

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ16-000133**

**Topic: Sector Development Fund**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Carol Brown** asked:

How many projects have been rejected for funding? What is the success rate of applications? Why are they rejected? Do you give the applicants advice as to how they can improve their application?

**Answer:**

To date the Department has not rejected any applications that have been within the scope of the Sector Development Fund (the Fund). Where a project proposal is received that does not align with the outcomes for the Sector Development Fund, we have provided advice on potential alternative funding sources.

When considering a proposal we also need to consider if it includes functions already being undertaken by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), such as participant readiness activities through Local Area Coordination activities, or are being addressed through existing funded projects such as provider readiness. Where proposals are not sufficiently well-developed to take forward, we work with the organisation to develop a more robust proposal.

In addition, proposals subject to a selection round will be assessed against the selection criteria for that round, for example the current Specialist Disability Accommodation Initiative selection round.