

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 SQ17-000125

Topic: SDA In-kind

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert, asked:

Is it the NDIA's view that making SDA in-kind will deny participants choice and control, and ultimately be more expensive for the NDIA because of inefficient cost structures and these services often aren't best practice?

Answer:

No. No participant of the National Disability Insurance Scheme will be required to live in an in-kind Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) dwelling if they do not wish to.

The transitional arrangements include some in-kind services for a defined period of time. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) does not participate in determining the prices that state and territory governments charge for in-kind services. Each jurisdiction within their operational policy, and quality and safeguard legislation, has a responsibility to deliver high quality services.

The NDIA recognises the need for innovative and fit-for-purpose services through the SDA pricing and payments approach. Over time it is expected to stimulate new high quality supply and increase choices for participants.