Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5 Question No: 290

Topic: Mechanism to monitor gender of NDIS recipients

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

What mechanisms are used to overcome the current significant gender disparity in disability service provision (between 60 and 70 per cent of current service recipients are men according to the AIHW's Survey of Disability, Ageing and Caring)?

Answer:

The National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013 (s24) sets out the access requirements to become a participant of DisabilityCare Australia. These relate to age, residence, disability and early intervention.

The access request for the scheme records gender and this information will be part of reporting to the scheme Board of Management and jurisdictions.

Comprehensive information about access to the scheme has been made available via the website and on request to potential participants. This information explains how the system works, what is required to access the scheme and where potential participants can access opportunities. Extensive community consultations have also been held in all launch sites.