## Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

## 2015 - 2016 Additional Estimates Hearings

**Question No:** NDIA SQ16-000005

**Topic:** Autism rates

Hansard Page: Written

**Outcome:** National Disability Insurance Agency

## **Senator Siewert** asked:

What work has the NDIA done on analysing autism rates? Has the Department given any instructions to the NDIA in evaluating autism? Or in relation to managing costs?

## **Answer:**

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) monitors the participants entering the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in close detail by trial site and age. This includes analysing participants with an autism diagnosis. The NDIS also monitors the literature on autism, including any prevalence studies.

The NDIA has not received any instructions from the Department of Social Services (DSS) in evaluating autism.

The NDIA has not received any instructions from DSS in relation to managing autism costs.