4;
- Information on all grant funding programs and the total funding over the forward estimates for each of these grant programs;
- Detailed information on estimates variations above \$20 million made during the budget process (including previous and revised four year profiles for these funds; information on all allocated; unallocated; contracted and uncontracted funds associated with these variations).
- Budget measures including where funding has been reprioritised;
- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of people with Disability;
- Income Management;
- Disability Services and Inclusion Act 2023;



- NDIS AAT Claims;
- NDIS Independent Review;
- NDIS Sustainability Framework;
- NDIS data breaches;
- NDIS CRM system PACE
- NDIS Fraud;
- NDIS data;
- NDIS claims;
- NAHHA;

Services Australia

The Coalition Requests DSS to be prepared to provide (in addition to the previously requested information for tabling):

- Customer service delivery;
- Payments and integrity;
- Workforce capability;
- Major projects and major programs;
- Program design;
- Technology and digital programmes, including myGov; and
- Service delivery excellence.

We also request that the Department and Services Australia confirm receipt of this correspondence and the nature of the requests therein.

Please note again that these lists are not exhaustive, and Opposition Senators will have questions referring to expenditure and other matters extending across the responsibilities of Services Australia and the Department of Social Services.

Sincerely,

Senator Hollie Hughes

Shadow Assistant Minister for the NDIS

Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

Liberal Senator for New South Wales

Senator Maria Kovacic

Liberal Senator for New South Wales