

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

**Agency - Comcare**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0589\_13**

**Senator Xenophon provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Implementation of CDDA type scheme**

Can Comcare or the department provide an update on the implementation of a CDDA-type scheme, as recommended by the Commonwealth Ombudsman over two years ago? • When I asked questions in February, I was told the last meeting relating to this had been in November 2011. Have further meetings been held since then? When? • Is there an estimated time by which such a scheme would be established? • Has the Ombudsman been kept informed about the progress of implementing the recommendation?

**Answer**

*Comcare has provided the following response:*

On 24 July 2012 the Hon Bill Shorten MP, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, announced the independent review of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* (SRC Act). The development and incorporation of CDDA type arrangements into the SRC Act were to be considered by the review.

Comcare's submission to the SRC Act review strongly supported amendments to the SRC Act to give Comcare the power to provide financial redress for defective administration. Comcare's submission also supports the review extending any CDDA arrangements to all administrative and legislative activities undertaken by Comcare to bring it in line with the CDDA arrangements applicable to *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* agencies.

The SRC Act review is due to report to the Government in February of 2013.