

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Department of Social Services

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000290	Siewert	Continuity of Support	What are the formal words that were agreed in 2012-13 around the Government's commitment to continuity of support. Particularly, what was said in relation to 'lifetime' supports.	12 - 31 May
SQ17-000292	Siewert	Young Carers Bursary Program	Can you provide some information about the Young Carers Bursary Program Evaluation? Will the evaluation be released?	15 - 31 May
SQ17-000293	Brown	Carers Australia	Funding breakdown of Carers Australia's operational and program funding – both in 2016/17 and over the forward estimates.	16 - 31 May
SQ17-000294	Brown	Autism Advisor Program	Evaluation of the Autism Advisor program – has one been done, and what consultation has occurred with families with regard to what happens when the program finishes?	16 - 31 May
SQ17-000296	Leyonhjelm	VAW Campaign	Regarding extreme violence against women and the report by TNS consultancy on this issue that underpinned the violence against women campaign, does the view in the report that disrespect and gender inequality are at the heart of the issue more closely reflect the 'patriarchal' perspective in the literature on partner violence, or the 'family conflict' perspective?	Written
SQ17-000297	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	Summary of the five point plan between DSS, DOH and NDIA.	34 - 31 May
SQ17-000300	Waters	1800 RESPECT	1. What proportion of calls to 1800 RESPECT are what are called "non trauma calls"? I.e. calls where a caller is only seeking information or a referral and doesn't need any kind of intervention or counselling? 2. My understanding is that even where a caller starts out requesting a phone numbers, trauma counsellors often find they are in a dangerous situation, which is exactly why a trauma counsellor is required. Can you provide the basis for your estimate of non-trauma calls?	Written
SQ17-000302	Watt	Energy Supplement	How many pensioners who have qualified for the pension since 20 September last year will lose the energy supplement after September this year?	61 - 31 May
SQ17-000303	Di Natale	Drug Testing	Do we understand that, if they have to have a separate test to corroborate that, that will be borne by the individual, even though they may have been subject to a false positive?	73 - 31 May
SQ17-000305	Pratt	Drug Testing	What is the definition of 'treatment and whether it has been sought or not?	79 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000306	Waters	Expansion of cashless welfare card trial	<p>1. There is currently a trial planned for Bundaberg – is that right?</p> <p>2. What's the process you go through to set the geographic boundaries for that trial– can you tell us where they'll be?</p> <p>3. There's a huge amount of concern in the Hinkler electorate about this – in Hervey Bay in particular. Can you tell us here what the geographical boundaries will be?</p> <p>4. The timeline is that the trial will start in September – is that correct – is it due to coincide with a drug testing trial? Is it the intention to implement those trials together?</p> <p>5. My understanding is that there needs to be a level of community support demonstrated before a trial can proceed – how are you finding out whether the community there supports the trial?</p> <p>6. Why does the government think it's fair to push this card on to people and punish them in a place where there a very few jobs available for people to shift into?</p>	Written
SQ17-000307	Roberts	NDIS	Noting the large and growing divide between tax-payers and tax-takers since the Howard Government's introduction of middle-class welfare, is it the case that the NDIS is potentially and unsustainably expanding welfare to just about all Australians?	Written
SQ17-000308	Pratt	Volunteer Grants	When is the next round of volunteer grants planned? Will the same conditions of previous rounds apply?	Written
SQ17-000309	Pratt	Volunteer Grants	How many applications for volunteer grants were received in the 2015 and 2016 rounds? And how many of those were successful?	Written
SQ17-000310	Pratt	Drug Testing	In terms of someone's capacity to maintain employment, how does the government differentiate between someone who gets up and smokes cannabis at nine o'clock in the morning versus someone who starts drinking heavily at nine o'clock in the morning in terms of their substance abuse and their prospects of employment?	82 - 31 May
SQ17-000311	Watt	Drug Testing	I acknowledge that there were other factors that will go into your decision about locations, like availability of rehab services and things like that. But is that the primary source you will rely on from a perspective of where drug use is happening?	83 - 31 May
SQ17-000312	Pratt	Widow Allowance	What was the estimate of those who would otherwise have gone onto Widow Allowance if it were not being closed on 1 January 2018?	85 - 31 May
SQ17-000313	Pratt	Widow Allowance	What costs comprise the proposal to cease Widow Allowance? (i.e. the breakdown of the \$4.5 million cost over the forward estimates)	100-101 - 31 May
SQ17-000314	Pratt	Widow Allowance	Do you have an estimate of how many people you expect will opt in and ask for that employment support? What is that going to cost relative to the savings that you have made?	100 - 31 May
SQ17-000315	Watt	Pharmaceutical Allowance	Do we know how many of these 8,400 people would, if you like, lose their entitlement to the pharmaceutical allowance? What length of time would most of those 2,000 people have been on sickness allowance for?	103 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000316	Roberts	Humanitarian Entrants	Is it possible to get a list of characteristics which when combined with their refugee status, would allow a humanitarian entrant access to the Australian welfare system?	105 - 31 May
SQ17-000317	Roberts	Humanitarian Entrants	Can you tell me the number of humanitarian entrant households that are the recipient of Centrelink payments, whether the payment is disability, working age family support or any other, after a period of say, one, three and five years?	105 - 31 May
SQ17-000318	Roberts	Humanitarian Entrants	What is the number of migrants who receive Centrelink payments after arrival in Australia after one year, three years and five years from the following countries: Sudan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Vietnam and Pakistan?	106 - 31 May
SQ17-000319	Roberts	Humanitarian Entrants	What is the percentage of recipients by country of birth who have been on income replacement welfare, other than age pension, for more than five years and more than ten years after arrival?	106 - 31 May
SQ17-000320	Roberts	Humanitarian Entrants	What is the percentage of recipients of all people on welfare of all forms of welfare of working age welfare that is made up by humanitarian migrants or refugees, including their children?	106 - 31 May
SQ17-000321	Pratt	LAWP	How many people with children will be affected by the change in the liquid assets waiting period?	110 - 31 May
SQ17-000322	Pratt	LAWP	Please provide a breakdown of the people who will have a liquid assets waiting period by payment type and which income bands you think they will fall in.	111 - 31 May
SQ17-000323	Pratt	Strengthening Communities/Strong and Resilient Communities Redesign	The Strong and Resilient Communities redesign paper outlines three new grant programs – Community Resilience Grants, Inclusive Communities Grants, and National Projects and Research Grants. Will there be sub-activities of those grant programs? If so, what they will be? Can you provide us with an outline of the program guidelines?	Written
SQ17-000324	Pratt	FTB	How much will families receiving family tax benefit part A be worse off by for each child under 13 in the first year of the pause? By how much would it otherwise have gone up? What is the cumulative impact of that would be over a two-year period, assuming their income was the same, what loss to their income, relative over time, would they have to what otherwise would have had?	114-115 - 31 May
SQ17-000325	Pratt	FTB	How much worse off will families be, who receive FTB B in the first year of the pause whose youngest child is under five and what the cumulative impact will be as well.	115 - 31 May
SQ17-000326	Pratt	FTB	So 64,000 will lose access to FTB part A. How many children are in those families? Do you know?	116 - 31 May
SQ17-000327	Pratt	FTB	What is the average income of families and, if you do not have any average, what can you characterise that cut-off point as, for those who lose FTB A as a result of this change?	116 - 31 May
SQ17-000328	Brown	Boosting the Local Care Work Force	How and when will this program be rolled out and delivered by the Department?	Written
SQ17-000329	Brown	Boosting the Local Care Work Force	What are the Department's tendering or other arrangements associated with this program?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000330	Brown	Autism Advisors	What work if any has the Department done to examine the impact Autism Advisers currently have in supporting thousands of families following an autism diagnosis and how this function will carry over into the NDIS?	Written
SQ17-000331	Brown	Autism Advisors	What measures have been taken by the Department to transfer the knowledge and important role of the Autism Advisors program to the NDIA?	Written
SQ17-000332	Brown	BSWAT	How many claimants have sought a review? How many of these have been successful?	Written
SQ17-000333	Brown	BSWAT	Can the Department identify the number of claimants that have been rejected?	Written
SQ17-000334	Brown	BSWAT	Are late applications being accepted by the Department? If late applications are being accepted, what is the Department's criteria, if any, for acceptance of late applications; and till what date will late applications be considered?	Written
SQ17-000335	Brown	BSWAT	How many eligible workers have registered applications with the Department for compensation as of the closing date of the 30th April 2017?	Written
SQ17-000336	Brown	Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program	According to the DSS website, DSS may negotiate grant agreements up to and including a five year term, based on the grant purpose, degree of risk and priorities for funding. Will the Department be allocating funding to Peak Disability Organisations on a multi-year basis so they have the security and stability to plan and operate in the most effective and efficient way?	Written
SQ17-000337	Pratt	FTB	How many families who would lose FTB A do currently receive rent assistance?	116 - 31 May
SQ17-000338	Brown	Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program	Will the Department be providing an opportunity for all Disability Peak Organisations to tender or make application for core operational funding?	Written
SQ17-000339	Pratt	FTB	Is it correct to say that a family with two children over 13 years of age and income of \$105,000 would be \$1,700 worse off on 1 July 2018 as a result of this measure?	117 - 31 May
SQ17-000340	Pratt	FTB	Is it correct to say that a family with three children under 13 on an income of \$110,000 would be about \$2,600 worse off.	118 - 31 May
SQ17-000341	Pratt	FTB	And a family with two children in primary school and one in high school and an income of \$110,000 would be around \$4,000 worse off as a result of this change.	118 - 31 May
SQ17-000342	Pratt	FTB	Is there a chart that looks at the impact on marginal tax rates?	119 - 31 May
SQ17-000343	Watt	PES/EEP	For each group, are you able to quantify how much they will be worse off as a result of the savings measure which restructures the two payments? The average impact per person on each of the payment types and the number of people that those changes apply to.	119 - 31 May
SQ17-000344	Siewert	Defined Benefits	The changes to defined benefits have been in place now for a little while, so I am wondering if you are able to provide data on the number of people who in fact had a reduced part pension or lost their part pension as a result? Also give an indication of the average impacts?	120 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000345	Pratt	Pension Eligibility	What is the estimation of the number of people who will not be eligible for a pension as a result of this measure each year over the next four years? Broken down by age and by payment.	120 - 31 May
