

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: 60

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 access to the NDIS be provided to people found unfit to plead /mentally impaired who are detained in prison?

Answer:

Where a person is assessed to have met the eligibility criteria, they will have access to the NDIS. This could include people who have been found unfit to plead or mentally impaired and are detained in prison. The NDIS will fund 'reasonable and necessary' supports for eligible participants, as defined in legislation, any legislative instruments and other operational guidelines.

Prisons have responsibilities for all prisoners and particular responsibility for prisoners with disabilities. NDIS will take account of the prison system's responsibilities for supporting prisoners with disabilities when determining what supports the NDIS should provide.