

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: IQ24-000120

Question asked by: Linda Reynolds

Type of Question: Spoken. **Hansard Page/s:** 5

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

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: ... At the last hearing, I was talking about sections 33 and 46, which were designed to make \$8.4 billion worth of savings to the scheme. That was \$8.5 billion of \$14.5 billion, which was the savings over the forward estimates. Intraplan inflation, as I recall, was a key component of that. In the hearing yesterday, we did have some discussion on that. On this point, I just want to take you back to your response to a question on notice—number 55. I've got to say it was disappointing in the extreme to see that you'd not only not answered the question but had actually taken it out of the cabinet ministers handbook on how to answer questions. The answer was, 'The modelling referred to was considered as part of the budget process.' I can't for a second imagine that either the NDIA or the department would have sent that response to Minister Shorten's office. First of all, can you confirm whether the department did actually answer a serious question on this with, 'It was considered as part of the budget process,' or whether that response came back out of Minister Shorten's office?

Ms Shannon: My understanding is that that was the response prepared by the department, but I may need to confirm that. It is our practice that, if the information that answers the question is available through that other source, we do refer to that source.

Answer:

The response to IQ24-000055 was prepared by the Department of Social Services.