SQ17-000346	Brown	Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program	Peak Disability Agency funding will run out on the 30th June this year. What is the Government's approach to the continuation of operational funds to the Peak Disability Organisation's currently funded?	Written
SQ17-000347	Pratt	Pension Eligibility	Has the Department had a look at whether these are real savings because in the future people may decide to not go overseas and therefore may claim some other income support to ensure they have continuous residence?	122 - 31 May
SQ17-000348	Pratt	Pension Eligibility	Can you confirm the saving to the budget over the next 10 years that arises from increasing the eligibility age to 70?	123 - 31 May
SQ17-000349	Brown	Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program	Amendments have been made to the Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program Guidelines Overview ; When did the Department change the guidelines? When and how where they made public? What consultation did the Department have with the sector to inform these changes? What is the effect of the changes to the amended guidelines?	Written
SQ17-000350	Watt	Pension Eligibility	How many people currently in the workforce will be affected by increasing the pension age to 70? Has the department done any modelling on the number of Australian who will be affected by this change? How did the department arrive at that figure and the steps along the way?	123 - 31 May
SQ17-000351	Brown	Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support Program	Can the Department clarify what amount of funding available for the Disability and Carer Service Improvement and Sector Support activities after the deduction of the \$140.3 million for wage supplementation?	Written
SQ17-000352	Brown	DES	Can the Department clarify whether the Job Plan will be the province of the participant and provider, or will it be controlled through the ESS computer system?	Written
SQ17-000353	Brown	DES	Can the Department outline what the role of Centrelink will be, if any, in the referral process of participants in the new 'Choice and Control' model?	Written
SQ17-000354	Brown	DES	Can the Department indicate whether all participants of DES who reach a 26 week employment outcome be required to have an Ongoing Support Assessment under the proposed changes to DES? And, consequentially, will Ongoing Support commence at 26 weeks of employment as a way of supporting participants to a 52 week outcome?	Written
SQ17-000355	Watt	Pension Eligibility	Has the department done any modelling on the life expectancy by workforce sector or geographical area? Do you know whether those assumptions differ, for want of a better term, between workforce sectors or is it across the board in Australia.	124 - 31 May
SQ17-000356	Siewert	Pension Eligibility	In terms of indigeneity, at the moment for certain payments there are lower age thresholds for Aboriginal people. How will the change in the Age Pension eligibility effect these people?	124 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000357	Siewert	Pension Eligibility	Did you look at NDIS or aged care eligibility this when developing the proposals for the retirement age to go up to 70 and the implications it has for some of these other areas (such as access to DES)?	125 - 31 May
SQ17-000358	Siewert	Mental Health	What is the number of income support recipients, DSP, who received DSP specifically for mental illness? Also those that are not on DSP but have mental health flagged as a vulnerability for Newstart and Youth Allowance.	127 - 31 May
SQ17-000359	Siewert	Mental Health	Have you done any analysis of the HILDA work in regard to the percentage of people who are receiving income support and who have a mental illness? Have you interrogated any of that information?	127 - 31 May
SQ17-000360	Siewert	Mental Health	Have you done that work against drug addiction as well? I am interested in the number of people who have mental illness and have identified as having a drug addiction or have been identified as having drug addiction as part of their diagnosis including the percentage of those that do.	127 - 31 May
SQ17-000361	Siewert	Chronic Pain	Do you have any more recent data on the number of people that are on DSP and/or Newstart or Youth Allowance in terms of chronic pain?	128 - 31 May
SQ17-000362	Cameron	Housing	How much is the increase in rent assistance? From the interesting things that the New South Wales government has been doing, how much has that added to Commonwealth costs?	18 - 1 June
SQ17-000363	Rhianon	Housing	What is the wage cost index and how that has been applied to the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) for Northern Territory? By how much does funding for the Northern Territory change from 2018-18 to 2018-19?	26-28 - 1 June
SQ17-000364	Kakoschke-Moore	Income Management	Do you know if any specific questions have been asked of community leaders, groups and those in Ceduna around grog running?	29 - 1 June
SQ17-000365	Kakoschke-Moore	Income Management	Are the surveys being conducted further afield, in Yalata and Oak Valley, or just in Ceduna?	30 - 1 June
SQ17-000366	Kakoschke-Moore	Income Management	How many times and when have you raised the issue of grog running with South Australian authorities? What specific feedback are you giving the South Australian government?	30 - 1 June
SQ17-000367	Kakoschke-Moore	Human Trafficking	Do you have a breakdown of those people who have been subjected to a personal form of labour exploitation, that were assisted? How many of those people were located in South Australia?	31 - 1 June
SQ17-000368	Kakoschke-Moore	Human Trafficking	What is the longest period of time a person has been supported through the human-trafficking support program?	32 - 1 June
SQ17-000369	Kakoschke-Moore	Human Trafficking	How old is the youngest person that this program has supported?	32 - 1 June
SQ17-000370	Kakoschke-Moore	1800RESPECT	If counsellor have been hired for the primary purpose of answering the calls to another helpline but have answered 1800RESPECT calls, how many times has that happened?	33 - 1 June
SQ17-000371	Pratt	1800RESPECT	Provide a breakdown in terms of complaint type and what those different complaints relate to.	34 - 1 June
SQ17-000372	Pratt	1800RESPECT	Of the seven complaints that were substantiated, where they in relation to trauma counselling?	34 - 1 June

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000373	Pratt	Strong and Resilient Communities	Can you give us some information on the kind of feedback that you have received about the redesign including a breakdown of what things they (multicultural organisations) liked about the redesign and what things they did not like about the redesign?	37 - 1 June
SQ17-000374	Brown	DES	Can the Department identify how much is currently spent on 'Ongoing Support' across DES and is 'Ongoing Support' considered an outcome payment of the program? If not why not?	Written
SQ17-000375	Brown	DES	In the Department's 'DES Program Changes from 2018' paper, (P. 2); The paper refers to a new 2 year School Leaver Trial: Can the Department outline the details of the proposed trial? How will the trial site(s) be chosen? How will the students with disability be chosen? Who will be undertaking the trial? How much is being allocated for the cost of this trial? How will the evaluation be undertaken?	Written
SQ17-000376	Brown	DES	Minister Prentice stated that the Department is looking to develop on-line training modules to build disability confidence for employers and employees; Who will develop these modules and how will they be developed?	Written
SQ17-000377	Brown	DES	Minister Prentice in a speech to the Australian Network on Disability 9th Annual Conference; the Minister referred to a need for the Department to work with employers who put forward innovative ideas. Is there a fund to support the development of innovative ideas?	Written
SQ17-000378	Brown	DES	Minister Prentice flagged of a review associated with the Employment Services Assessment; Can the Department outline the details of this review? When will the review be undertaken and within what timeframes?	Written
SQ17-000379	Brown	DES	What has the Government budgeted across the forward estimates for the Work Assist program?	Written
SQ17-000380	Brown	DES	Are there any specific program changes in the program 'Work Assist'?	Written
SQ17-000381	Brown	DES	Can the Department indicate how the new DES program will interface with the NDIS? What will the Department be including in the new DES Deed to clearly demonstrate the interface between DES and the NDIS?	Written
SQ17-000382	Brown	DES	The Government announced in the budget papers it will allow 1,000 new students with a lower level of disability to access DES assistance, What will be the eligibility criteria for 'the lower level of disability'?	Written
SQ17-000383	Brown	DES	Can the Department indicate whether the proposed model of risk-adjusted outcome fee has been built in? How many levels of outcome payments will there be and how much is assigned to each level? Has the model been tested?	Written
SQ17-000384	Brown	National Disability Strategy	How is the Commonwealth ensuring that all levels of Government are meeting their expressed commitments under the National Disability Strategy?	Written
SQ17-000385	Brown	National Disability Strategy	When will 2 yearly progress report on the Strategy be released?	Written

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SQ17-000386	Brown	National Disability Strategy	Footnote 9 (P. 8 Driving Action 2015 - 2018) states their was an original, sixth action area focusing on the appointment of a Champion Minister from mainstream portfolios to take a leadership role in support of the strategy's implementation. What was the Department/Government's reason for the discontinuation of the proposal? When was the decision taken?	Written
SQ17-000387	Brown	National Disability Strategy	Another of the key action areas 5 (P. 8 Driving Action 2015 - 2018) is the communication activities to promote the intent of the strategy throughout the community. Can the Department outline the communication activities undertaken and provide a copy of the communication strategy?	Written
SQ17-000388	Brown	National Disability Strategy	Given improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability are one of the key action areas (P. 8 Driving Action 2015 - 2018); What consultation has the Department had with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people ?	Written
SQ17-000389	Pratt	Strong and Resilient Communities	Are you able to outline yet what kinds of activities have been historically eligible that may not be eligible under the new program [SARC]?	37 - 1 June
SQ17-000390	Siewert	Income Management	In relation to the 2017-18 Federal Budget, please provide any relevant material available explaining the contractual arrangements and associated expenditure for the proposed trial sites.	38 - 1 June
SQ17-000393	Leyonhjelm	VAW	Can you please provide a copy of the 2007 paper by Flood?	41 - 1 June
SQ17-000394	Leyonhjelm	VAW	Did the VicHealth survey by Anita Harris compare the contribution to violence against women of disrespect and gender inequality against other factors, such as poverty, alcohol abuse and drug abuse? Did the survey determine or indicate any relative importance of those contributors?	41 - 1 June
SQ17-000396	Siewert	Redress	In terms of the issues around claims and pursuing access to the redress scheme, does that preclude people taking action under common law?	45 - 1 June
SQ17-000397	Hinch	Redress	Was there any correspondence with the Catholic Church or meetings or correspondence with other institutions on the cap specifically?	45 - 1 June
SQ17-000398	Siewert	Redress	What process is been used for that forward look with regards to what happens to victims of abuse post the start date?	46 - 1 June
SQ17-000399	Waters	1800RESPECT	When the Federal Government first awarded the contract to MHS, it was on the proviso that the subcontract go to RDVSA. Is that correct? If so, why did you not now intervene when MHS decided to put the subcontract out to tender?	56 - 1 June
SQ17-000400	Waters	1800RESPECT	I am interested in why and when the line in the contract requesting that MHS subcontract to RDVSA, was removed.	57 - 1 June
SQ17-000401	Waters	1800RESPECT	Who was the expert who has a background in domestic and family violence services that was on the evaluation panel?	57 - 1 June
SQ17-000402	Waters	1800RESPECT	What was MHS' selection criteria for eligible providers that could apply for the trauma specialist counselling tender...and what they have said on the record.	58 - 1 June

