

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates – 7 April 2022
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
National Disability Insurance Agency

Topic: NDIA legal costs

Question reference number: NDIA SQ22-000042

Outcome Number: 3

Senator: Stirling Griff

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 20 May 2022

Question:

5) How much has been spent by the Department or NDIA on legal costs related to NDIS funding decisions each year over the past 3 years?

Answer:

The following tables set out the requested information.

Table 1: AAT Legal Spend (Excl. GST)

Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022 YTD as at 30 April*
Legal costs	\$13,466,056	\$17,342,578	\$41,483,620

* 2021-2022 YTD data subject to end of financial year quality review.

The Department of Social Services funds access to both disability advocacy providers and Legal Aid Commissions in each state and territory as part of the NDIS Appeals Program. The table below shows the funding provided to the Legal Aid Commissions over the past 3 years under the NDIS Appeals Program:

2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
\$2,581,047.65	\$3,509,635.78	\$5,103,786.62

*All figures are GST Exclusive