

**Community Affairs References Committee**  
**Planning Options and services for people ageing with a disability**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**8 November 2010**

**Outcome Number 5:** Disability and Carers

**Question No:** 4

**Topic:** Simplified Access

**Hansard Page:** 8/11/10 - CA7

**Senator Boyce** asked:

What has actually happened between the beginning of 2009 and now to simplify access?

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments are working together to simplify access to, and information about, specialist disability services for people with disability as part of the National Disability Agreement.

In November 2009, Community and Disability Services Ministers endorsed the National Service Planning and Access Improvement Framework. The framework outlines the key principles and objectives to guide jurisdictional service planning, and good practice features.

The Commonwealth, along with State and Territory Governments, are investigating how the National Disability Agreement reforms have achieved simplified access, any remaining challenges and further plans to simplify access.

Jurisdictions are in the process of finalising their Implementation Plan for the National Service Planning and Access Improvement Framework and Mid-Term Progress Report. The completed Implementation Plans and Mid-Term Progress Reports are due to be presented to Ministers in December 2010.