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000403	Waters	1800RESPECT	Is it possible that the subcontract for the specialist counselling service, go to a private subcontractor? Does the department have any options for intervening in the MHS process? What would be the triggers for when the Department might ask MHS to review the process.	58 - 1 June
SQ17-000404	Waters	1800RESPECT	If the subcontractor were a for-profit provider of rape counselling services, would that be considered inappropriate?	58 - 1 June
SQ17-000405	Waters	1800RESPECT	Can I check whether any of those phones lines (Parentline, Mental Health line, Health Care Direct, Garrison Health) will be staffed and whether people who meet the minimum criteria for answering the 1800 line but work on other lines, like beyond blue, do sometimes answer in peak periods?	59 - 1 June
SQ17-000406	Waters	1800RESPECT	Could you please provide a bit more detail about what you mean when you say holding their (MHS) feet to the fire? What processes have you put in place?	60 - 1 June
SQ17-000407	Waters	1800RESPECT	You were asked earlier, I think by Senator Pratt, about the complaints. You said you sought quarterly figures. I am interested in whether you track the resolution of those complaints. If so, how? What is the process for doing that? What proportion of complaints from the period October to December 2016 remain unresolved? If you can add the resolution figures to the earlier request	61 - 1 June
SQ17-000408	Waters	1800RESPECT	Could you provide a bit more detail on who is on that new sector advisory group?	61 - 1 June
SQ17-000409	Pratt	Emergency Relief	In reviewing financial capability and wellbeing, what consideration have you given to problems and concerns that have arisen?	62 - 1 June
SQ17-000410	Pratt	Emergency Relief	For the city of Swan, we will have a look at who the providers are and how they deliver those services. We might then see if we can have a look at what the movement is for customers to get to that service.	62 - 1 June
SQ17-000411	Siewert	Emergency Relief	Is there emergency relief, or a funding allocation for emergency relief for the measures associated with the new compliance measures? Is it that they have not made a decision whether will be any funding, or is it a decision around the magnitude of the funding?	62 - 1 June
SQ17-000412	Waters	Gambling	Can you take on notice to provide any more detail that you have at this time, noting that 1 July is not very far off and that we are interested in the ability of researchers in the field to set the research agenda as opposed to being told by government and/or industry what the agenda is? [question relates to the national collaborative gambling research model]	65 - 1 June
SQ17-000414	Siewert	Income Management	Could you provide who you consider to be the key stakeholders? Who else has the Minister met with in each town? What can you provide me about the leaders who have been spoken to in each of these centres. Can you give us a rundown on whether they are Aboriginal organisations or broader community organisations?	69 - 1 June
SQ17-000416	Siewert	Income Management	For people in the survey who said 'not applicable' or declined to answer, you do not know the impact. Is then the percentage that was reported , the percentage of who answered?	72 - 1 June

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SQ17-000417	Siewert	Income Management	I am interested in knowing why some people who actually wanted to be involved were not, in fact, invited to be involved or included.	73 - 1 June
SQ17-000418	Pratt	Income Management	When did the East Kimberley panel last meet?	74 - 1 June
SQ17-000419	Pratt	Income Management	Please provide a list of all the Community Panel guidelines for assessing panel applications	75 - 1 June
SQ17-000420	Pratt	Income Management	Does a participant have the right to appear before the panel?	75 - 1 June
SQ17-000421	Pratt	Income Management	Can the department confirm that there is no alcohol rehabilitation centre in Kununurra and that the nearest one is in Wyndham?	76 - 1 June
SQ17-000422	Siewert	Income Management	Minister, could you take on notice, please, to ask if Mr Tudge gave Mayor Johnson any of the material that we have just been discussing?	78 - 1 June
SQ17-000423	Siewert	Income Management	Why have merchants been taken off being able to use the card? Why have some merchants been blocked or withdrawn from being able to use the card?	79 - 1 June
SQ17-000424	Siewert	Income Management	Could you breakdown the exemption data for Ceduna and East Kimberley into the number of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people who have been exempted? Could I also have this data by payment type?	79 - 1 June
SQ17-000425	Siewert	Income Management	Merchant/s have claimed that they are losing money in the trial sites due to lay-bys on the cashless debit card. Please provide the reasons stated and the outcome achieved from the discussion with such merchant/s including the timeframe.	80 - 1 June
SQ17-000427	Pratt	National Framework for Reducing Violence Against Women	Is the Department able to advise whether staff within DSS are required to have a working with children check or have one within their state jurisdiction?	83 - 1 June
SQ17-000428	Pratt	Third Action Plan of the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children	Are there any other initiatives being considered as part of the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children that the Commonwealth will lead?	83 - 1 June
SQ17-000429	Pratt	National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children	Will DSS services do any contracting within this outcome to better align place based coordinated responses like that?	84 - 1 June
SQ17-000430	Pratt	National Framework for Reducing Violence Against Women	I want to ask for a breakdown in the line item between the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children and the national plan for reducing violence against women and their children. They are both in the same budget line item, but there is not a split between how much is being spent on each plan. So there are activities with, for example, the family and domestic violence framework that are not just about the architecture? They are programmatic things as well, which is why you cannot compare the two figures. Is that right?	84 - 1 June
SQ17-000431	Siewert	Government Responses	There are a number of outstanding reports. Could you perhaps take on notice to give us an update on where each one is up to.	85 - 1 June

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000432	McCarthy	Indigenous affairs Special Account	In Budget Paper No. 4, at page122: What is the services for other entities and Indigenous affairs special account? The figures do not explain it for each area. Could I get a figure that goes with the Indigenous affairs special account? The figure of \$706 million is the closing balance along there.	85 - 1 June
SQ17-000433	McCarthy	Assistance for unemployed and the sick	In Budget Paper No. 1, at page 6-24, it is table 9, 'Summary of expenses, social security and welfare'. The explanation in the second paragraph says: "assistance to the unemployed and the sick sub-function, which is expected to increase by 16.8 per cent in real terms between 2017-18 and 2020-21" Can you explain why that is the case?	85 - 1 June

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000434	Farrell	Market Research	<p>For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subject of the market research; • The supplier; • Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts; • The total value of the contract; • The term of the contract (time); • The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic; • The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process; • The date the supplier was engaged; • Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process; • Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list; • Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted; • Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research; • Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research; • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other); • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made; • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change? • Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier? 	Written
SQ17-000435	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Trafficked People Program	<p>How many people were supported through the Justice Support Team in the last 5 years? How many people were supported in the last year?</p>	Written
SQ17-000436	Brown	National Disability Strategy	Can the Department provide the projected dates and locations of future workshops?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000437	Brown	National Disability Strategy	On P. 9 of the Second Implementation Plan (Driving Action 2015 - 2018), it states "all levels of government have agreed to convene a series of targeted, solution-focused workshops. A minimum of three workshops will be held each year." Can the Department identify how many workshops have taken place? Where have the workshops taken place and what were the outcomes? What were the dates of these workshops and who attended?	Written
SQ17-000438	Brown	National Disability Strategy	When does the Department anticipate it is likely that the Workplans for the three Working Groups under the Advisory Council are to be released?	Written
SQ17-000439	Brown	National Disability Strategy	According to the Second Implementation Plan's monitoring strategy, DSS is responsible for convening the Advisory Council at least two times a year over the course of the strategy. How many times has the Advisory Council met? What were the dates of these meetings and who attended? Do you have a forward schedule for these meetings, dates, times, locations?	Written
SQ17-000440	Brown	Income Support For Carers	The one-off energy assistance payment is attached to the age pension, disability support pension, parenting payment single, and some veterans' pensions; Can the Government provide a rationale and explanation as to why the energy assistance payment has not been extended to carers?	Written
SQ17-000441	Di Natale	Workforce	On the 9 November 2016 the Australian National Audit Office released a report titled "National Disability Insurance Scheme – Management of the Transition of the Disability Services Market". In the report it was stated that there was no consultation with external stakeholders. Will the Government release the evaluation reports on how effective and what the learnings were from the trial sites in particular the Barclay region?	Written
SQ17-000442	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Workforce Screening	What stakeholder organisations have been consulted and has any consultation taken place or is planned with worker representatives?	Written
SQ17-000443	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Workforce Screening	What work has been undertaken to develop the worker screening policy?	Written
SQ17-000444	Watt	Quality and Safeguards Commission	How much of the funding allocated to the new NDIS Commission will be spent on APS staff? How much on Senior Executives? Will this trend continue in the new commission?	Written
SQ17-000445	Watt	Quality and Safeguards Commission	Minister Porter's 9 May 2017 Media Release following the Budget "Guaranteeing the NDIS and providing stronger support for people with disability" reference was made to the fact that the Quality and Safeguards Commission will comprise approximately 300 people. How was this figure determined and what proportion of this workforce will be responsible for: a. Provider registration and auditing compliance b. Complaints handing and own-motion investigatory powers c. Workforce screening d. Senior Practitioner functions (oversight of restrictive interventions)	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000446	Watt	Quality and Safeguards Commission	How was the \$54.9m 2020-21 funding allocation for the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission arrived at in the 2017/18 Commonwealth Budget? Was there any reference to the costs of operating all the existing state and territory quality and safeguarding frameworks? Does this funding allocation allow for the establishment of state and territory-based offices of the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission or is it presumed that it will be located centrally (Canberra or otherwise)?	Written
