



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Ms Radcliffe

**Community Affairs Legislation Committee Senate Estimates Hearing,  
22 October 2014: Outcome 3.5**

I am writing to clarify a matter that was raised at the Estimates Hearing of the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee on 22 October 2014.

A series of questions were asked about the funding arrangements between Australian Hearing Services and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) to which I responded.

The issue of Australian Hearing Services providing hearing services "in-kind" to NDIS clients was raised in this context.

To be clear, this means that there is no transfer of money from Australian Hearing Services to the NDIS. Funding is provided through the Australian Government Hearing Services Program (the Program) to Australian Hearing Services for those NDIS clients who are also eligible for the Program. The nominal value of Australian Hearing Services providing that service is reported to the National Disability Insurance Agency so that it can be identified as part of the Commonwealth's funding contribution for the NDIS.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Richard Bartlett'.

Dr Richard Bartlett  
Executive  
Medical Benefits Division

29 October 2014