

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-2018 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome: National Disability Insurance Agency

Question No: NDIA SQ17-000109

Topic: SDA funding

Hansard Page: Spoken

Senator Siewert asked:

Ms Rundle: That was in the question on notice that we answered for you.

Senator SIEWERT: Yes.

Ms Rundle: That was about committed SDA and supports, I think.

Senator SIEWERT: Yes, and you also articulated that that has not been paid yet.

Ms Rundle: I am pretty safe in saying—but, if I am wrong, I will certainly come back and tell you—that those payments will have been made.

Senator SIEWERT: They have been made now?

Ms Rundle: Can I please take it on notice? We will need to check. It is committed—so we have committed the funding; it is a question of whether or not providers have actually applied to be paid. At the end of March, there was \$30.3 million committed.

Senator SIEWERT: It has gone up, okay. Please indicate on notice whether they have applied and then been paid, because that is a large amount of money that is outstanding

Mr Bowen: It may or may not be outstanding. It has gone into someone's package as a committed support. To be able to claim, the provider of the house has to be registered as a provider and meet the accreditation requirements of whatever state, and the house they are living in has to be enrolled with the agency.

Senator SIEWERT: My understanding is that some of this has been provided.

Mr Bowen: In that case, the claims could be made.

Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, that would be great.

Answer:

From 1 July 2016 to 31 March 2017, \$30.3 million in annualised funding was committed in participant plans for Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA). Around 20 per cent of this committed amount represents in-kind SDA, which would not be represented in the payments made. It should be noted that funding is paid to providers monthly in arrears so there is a lag between committed, used and paid funds.

As at 31 March 2017, \$103,794 had been paid to providers (not in-kind).