SQ17-000447	Watt	Quality and Safeguards Commission	Out of the \$209m allocated over the Budget forward estimates, what proportions have been allocated to establishment of systems, policies and procedures and what proportion has been allocated to ongoing enforcement of the Quality and Safeguarding Framework?	Written
SQ17-000448	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Practise Standards	Have reference groups been established, and what stakeholders are participating, for the proposed Quality and Safeguarding Framework Practice Standards covering: a. Disability Practice Standards b. Mental Health Practice Standards c. Positive Behaviour Support Practice Standards d. Complex Support Coordination Practice Standards e. Early Childhood Support Practice Standards f. High-Intensity Daily Personal Activities Practice Standards g. Participants with Complex Needs Practice Standards h. Specialist Disability Accommodation Practice Standards	Written
SQ17-000449	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Practise Standards	Which organisations have been represented on the Technical Reference Group for the development of the proposed Core NDIS Practice Standards?	Written
SQ17-000451	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Induction Module	What work has been undertaken on the development of the compulsory orientation module for workers employed by registered providers? What stakeholder consultation has occurred and which stakeholder organisations have been consulted?	Written
SQ17-000452	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Trafficked People Program	How many people were supported through the Temporary Trial Support team in the last 5 years? How many people were supported in the last year?	Written
SQ17-000453	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Trafficked People Program	What is the gender split of program clients? What are the number of clients split into age ranges?	Written
SQ17-000454	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Trafficked People Program	Does the support program assist people to apply for new or more appropriate visas?	Written
SQ17-000455	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Trafficked People Program	How many people have been turned away from the program??	Written
SQ17-000456	Kakoschke-Moore	Cashless Debit Card	How much does the provision and administration of the cashless debit card cost per person, in addition to the cost of the welfare payment itself?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000457	Kakoschke-Moore	Cashless Debit Card	Has the Department done any modelling on how much it would cost per person to provide drug, alcohol or gambling rehabilitation support that would create an equivalent outcome to income management? If not, why not? If so, what were the results of the modelling?	Written
SQ17-000458	Kakoschke-Moore	Cashless Debit Card	How much is the value of the contract or contracts between the Government and Indue Pty Ltd to provide debit cards for the cashless debit card trial?	Written
SQ17-000459	Kakoschke-Moore	Cashless Debit Card	How many providers tendered for the contract or contracts to provide debit cards for the cashless debit card trial?	Written
SQ17-000460	Kakoschke-Moore	Cashless Debit Card	Was the tender process for this contract or these contracts run in full accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules? If not, why not?	Written
SQ17-000461	Bilyk	Ministerial functions	In relation to any functions or official receptions hosted by Ministers or Assistant Ministers in the portfolio since 1 March 2017, can the following please be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of functions; • List of attendees including departmental officials, ministerial staff and if members of the Minister's immediate family attended – number of members (names not required); • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided. 	Written
SQ17-000462	Watt	Newstart Allowance	Can you please provide any data you have on reasons people leave Newstart Allowance? (e.g. into work, onto another payment (by payment type) etc.).	Written
SQ17-000463	Watt	Abolition of the Energy Supplement	How many people will not receive the energy supplement as a result of this measure by 2020.	Written
SQ17-000464	Watt	Abolition of the Energy Supplement	In estimates it was stated that 650,000 people who started receiving a pension or allowance since September 2016 will lose the energy supplement. Could you please break this down by payment type.	Written
SQ17-000465	Watt	Abolition of the Energy Supplement	Please provide the number of people who not receive the energy supplement as a result of the abolition for new recipients, by payment type, State and electorate.	Written
SQ17-000466	Brown	Carers	Please provide an update on the National Disability and Carers Advisory Council Working group on Carer Reform, including the number of meetings held, when and where? Does the working group have a timeline for its work?	Written
SQ17-000467	Brown	Carers	Please provide an update on the National Disability and Carers Advisory Council Working group on NDS Reinvigoration Plan, including the number of meetings held, when and where? Does the working group have a timeline for its work?	Written
SQ17-000468	Brown	Carers	Can you provide the total number of calls to the Carer Gateway phone line for this calendar year, and also provide calls on a state by state basis?	Written
SQ17-000469	Brown	Carers	What is the Department of Social Services total spend on carer support services programs?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000470	Brown	Carers	What is the current status of funding for all the Carer Support Programmes funded by the Department of Social Services? Do any of these programmes have funding agreements that are due to finish this calendar year? Or this financial year? If so for each programme please provide: a) the name of each funded service provider b) the length of the current funding agreements c) the funding amount for each service d) the funding location for each service e) the total quantum of funding for each programme	Written
SQ17-000471	Brown	Carers	What will be the process to take this work forward? a) What is the expected implementation timeframe? b) Is there any budgetary allocation provided in the 2017-18 Budget and in the Forward Estimates for the implementation of the Plan? If yes, Please provide those figures? If not, why not?	Written
SQ17-000472	Brown	Carers	What was the feedback from the public consultation on the draft Service Delivery Model?	Written
SQ17-000473	Brown	Carers	Can you provide an update on the development and implementation of the Integrated Plan for Carer Support Services, has the advisory group delivered their final Service Concept and proposed service delivery model to Government? a) If so, when was this provided to the Government? b) If not, when will it be delivered?	Written
SQ17-000474	Marshall	Social Impact Investment	What engagement have you had from the community for these trials? Who has put forward ideas to implement them?	Written
SQ17-000475	Marshall	Social Impact Investment	Are there targeted locations to roll out the trials?	Written
SQ17-000476	Bilyk	Departmental functions	In relation to expenditure on any functions or official receptions etc hosted by the Department or agencies in the portfolio since 1 March 2017, can the following please be provided: • List of functions; • List of attendees; • Function venue; • Itemised list of costs (GST inclusive); • Details of any food served; • Details of any wines or champagnes served including brand and vintage; and • Details of any entertainment provided.	Written
SQ17-000477	Bilyk	Laptops	How many laptops are currently on issue to staff of the Department and agencies in the portfolio? Can an itemised list showing make and model please be provided? How many new laptops were purchased by the Department and agencies in the portfolio in calendar year 2016? What was the total cost (GST inclusive) of purchasing laptops for staff of the Department and agencies in the portfolio in calendar year 2016? How many laptops did the Department and agencies in the portfolio have to be replaced due to damage in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST inclusive)? How many laptops were reported lost or stolen in calendar year 2016? What was the cost of replacement (GST inclusive)?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000478	Marshall	Social Impact Investment	How many trials will be included in the \$30 million package?	Written
SQ17-000479	Bilyk	Executive office upgrades	Have the furniture, fixtures or fittings of the Secretary's office, or the offices of any Deputy Secretaries, been upgraded since 1 March 2017? If so, can an itemised list of costs please be provided (GST inclusive)?	Written
SQ17-000480	Marshall	Social Impact Investment	Can you outline the timeline for implementation of this investment trial?	Written
SQ17-000481	Bilyk	Facilities upgrades	Have the facilities of any of the Department's premises, or the premises of any agencies in the portfolio, been upgraded since 1 March 2017, for example, staff room refurbishments, kitchen refurbishments, bathroom refurbishments, the purchase of any new fridges, coffee machines, or other kitchen equipment? If so, can a detailed description of the relevant facilities upgrade please be provided together with an itemised list of costs (GST inclusive)? Can any photographs of the upgraded facilities please be provided?	Written
SQ17-000482	Bilyk	Vacancies	Please provide a list of all statutory, board and legislated office vacancies and other significant appointments vacancies within the portfolio, including length of time vacant and current acting arrangements.	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000483	Bilyk	Credit cards	<p>How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff in the Department and agencies within the portfolio? If possible, please provide a break-down of this information by APS/ SES level.</p> <p>What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card in calendar year 2016 and what was it for?</p> <p>How much interest was paid on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>How much was paid in late fees on amounts outstanding from credit cards in calendar year 2016?</p> <p>What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period in calendar year 2016 and what was the card holder's APS/ SES level?</p> <p>How many credit cards were reported as lost or stolen in calendar year 2016 and what was the cost of their replacement?</p> <p>How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy in calendar year 2016? What was the total value of those purchases? How many purchases were asked to be repaid on that basis in calendar year 2016 and what was the total value thereof? Were all those amounts actually repaid? If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof?</p> <p>What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid in calendar year 2016, and what was the cardholder's APS/ SES level? What that amount actually repaid, in full? If no, what amount was left unpaid?</p> <p>Are any credit cards currently on issue in the Department or agencies within the portfolio connected to rewards schemes? Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?</p> <p>Can a copy of the Department's staff credit card policy please be provided?</p>	Written
SQ17-000484	Siewert	Mental Health, comorbidity and budget measures	In regards to drug and alcohol testing for those with mental illness, will there be any criteria applied for people who once randomly selected are then tested, in terms of what might be the reasons or cause of their drug or alcohol use?	Written
SQ17-000485	Marshall	Drug Testing	Does this policy require legislation to bring into effect? If so, what legislative changes would be needed?	Written
SQ17-000486	Marshall	Drug Testing	Given this program could see more people referred to existing rehabilitation programs, how many people outside of the income support system are expected to be denied access to treatment because of the increased demand that may be generated as a result of this system?	Written
SQ17-000487	Marshall	Drug Testing	Has the Government undertaken analysis of the availability of drug rehab services for referral under the policy? What would happen where services are not available? What would happen where a person declines referral?	Written
SQ17-000488	Marshall	Drug Testing	When will this proposal be costed?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000489	Marshall	Drug Testing	What consultations has the government undertaken with medical professionals about making drug and alcohol programs part of the job plan? What did they say? How were their concerns taken into account?	Written
