

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Public Hearing – 02 August 2021
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

National Disability Insurance Agency

Topic: Hearing Witnesses

Question reference number: IQ21-000033

Senator: Jordon Steele-John

Type of Question: Spoken. Hansard Page: 30

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 04 August 2021

Question:

Senator STEELE-JOHN: Thankfully, though, Mr McNaughton, your feelings in relation to the agenda of this committee aren't factored into its decision-making. We requested Mr Hoffman to appear before this committee and he informed us after close of business on Friday that he would not be attending. Again, my question is: where is he today, given the gravity of this legislation?

Mr McNaughton: I'm unsure as to the CEO's actual movements today. I can take that on notice. But, as I said before, if there are any specific questions you have for Mr Hoffman please feel free to ask Ms Neville or myself.

Answer:

The Committee requested in its email to the Agency of 21 July 2021 “The committee is planning to hold a hearing for this inquiry in Canberra on Monday, 2 August 2021, and would like to invite representatives from the National Disability Insurance Agency to give evidence in a panel from 14.30-16.00.”

The Agency genuinely believed it was providing the senior representatives best qualified to address the matter before the Committee.

Mr Hoffman continued working in Sydney lockdown on important Agency work. Mr Hoffman intended no disrespect to the Committee and its important work, and apologises for any concern caused by his absence.