

National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. 1) Bill 2024 [Provisions]

Public Hearing – 25 July 2024

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Getting the NDIS Back on Track No. 1) Bill 2024 [Provisions]

Question reference number: IQ24-000133

Question asked by: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Spoken. **Hansard Page/s:** 57

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 31 July 2024

Question:

Senator STEELE-JOHN: Thank you. With the deep hope that we can put this line of questioning eventually to bed, in relation to the consultations run by the Department of Social Services on the bill to which has been continually referred through the course of the day, I believe you've given evidence, Ms Shannon, that there were three of those consultations on the bill, specifically?

Ms Shannon: I will just confirm that. I believe there were three meetings, prior to the introduction of the bill, where there was a discussion about the review findings and the likely elements of the first piece of legislation. The first one was probably at a higher level, the next one had a little more detail and the third one, which was a bit closer to the introduction of the legislation, went into a bit more detail. It was at that point—it's my understanding, and I'm happy to come back on notice and correct myself—because we were at quite a confidential and sensitive stage of the development of the bill and immediately prior to its introduction, that we asked the participants in that consultation process to sign a deed of confidentiality.

Senator STEELE-JOHN: So that was on the third of the three meetings.

Ms Shannon: I believe that's the case, but I will come back on notice if I'm incorrect. Apologies, but I don't quite have that level of detail at my fingertips.

Senator STEELE-JOHN: If you can take that on notice and come back to us, on whether it was all three meetings or just that one.

Answer:

Participants were asked to sign a Deed of Confidentiality directly before the third meeting on 14 March 2024.