SQ17-000490	Kakoschke-Moore	Drug Testing	Is there a cap on the amount each job seeker can get in treatment funding? Where is this funding coming from? How much is it estimated to cost per person?	Written
SQ17-000491	Siewert	Try, Test and Learn Fund	Can the Department provide an update of the Procurement Process as a result of the Try, Test and Learn Fund? What is the process that the Department will use to recruit and contract organisations to implement projects that are to be funded through Try Test and Learn?	Written
SQ17-000492	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Will the trial evaluation study the relative effectiveness of engagement with treatment versus income support quarantining?	Written
SQ17-000493	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	With the provisions to stop income support recipients being exempt from mutual obligation requirements solely due to drug or alcohol abuse, how will any undiagnosed mental health or comorbidity be determined?	Written
SQ17-000494	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	The Budget measures state that recipients will be referred to employment services providers in appropriate activities, including addressing their substance-related issues. What providers that the Government is aware of, have expertise in addressing drug and alcohol issues and comorbidity, and can the Government please provided a list of these services and their locations.	Written
SQ17-000495	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	The provisions also state the recipients who engage in appropriate drug or alcohol treatment can have this contribute to meeting their mutual obligation requirements in order to continue receiving payments. What happens if the person being tested and requiring treatment is unable to access a service because they are not available in their area, or, as is often the case, there is a significant waiting time to access the service?	Written
SQ17-000496	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Will programs that have been identified as effective and cost effective in improving outcomes for methamphetamine users (in international and national studies) be available in the trial locations?	Written
SQ17-000497	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	Given this requirement will place increased pressure on already overworked community services, will the Government provide any additional funding for drug and alcohol services?	Written
SQ17-000498	Xenophon	International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance	1. Is Australia a signatory to the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance? 2. If not: a. Have we been in negotiations with respect to that convention? b. How long have the negotiations taken thus far? c. What are the hurdles to ratifying the convention? d. What has been the total cost of negotiation in respect of this convention, including the cost of FTE officials e. Please break out the travel costs and advise locations that Australian Officials have flown to	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000499	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Has the Department given consideration to the relative cost effectiveness of expanding treatment options - and enabling participation in treatment to fulfil mutual obligation requirements - as a means to improve employment outcomes for clients who have an illicit drug problem?	Written
SQ17-000500	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	What analysis has been done of the availability of such specialist treatment programs in Australia?	Written
SQ17-000501	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Will the locations selected for the trial have specialist AOD and rehabilitation services without lengthy waiting lists?	Written
SQ17-000502	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Will the availability of these specialist support services be important in choosing trial locations?	Written
SQ17-000503	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	What type of medical support will clients be directed to i.e. GPs, hospitals, specialist AOD and rehabilitation services?	Written
SQ17-000504	Siewert	Medical support and treatment options	Given that the National Ice Taskforce Report emphasised the importance of an emphasis on drug treatment over law enforcement as a response to ice use, why will trial participants only be directed to medical support upon a second positive test?	Written
SQ17-000505	Siewert	Drug testing	What procedures will be in place if an individual wishes to challenge a result or complain about the way a test was conducted?	Written
SQ17-000506	Siewert	Drug testing	What will happen to an individual who refuses a drug test?	Written
SQ17-000507	Siewert	Drug testing	Could the Department outline in detail the advice received that the collection, means of collection and use of personal information attained from income support recipients is in accordance with Australian privacy law and the Australian Privacy Principles?	Written
SQ17-000508	Siewert	Drug testing	How will the security of testing results be assured?	Written
SQ17-000509	Siewert	Drug testing	Given the use of data profiling, how can the drug testing trial be described as 'randomised'?	Written
SQ17-000510	Siewert	Drug testing	Will any quantitative or qualitative data (for example, through client interviews with Centrelink social workers, psychologists or assessors recorded in casefile notes or assessment scores) be utilised? If 'yes', were clients informed about how such data could be used before they provided consent/will they be into the future?	Written
SQ17-000511	Siewert	Drug testing	Will any of this data enable the identification of specific individuals?	Written
SQ17-000512	Siewert	Drug testing	What internal data will be used as part of 'profiling'?	Written
SQ17-000513	Siewert	Drug testing	What data will be used by Data61 and the CSIRO in their 'profiling tool' to identify characteristics that indicate that a person receiving NSA or YA (Other) is at higher risk of using illicit drugs?	Written
SQ17-000514	Siewert	Removal of Impairment Table 6	Please provide a definition of 'treatment for addiction' and a list of acceptable treatments to satisfy this requirement.	Written
SQ17-000515	Siewert	Removal of Impairment Table 6	Will this apply to people who have a disability that cannot be treated?	Written
SQ17-000516	Siewert	Removal of Impairment Table 6	How many people who have a disability caused by drug or alcohol addiction will be denied DSP because they haven't sought treatment?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000517	Siewert	NDIS and Housing	How is the Department intending to work with the WA government to ensure that housing gets built and people with disability have choice and control?	Written
SQ17-000518	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	Please advise the percentage of income support recipients who have a mental illness, including/excluding those on DSP.	Written
SQ17-000519	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	What percentage of those income support recipients that have a mental illness have been identified as having a drug addiction as part of their diagnosis?	Written
SQ17-000520	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	What percentage of income support recipients that have a mental illness and have been identified as having a drug problem, does the research show, are managing their mental illness, for better or for worse, through the use of illicit drugs?	Written
SQ17-000521	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	Given that you know that many income support recipients have serious mental illness, coupled with dependency issues, what plans does the Department have in place, in terms of addressing the rehabilitative needs of these clients, e.g. set up an MOU with the NDIA for them to take up the clients and put in place a care plan?	Written
SQ17-000522	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	What percentage of income support recipients that are in chronic pain have been identified as taking opioids to manage their pain?	Written
SQ17-000524	Siewert	NDIS and Housing	Can the Government provide an update on how SDA payments will work in WA?	Written
SQ17-000525	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	How will the screening distinguish between different kinds of opioids users or will they all be placed on the Cashless Welfare Card too?	Written
SQ17-000526	Kakoschke-Moore	Support for Siblings	It is well documented that parents of children and adults with disability experience considerable stress and have higher rates of mental health problems than other parents. There are usually other children in the family who also experience much of the same stress, but without the emotional and cognitive maturity to cope. They also experience higher longer term mental health problems. What resources are directed to advocacy for siblings of NDIS clients? If there is none, what future support for advocacy for this group has been considered?	Written
SQ17-000527	McCarthy	NDIS	The budget included \$33.0 million over three years to help service providers in the disability and aged care sectors grow their workforce, which will provide assistance to address job shortages in the sector. Will any of this funding be targeted for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander NDIS workforce?	Written
SQ17-000528	Siewert	Mental health, comorbidity and budget measures	What research has the Department undertaken which might be used to provide a social profile of income support recipients who have mental illness?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000529	Pratt	Redress	1) How was the \$33.4 million figure announced in the budget decided on? 2) What modelling is this figure based on? 3) What will the \$33.4 million be spent on specifically? 4) How many States and Territories have indicated that they will opt in to the scheme? 5) What details have been provided to the States and Territories about the proposed national redress scheme? 6) How will the scheme be administered? 7) How much funding will be contributed to implementing the scheme? 8) What type of abuse will be covered? 9) Will the federal government be taking responsibility as funder of last resort or will survivors from states/organisations be unable to receive redress? 10) Why hasn't the federal government complied with the timeframe recommended by the royal commission to establish and implement the scheme in the first half of this year instead of 2018?	Written
SQ17-000530	Siewert	Better Targeting Assistance Measure	Have you got those other costs for DHS, DSS and Jobactive? Can I have the costs to other agencies broken down by measure and element.	72 - 31 May

National Disability Insurance Agency

