

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: 394

Topic: Early Intervention Services for Children with Disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

- (a) Have Autism Advisors and service provider panels been assessed?
- (b) When were they assessed?
- (c) How were they assessed?
- (d) What was the outcome of the assessment?

Answer:

- (a) Yes. The Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) Evaluation considered the Autism Advisors and their role. Autism Associations are responsible for the recruitment of Autism Advisors.
- (b) Assessment of prospective Panel Providers is an open and continuous process. The service provider role was considered in the HCWA Evaluation.
- (c) The HCWA Panel Service Providers must satisfy the following criteria:
 - Deliver eligible evidence-based interventions or therapies;
 - Demonstrate how their service will be delivered through an individual service plan;
 - Demonstrate principles of good practice in early intervention;
 - Demonstrate in detail how their service will demonstrate the elements of effective interventions for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); and
 - Provide details about the qualifications and experience of their practitioners in relation to ASD and working with peoples who are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), Indigenous and with rural, regional and remote communities.
- (d) This will be included in the HCWA Evaluation once released.