

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: 61

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 provide access to pre-release planning (at least 6 months) prior to release for people with cognitive impairments in order to provide a pathway out of prison?

Answer:

The NDIS will have the capacity to assist eligible people in custody with transition planning and supports upon release to enable the person to exit custody and live in the community, where this additional pre-release planning is required as a result of the person's disability. The NDIS will work with the corrections systems in each jurisdiction to develop protocols for how the NDIS, corrections systems and other relevant services work together to undertake pre-release planning in a custodial setting.