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000080	Farrell	Markert Research	<p>for the 2016-17 financial year, what was the total amount spent by the NDIA on market research (either as a whole contract or as part of a contract)? For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subject of the market research; • The supplier; • Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts; • The total value of the contract; • The term of the contract (time); • The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic; • The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process; • The date the supplier was engaged; • Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process; • Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list; • Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted; • Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research; • Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research; • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other); • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made; • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change? • Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier? 	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000081	Siewert	PHaMs	<p>Siewert: The number of people who are in PHaMs and who are actually applying to get a support package through NDIS?</p> <p>SIEWERT: I understand that. That is the best we can do. I want to see if the anecdotal evidence that we have heard is correct, which is that a small proportion of the people who have been accessing PHaMs are applying. I want to know if there is some validity in that point because that then points to what sized outside supports may be needed. When do you think you can make that information available?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: It needs to be extracted from the data warehouse, so it will be a couple of days.</p>	19 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000082	Watt	NDIS Complaints	<p>Senator WATT: I take it you would not have up-to-date figures since March, but you are saying that the number has reduced?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Yes, I do not have them with me, but I can certainly table them.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You may have given us these figures at the previous estimates, but do you have them for October to December?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Not with me, but I can certainly provide them.</p>	24 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000083	Watt	NDIS Complaints	<p>Senator WATT: Is it possible to break down those 1,210 complaints registered in the January to March quarter this year into complaints from participants as opposed to providers or anyone else?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Yes, certainly.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you give that to us now?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: No, I do not have that with me, but I certainly can provide that.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Just picking up from where we were before, would you also be able to take on notice, if you do not have it now, providing a breakdown? I think you took on notice a breakdown of participants, providers and any other. Would you also be able to give us a breakdown of the nature of the complaint or what the complaint was about—plans, technology and payments, whatever the types of complaints were?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Sure.</p>	25 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000084	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Do you have any figures on how many plans have been done over the phone?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: No. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: They are the two alternatives?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Yes. It could be done in terms of provision of information as well, so we will take that on notice, to give you a breakdown of components.</p>	26 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000085	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Do you have any figures on the number of reviews of plans that have been required for plans prepared over the phone?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: No.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You do not?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: No, we would not have that level of detail. But we could have a look to see if we can arrive at that. We have planned reviews that occur over a period of time and then unscheduled reviews. The planned reviews are usually because your plan has reached its maturation and we need to review your circumstance and your funding. There are also unscheduled reviews. I do not think I have seen a dataset that suggests a higher or lower review for ways in which a plan is constructed.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You have not seen any of that?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: I have not seen that data, so we will take that on notice and see if we do have anything—</p>	26 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000086	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Do you have any figures here about the number of reviews, whether they be scheduled or unscheduled?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Yes. Between 1 July 2016 and 31 March 2017 we have undertaken 22,792 plan reviews.</p> <p>Senator WATT: And that is a combination of scheduled plans at the end of a plan?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Yes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: And you will take on notice a breakdown between scheduled and unscheduled?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Yes.</p>	27 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000087	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: You said that you do not have any evidence to suggest that the plans done over the phone have a higher need for unscheduled reviews?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: I have not seen any evidence of that. I am thinking through the dataset that you would need to arrive at that. It would be a fairly complicated process to get that, but we will have a look.</p>	27 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000088	Siewert	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I have been asking about cuts, not increases. You may have already taken this question on notice, but, of the 22,000 reviewed, how many have received a cut?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I can certainly take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Certainly we will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Have you got that information with you?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: No.</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: The number of plans that have increased is significantly larger than the number of plans that have decreased. We will get that exact information for you over the last quarter.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: I am not just interested in the last quarter; I am interested in all of them.</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Over the period.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Maybe quarter by quarter; how many have been cut or increased or stayed the same.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is it possible to find out on a broader scale—I realise you cannot tell me on an individual scale—about the sort of reduction in the areas they have been in; whether they have been carers? Have you been keeping stats on that? When a plan has been reduced, is it around carer hours, or around other supports</p>	29 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000089	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: I know Senator Siewert had some questions about this in her earlier session, but I do not think she asked this: do you have any figures—whether they be here or on notice—for the proportion of packages where the amount of support provided in dollar terms is reduced upon review?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes, we have taken that on notice.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Okay.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Our strong recollection here is that a minority of plans have been reduced.</p> <p>Senator WATT: That could be 49 per cent.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Well—</p> <p>Senator WATT: You are saying it is smaller than that?</p>	37 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000090	Siewert	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of the figures—I realise I am asking for the big table now—that have been reduced because they did not use the funding, could you take on notice the reasons why people are not using it? Certainly the evidence we have received is that people cannot find providers.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We do not have that as a data collection. We have it as some survey information.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is there a difference, also, between those that are self-managed and those that are agency managed?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: In terms of what?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: In terms of unused funds?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We could take that on notice. We could probably find that</p>	30 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000092	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	<p>Are there any tax implications for the SDA payments?</p>	32 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000093	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Do you have any figures on the average length of time those scheduled reviews take? If they start three months out, how long do they take, on average?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I do not know.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Why don't you take it on notice and see what you have got?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I can have a look at that.</p>	36 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000094	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Similarly, with the unscheduled ones, you were saying there is a legislative requirement to decide if the request is justified within 14 days. Given that is a legislative requirement, does that mean that on 100 per cent of occasions that occurs within the 14-day period—that decision is made?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Ideally. I cannot guarantee that.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Could you take that on notice for us as well?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I would need to take that on notice</p>	37 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000095	Watt	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator WATT: Maybe you could take that on notice for us: the average length of time it takes to resolve these unscheduled requests.</p> <p>Ms Gunn: Sure.</p>	37 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000096	Siewert	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator SIEWERT: How many reviews of plans have you done over the phone? I know earlier you said the face-to-face figure.</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I do not have that exact number.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Do you keep that detail?</p> <p>Ms Gunn: I imagine we would. I cannot guarantee it, so I will get it absolutely confirmed.</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: I think—</p> <p>Ms Gunn: It goes to your 65 per cent?</p>	41 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000097	Siewert	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you look at the evidence that we have received about this particular matter, because we are told that the edit function has been removed so that the providers can make changes and not have to wait weeks before the issues are resolved, for example. Did you change something around being able to edit?</p> <p>Mr Sterrenberg: Just let me check.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I think I can answer that. We will have to get you the detail, but at any given point there might be issues raised by providers or participants, or indeed staff, that require us to look at the system and to see whether there are any system changes that need to be undertaken</p>	43 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000098	Watt	NDIS Portal	<p>Mr Sterrenberg: Not at all. In fact, as Mr Tidswell said, 97 per cent of all providers who use the portal have successful outcomes.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Is that data publicly available as well?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: We publish it on our website.</p> <p>Senator WATT: So 97 per cent of providers—</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: It varies depending on the day, but there are 95 per cent or 96 per cent of successful claims going through.</p> <p>Senator WATT: What about for participants? Is the success rate for participants using it published as well?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Sorry, I am not sure.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I do not think so. We would need to check.</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: We certainly get that information, look at it daily and put it on our website for providers.</p> <p>Senator WATT: You do not have that data about participants with you?</p> <p>Ms Rundle: No.</p> <p>Senator WATT: Obviously, if you can take that on notice for us, that would be great.</p>	44 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000099	Watt	NDIS Portal	<p>Senator WATT: And how many calls has the call centre received specifically about issues with the provider portal?