



Australian Government

Department of Social Services

**Ray Griggs AO CSC
Secretary**

Ref: EC24-001221

Senator Maria Kovacic
Senator for New South Wales

Senator Hollie Hughes
Shadow Assistant Minister for the NDIS
Shadow Assistant Minister for Mental Health & Suicide Prevention
Senator for New South Wales

For information:

Senator Marielle Smith
Chair
Community Affairs Committee

Mr David Hazlehurst
Chief Executive Officer
Services Australia

Dear Senators

Thank you for your letter of Tuesday 7 May to the Chief Executive Officer of Services Australia and I regarding the 2024-25 Community Affairs Budget Estimates hearings. I appreciate the advance notice provided to officials to assist in our preparation for the hearings.

I provide my assurance that the Social Services Portfolio will come prepared to answer the questions set out in your correspondence, to the best of our ability. For those matters listed in your letter which are better described as an indication of themes that questions may relate to, officials will attempt to assist the Committee and respond to Senators on the day wherever possible.

I have also referred your request relating to Administrative Appeal Tribunal (AAT) and claims relating to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) including data breaches, fraud, data and the NDIS claims process to the National Disability Insurance Agency as these matters fall within their operational responsibilities. Regarding your request relating to the NDIS Sustainability Framework, I note that responsibilities are shared between the Department of Social Services, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) and the Treasury and I have also forwarded your request to PM&C and the Treasury.

I have enclosed a copy of your original letter to the chair of the Committee for appropriate visibility.

Regards

14 May 2024