

From: SMITH Geoff
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Cc:
Subject: RE: Hansard corrections - Delivery of outcomes under the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 to build inclusive and accessible communities - 1 November Canberra [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Friday, 24 November 2017 9:58:19 AM
Attachments: [\[REDACTED\]](#)

Dear Jeanette,

Please find below the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's responses to three areas of inquiry resulting from the Department's appearance before the Senate committee on Wednesday 1 November 2017. Pages 37-45 of the Hansard transcript as provided on 14 November 2017 (attached) detail the Department's appearance.

(1)

Senator CAROL BROWN: Can you explain to the committee how, in terms of the NDS, your department feeds in information? Is there an interdepartmental committee that's formed to drive the NDS?

Mr James: I'm not an expert on their processes, but there is a committee that we feed information into in the NDS process. We're asked for updates and we provide that information via the Department of Social Services.

Senator CAROL BROWN: What's the name of the committee you provide information to?

Mr Smith: It's not so much a committee, it's directly to the department officers. The NDS division within DSS will request information on how we're going with our work, and we will provide it to them. They include it as a whole package, which, as I recall, went to COAG as part of a report. We feed that public transport information to them, but we continue with our own processes via our own committee.

Mr James: What I'm thinking of, I've realised, is that they've had processes, coordinated by Social Security and its predecessor, for updating the national strategy, and so they've had periodic meetings of officials across the Commonwealth to provide input into that process, but they're best placed to talk about that—.

Ms Cristofani: We have attended those.

Mr James: We have attended those, but not recently.

Mr Smith: No, not recently.

Senator CAROL BROWN: Do you remember when the last one was held?

Mr James: I'd have to check when that was, but it's probably best to check with them.

Senator CAROL BROWN: I'll put it on notice for you as well.

Mr James: Yes, okay. Absolutely.

(pg:37-38)

Department Response

The Department was represented at a National Disability Strategy IDC on 1 December 2015.

(2)

Senator CAROL BROWN: Different languages?

Ms Cristofani: There are certain international signs for disability that are taken into account, but I don't think there's provision for different languages within the standards.

Mr Smith: Possibly some of the state and territory government agencies on their information sites if you are ringing up have different languages available. Depending on the state and the location they might be available.

Mr James: We could come back to you if you wanted some more information on how we deal with languages?

Senator CAROL BROWN: That would be good; thank you.

Mr James: Okay.

(pg:37-38)

Department Response

The Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Transport Standards) prescribe the use of the international symbol for disability however there is no provision in the Transport Standards for different languages.

(3)

Mr James: I mentioned that there was a committee, the National Accessible Public Transport Advisory Committee. It's called NAPTAC. I think we did mention it in the submission. We can send you the membership, if you like.

ACTING CHAIR: Yes, please.

(pg:43)

Department Response

NATIONAL ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NAPTAC)
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (Chair)
Transport for NSW
Public Transport Victoria
QLD Department of Transport and MainRoads
SA Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
Public Transport Authority of WA
Tasmanian Department of StateGrowth
NT Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
Transport Canberra
Australasian Railway Association
Australian Taxi Industry Association
Aviation Access Forum
Bus Industry Confederation
Disabled People's Organisations Australia (2 representatives)
Australian Local Government Association
Attorney-General's Department

Please call my Director Katrina Cristofani [REDACTED] or myself [REDACTED] if you have any questions.

Regards

Geoff Smith

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