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: My memory of the biggest volume of calls is that it is all to do with access to the scheme. I just do not have the information in front of me in terms of the percentage of calls about portal access by the participants and providers, but we can get that on notice for you.</p>	47 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000100	Watt	NDIS Portal	<p>Senator WATT: Just dealing with the NDIA website, how many changes are required to that website every month?</p> <p>Mr Tidswell: Senator, I do not know if we can—</p> <p>Ms Rundle: We would have to ask even if we could answer that question, but we will take it on notice.</p>	48 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000101	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	In the questions to which you came back, the NDIS has advised the committee that around 70 young people in aged care still are not part of the NDIS in the three rolled-out sites of Barwon, Hunter and the ACT. Are you able to provide an update on how many of these young people are now in the NDIS?	50 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000102	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	There are obviously a small number of people in aged care who are not eligible for the NDIS. What is going to happen to them? And for those who are not yet in aged care but do not get into the NDIS have you given any thought to what might happen?	51 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000103	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	In your statistics, have you had a look at the number of young people in aged care who are covered through other schemes, for example: veterans' affairs of people who have been the subject of a motor vehicle accident payout under the various state insurance schemes?	51 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000104	Reynolds	Summer Foundation	<p>Senator REYNOLDS: Even if it is not an NDIA issue straight up, it is the ACAP teams', in terms of their procedures and what they actually do. Obviously, they are still getting 500 every quarter coming in and getting an ACAP assessment to go into aged care and to triage it. If we cannot stop them doing that or make it harder for them to do it, can we not get them to divert these people, if they are in aged care, straight away to the NDIA?</p> <p>Ms Hand: If it is in a transition site, I would think so. Mr Bowen?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We reported on this at the last estimates, and we will put it on notice and get an update on the project we have with the Summer Foundation, which is around that. I also mentioned last time, and it is starting to crystallise, a proposed project around discharge planning that we are doing with the young people in residential aged-care alliance. The issue is not so much the ACAP assessment, the issue is that nearly all of the young people entering aged care are coming out of discharge from hospitals and rehab settings. I, in fact, met with the Association of Rehabilitation Physicians late last year to talk about having a more active involvement of the NDIS, particularly as we roll the trial sites out. In the discharge planning, there is no point bringing us in a minute before midnight when the person is about to be discharged. Often there are months of lead-in to that discharge date, and getting the agency involved earlier in that process, would allow us to start exploring housing options at that much earlier point in time</p>	53 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000105	Kakoschke-Moore	Disability Services	<p>Senator KAKOSCHKE-MOORE: Could you, on notice, provide me with a list of the local areas within South Australia that you do have an MOU with or who have signed up to these interface principles and which areas you are still seeking to build those relationships with.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We would certainly in South Australia have agreements with the children's hospitals and paediatric units.</p>	55 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000106	Siewert	Hearing	<p>Senator SIEWERT: I have a limited amount of time, was asking about unilateral hearing loss. You also said:</p> <p>A program client who has a unilateral hearing loss that meets the Minimum Hearing Loss Threshold (greater than 23dB) and could benefit from a hearing aid will be offered a hearing aid.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: That will only apply to those people approaching the scheme who would have qualified for Australian Hearing support—so children and younger people. For older people, it is a higher decibel range.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: What is the adult—</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I was looking for the question on notice—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Sorry, didn't I read it out? It is SQ17-000016.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I think we should confirm that on notice.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: You have already said 23 decibels is the proxy threshold. Is it going to be the final one for children? You can take that on notice. For an adult, what is the proxy level, and when will you have the full one?</p> <p>Ms Rundle: We will.</p>	56 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000107	Siewert	NDIS Plans	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Let me be fairly specific—I understand what you have just said and take that point on board—how many times do you override a decision where a local office has said yes and the virtual team or the national office overrides that.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: The only other circumstance in which that would occur would be: if our internal assurance checks came to the view that that original decision was incorrect, then we would correct it.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: How many times has that happened?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We will found that out.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Could you find that out for me.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes, but that is a natural and appropriate part of quality assurance testing.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That may be your version of it. A participant's version is: you have disallowed something that was originally approved, and it is a point of contention</p>	56 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000108	Siewert	Mainstream Services	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you. The last one here is: do you have any information or stats on where somebody's health issue, through the failure of mainstream services, is preventing them or has prevented them being able to use their package fully? Have you done a look at that so that we can get an understanding of how effective the mainstream services are in meeting people's needs?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: I do not believe we have direct data on that. It is one of those matters that we have been talking about internally. Under the integrated reporting framework, the scheme actuaries have a responsibility to report on whether or not people are able to access mainstream services and the impact, but we are really just starting to formulate what sort of information we may be able to collect and how we might be able to use it. So it is very early days on that, but it is a real issue.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you do get some answers to that before the next estimates, could you provide them on notice?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes, we will do that.</p>	57 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000109	Siewert	SDA Funding	<p>Ms Rundle: That was in the question on notice that we answered for you.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: That was about committed SDA and supports, I think.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Yes, and you also articulated that that has not been paid yet.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: They have been made now?</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: My understanding is that some of this has been provided.</p> <p>Mr Bowen: In that case, the claims could be made.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could take that on notice, that would be great.</p>	58 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000110	Siewert	SDA Funding	<p>Senator SIEWERT: Going to in-kind issues, you would be aware that my office has been doing quite a lot of work on this issue, but I have a couple of very specific questions. Do you have the number of in-kind properties registered to date?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: I will take that, generally, on notice but I know we have it for those jurisdictions for at least their year 1 entry areas.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: So you have that?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: We have that for year 1. I do not know whether we have it beyond that or for other jurisdictions.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Is it possible to get that in the relatively near future? As you know, this issue is a hot topic of discussion at the moment. So is it possible to get that relatively quickly?</p> <p>Mr Bowen: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: That would be great. Thank you.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I have just been told by our advisers that \$100,000 has been paid to date for SDA.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Thank you for that. That is appreciated—letting me know that. If you could take on notice the issues that we have just been discussing about how many have actually put in their bills and gone through the process. That would help our understanding of where things are up to.</p>	59 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000111	Siewert	SDA Funding	<p>Ms Rundle: I should also reconcile for the record that, before, I talked about \$30.3 million having been committed. I think those two figures will be the difference between in-kind and non-in-kind.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: The 26 and the 30?</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I suspect so. I will check and come back. But I did not want to convey the wrong</p>	59 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000112	Siewert	SDA Funding	<p>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?</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Ms Hand: States give their in-kind as part of their overall contribution to the funding contribution. So there is a huge reconciliation the 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.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Which will be where the \$4 million has come from?</p> <p>Ms Hand: I am not sure of that.</p> <p>Ms Rundle: I could not answer that, either. As I said, what I would do is take that on notice.</p>	59 - 31 May

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000113	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	The Department and NDIA have been advising the committee that aged care fees will be paid by the NDIS, but there were still some administrative arrangements to work out. Given that many young people in aged care are still looking at two, three, four years or more to get on the NDIS and then get out to accommodation, it has very serious financial consequences. Can you provide an update on how this is going?	52 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000114	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	You indicated that as at 31 December 2016, five out of 471 young people in residential aged care were found ineligible for the NDIS. I was just wondering if you can explain what those reasons were for being in residential aged care but not being eligible for the NDIS?	33 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000115	Reynolds	Young People in Residential Aged Care	In the second series of questions under 'aged care', in table 7 there are statistics. I had a look at them and may have taken a simplistic approach to it. Is there somebody here who is familiar with these figures who can explain?	48 - 31 May
