

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 5

**Question No:** 340

**Topic:** NDIS

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Di Natale** asked:

How will your Department ensure that persons from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background with disability are able to access and engage with the National Disability Insurance Scheme?

**Answer:**

Several NDIS engagement mechanisms have been established to ensure the views of stakeholders, including those from CALD backgrounds, are captured and fed into the design process.

Access and engagement for persons from CALD backgrounds will be addressed specifically through a number of strategies.

Engagement mechanisms include:

- The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Advisory Group which has met, and will continue to meet, with CALD representatives in various locations around Australia.
- Expert Group members will actively engage with their networks and the broader community to ensure a wide range of perspectives are considered. This will involve engaging with CALD organisations and individuals.
- The National Disability and Carer Alliance will engage with peaks, their members and people with disability, their families and carers at the grassroots level from right around the country on how the NDIS will work. This engagement will include targeted consultation with people from CALD backgrounds.

Detailed planning is underway to ensure that once the NDIS is operating there will be a range of access strategies in place to meet the needs of people from a CALD background.