

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 SQ17-000112

Topic: SDA providers In-kind non-in-kind funding

Hansard Page: Spoken

Senator Siewert asked:

Senator SIEWERT: That is very useful to know. If you could confirm that, that would be great. That actually fits in nicely with my next question. Will in-kind SDA providers be paid the same rate as non-in-kind SDA providers? Or is there a different rate for in-kind?

Mr Bowen: The amount in the plan is the agency rate. The reconciliation for in-kind of states and territories is a rather more complicated matter.

Ms Hand: States give their in-kind as part of their overall contribution to the funding contribution. So there is a huge reconciliation that happens in the background. In some returns, in many cases the state's price is higher than the agency's price. That is one of the reasons why we are very keen to not have any in-kind-in-full scheme. Having said that, we go with the agency's price. But, as I said, there is a reconciliation behind the scene.

Senator SIEWERT: Which will be where the \$4 million has come from?

Ms Hand: I am not sure of that.

Ms Rundle: I could not answer that, either. As I said, what I would do is take that on notice.

Answer:

Of the \$26.2 million in funding committed in participant plans for Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) as at 31 December 2016, \$5.3m is in-kind (20 per cent) and \$20.9 million is not in-kind (80 per cent). This is in line with the split of committed support between in-kind and cash as at 31 March 2017.

On average, approximately \$9,700 is committed in plans for participants whose SDA is not provided in-kind. For in-kind participants the amount is not always explicit. For example, in New South Wales, the in-kind amount for SDA is included in the overall cost of group homes. For Victoria and Tasmania, where the in-kind amount for SDA is explicit, the average amount in participant plans is approximately \$7,500 and \$10,000 respectively.