NDIA - SQ17-000116	Kakoschke-Moore	NDIS - Condition List	How does a condition come to be listed on the condition list? How often is that list reviewed? If the review is periodic, why is it not reviewed when an issue arises?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000117	Kakoschke-Moore	NDIS -Planners and Complex Case Managers	Are the planners experts in the conditions they work with? If not why not?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000118	Kakoschke-Moore	NDIS -Planners and Complex Case Managers	Are there complex case managers? Can a complex case manager be requested? If so, how is this accomplished?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000119	Kakoschke-Moore	NDIS -Planners and Complex Case Managers	What is the difference between a complex case manager and a planner?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000120	Kakoschke-Moore	NDIS -Planners and Complex Case Managers	Does a complex case manager stay with a family, longer than a planner would?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000122	Kakoschke-Moore	Clients within the Justice System	Can the NDIA confirm that clients within the Justice System are able to receive NDIS packages?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000123	Kakoschke-Moore	Clients within the Justice System	How many clients in the justice system have received NDIS packages?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000124	Kakoschke-Moore	Clients within the Justice System	If a client is on an NDIS package and enters the justice system, does that package continue?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000125	Siewert	In-kind SDA	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?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000126	Siewert	In-kind SDA	Can the NDIA provide some commitment or guarantee about the turnaround time to advise a participant about whether an in-kind vacancy is available or whether they can explore non-in-kind options?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000127	Siewert	In-kind SDA	Will the NDIA write separately to the participant informing them that they have the option of changing accommodation if they wish?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000128	Siewert	In-kind SDA	Will the NDIA record the person's SDA category in their plan, even if they are in an in-kind place?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000129	Siewert	In-kind SDA	How much does the NDIA expect to pay in total for in-kind SDA over the coming years?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000130	Siewert	SDA payments for young people in aged care	Can the NDIA provide figures on the number of young people in aged care who have an Exploring Housing Options Package?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000131	Siewert	SDA payments for young people in aged care	Can the NDIA provide advice on the number of participants who have an Exploring Housing Options Package? Please break this figure down to include the number of young people in aged care with this package.	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000132	Siewert	Local Area Coordinators	Please outline the specific functions the Local Area Coordinators will be undertaking i.e. plan reviews?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000133	Siewert	Local Area Coordinators	Can you please outline what prior local contact is required of Local Area Coordinators?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000134	Siewert	Local Area Coordinators	Are residential aged care providers being awarded Local Area Coordinators, even in circumstances where they have no local contact in disability or mental health?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000135	Watt	NDIA staffing	What has been the cost of consultants from Ernst Young and PWC doing short "Change management" and research projects. How many staff have been engaged for each project, and how long has each engagement been for?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000136	Watt	NDIA staffing	Can the NDIA guarantee that the increase in funding announced in the recent budget, will go to employing APS staff and not to Labour Hire firms or Consultancy firms doing APS work?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000137	Watt	NDIA staffing	Why isn't the NDIA given a higher ASL as they are a new agency expanding exponentially?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000138	McCarthy	NDIS	On 17 March this year the NDIA released the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Engagement Strategy. What beyond releasing the document is being done to ensure it is actually implemented and how will this be reviewed? Will there be an implementation plan? Will there be any engagement directly with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to provide feedback on its implementation and again as a review process? How will the NDIA ensure that the Engagement Strategy is implemented in rural and remote areas and how will this be properly monitored?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000139	McCarthy	NDIS	What is being done to develop culturally appropriate and safe tools and processes for use by the NDIA with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000140	McCarthy	NDIS	I understand that the experiences of the NDIS rollout on Palm Island and in some other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities have shown the importance of working with a community to identify tailored ways in which to support the transition utilising an outreach model. This includes identifying activities appropriate to the community, ensuring appropriate methods for measuring outcomes are employed, appropriately resourcing and acknowledging the importance of family supports as a part of an outreach model. Is this type of model being employed in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and what resourcing, including actual funding, is being directed towards this?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000141	McCarthy	NDIS	Does the NDIA have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers employed to undertake the roles of assessors and planners for the NDIS – noting employing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in roles that directly work with communities are recognised as more effective, appropriate and as best practice?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000142	McCarthy	NDIS	There was a decision made by the NDIA some months ago to not allow people with English as a second language to purchase interpreter services as a part of their NDIS package. This impacts on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Can the Government confirm if this is still the case or has this decision been changed? Who actually made this decision and what consultation was done with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives on whether this was appropriate?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000143	McCarthy	NDIS	What work is the NDIA doing to specifically support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disability workforce in the NDIS setting? That is, not just within the NDIA itself, but the disability workforce who will be required to work with clients of the NDIS.	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000144	Brown	Autism Advisors	What understanding does the NDIA have of the Autism Adviser's services as a component of the Helping Children with Autism program	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000145	Brown	Autism Advisors	What is the NDIA's view on the value of the Autism Advisers service within an NDIS environment?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000146	Brown	Autism Advisors	Has the NDIA considered the value of continuing the Autism Advisers program to support families following a diagnosis?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000147	Brown	Autism Advisors	Has the NDIA proactively discussed the role of the Autism Advisers with the current providers, and/or sought their advice/input in the development of the ECEI?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000148	Brown	Autism Advisors	What measures and/or programmatic response does the NDIA have for providing independent, autism specific information and support to this significant proportion of participants, families and carers?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000149	Brown	Autism Advisors	With Autism comprising 28% of participant plans, what measures have the NDIA taken to ensure the NDIA, its staff and its partners, have the experience and capacity to meet the needs of this complex cohort?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000150	Watt	NDIS eMarket	Is the NDIA aware of any other solutions to this issue that have been developed elsewhere (for example, any privately established eMarket solutions)?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
NDIA - SQ17-000151	Watt	NDIS eMarket	How will these private solutions operate compared to the proposed NDIA managed eMarket?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000152	Watt	NDIS eMarket	Please advise on the current status of work on the NDIS eMarket. How much has been spent, what has been achieved, and when will this be ready for launch?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000153	Watt	NDIS eMarket	What are the estimated full costs of this project and where will this funding be sought?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000154	Watt	NDIS eMarket	What are the key blockages or barriers to this project being delivered?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000155	Watt	Quality and Safeguards - Workforce Screening	What proportion of applicants who have applied to participate in the NDIS on the ground of a psychosocial disability have been determined to be ineligible? Could you please provide this by state and territory.	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000156	Siewert	In-kind SDA	Can the Department provide the number of in-kind properties registered by each jurisdiction, including the dwelling type, and the dwelling accessibility category?	Written
NDIA - SQ17-000157	Siewert	SDA payments for young people in aged care	When a participant gets an Exploring Housing Options Package (EHOP), can you explain how quickly they can work out their housing needs and then get an SDA payment?	Written

QoN No.	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Hansard Ref
SQ17-000289	Farrell	Market Research	<p>For each contract for market research in 2016/2017, can you please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The subject of the market research; • The supplier; • Whether the supplier has been engaged previously and if so, for which contracts; • The total value of the contract; • The term of the contract (time); • The date that the decision was taken to seek market research on the topic; • The date the contract was opened to tender or selection process; • The date the supplier was engaged; • Whether the contract was subject to a tender process, including whether there was a full, partial or closed tender process; • Does the supplier exist on a pre-approved supplier list, if so, when were they added to that list; • Whether the Minister, or the Minister's Office, requested that the research be conducted; • Whether the Minister approved the decision to conduct market research; • Whether the Minister approved the contract with the supplier; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office was consulted on questions asked; • Whether the Minister or the Minister's office received a copy of the market research; • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, was the Minister or their office consulted before the decision was taken to conduct research, if so – in what form did that consultation take (written, verbal other); • If the decision to conduct research was initiated by the department or agency, did Minister or their office make any amendments or changes to the Department's proposal for market research to be conducted, if so, what changes and to what aspects were they made; • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other departments or agencies consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research were other Ministers, or the Prime Minister consulted? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the expected cost change, if so how? • At any stage in the life of the proposal to conduct market research did the scope, questions or supplier of the research change? • Have any topics or questions of market research been conducted and subsequently conducted again by the same or different supplier? 	Written