

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 347

**Topic:** Interpreters

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Siewert** asked:

The Department of Immigration is providing funding for interpreting services within an aged care context but disabled NESB peoples do not have access to similar services.

1. Has FaHCSIA discussed with DIAC to extend services to people with a disability?
2. Has FaHCSIA explored other methods of providing interpreting services?
3. Has FaHCSIA undertaken any research into how many people need interpreting services?  
Is there a difference in up-take of services and allowances between NESB and non-NESB disabled people?

**Answer:**

People with disability have access to interpreting services through DIAC in the same way as other people, including those from a NESB - through the Telephone Interpreting Services.