

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 2

Program 1.3

Question No. 169

Senator Siewert asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:

Disability focused community legal centres

- a) As part of the government funding of the NDIS, will there be any funding for community legal centres and legal aid that assist people with disabilities by providing advice and advocacy support to ensure they get their proper entitlements under the NDIS?
- b) Has the Department been asked to provide an assessment of the impact that the change to disability service delivery under the NDIS would have on disability focused community legal centres? If yes, please provide details of that assessment including who undertook it, who contributed to it and what it recommended. If no, please explain why not.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- a) The parameters and proposed operation of the NDIS are still being determined. It is therefore too early to consider what type of advice and advocacy services may be required by people with disabilities seeking to access the NDIS.
- b) As the parameters and proposed operation of the NDIS are still being determined, the Department has not been asked to provide an assessment of the impact that the NDIS would have on disability focused community legal centres.