

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability Mental Health and Carers Programme

Question No: SQ15-000063

Topic: Disability Grants

Hansard page: Written

Senator McLucas, Jan asked:

In the letter received by disability organisations on 24 December they were informed that the Department wanted to support those organisations during the transition. What support was envisaged? Was any support actually provided to those organisations? Was any support provided for staff redundancies? Was any support provided for organisations to meet company obligations, such as leases or salaries?

Answers:

The Department contacted organisations previously funded, and unsuccessful in the grants round, to discuss any support they needed to assist in transition.

On 23 February 2015, Minister Fifield agreed to provide support to the eight unsuccessful disability organisations by providing a one-off payment for the period 1 March to 30 June 2015 to assist organisations to transition to the new disability peak representative arrangements.

No support was provided specifically for redundancies.

The extended funding is able to be used for operational purposes, such as the payment of staff salaries, and for facility lease arrangements.