

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5**

**Question No: 58**

**Topic: NDIS**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Boyce asked:**

People with cognitive impairments are overrepresented in the criminal justice system generally and in prison facilities generally. Indigenous Australians with a cognitive impairment form a significant part of this group. In the context of the NDIS: Will the NDIS target and support people with a cognitive impairment who are at risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system?

**Answer:**

The NDIS will fund 'reasonable and necessary' supports for eligible participants, as defined in legislation, any legislative instruments and other operational guidelines. These 'reasonable and necessary' supports will be agreed between the NDIS Launch Transition Agency and the participant, taking into account the supports required to assist the person to live independently in the community and address any risk factors the person may have as a result of their disability (such as a higher likelihood of contact with the criminal justice system).