

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: IQ24-000130

Question asked by: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Spoken. **Hansard Page/s:** 43

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

Question:

Senator STEELE-JOHN: Yes, the intent. In the current version of the legislation there is no inherent training requirement or reference to training or qualifications; it just says the needs assessment will be delivered by a needs assessor.

Ms Shannon: It would be reasonably unusual to be that specific on an operational detail in legislation.

Mr Swainson: Certainly in primary legislation.

Ms Shannon: We can take on notice whether there's anything—the needs assessment itself will be part of a ministerial instrument. I'm not aware that there's a rule that would specify the qualifications of the assessor. This is a significant piece of the reform ambition, so we need people who are well skilled and understand the needs of the people they're assessing to be part of this workforce. It's really critical.

Answer:

The specifics about the needs assessment process, including the skills and training of a needs assessor, will be developed with the disability community and will then be set out in subordinate legislation and operational policy.