

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015 - 2016 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome: National Disability Insurance Agency

Question No: NDIA SQ15-000130

Topic: Engagement Activity – ATO

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

What engagement has the NDIA had with the Australian Taxation Office, in explaining in detail the supports offered and working through tax implications? Please provide the details of any processes, including dates of meetings where available.

Answer:

To establish the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) worked with officers from the Treasury, the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and the NDIS Joint Taskforce to work through the taxation implications of the NDIS. Consultation concerning taxation was also undertaken with Commonwealth, state and territory departments and agreed with state and territory treasurers.

As a result of this work, the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999* was amended in June 2013 to provide the then Minister for Social Services with the ability to specify which kinds of supports to a participant of the NDIS are exempt from GST.

Further, in 2014 the NDIA consulted with the ATO in relation to the GST status of all items listed in the NDIS Catalogue of Supports. As part of these consultations it was determined that a summary document on the support items would provide sufficient guidance to the community, including suppliers, without the need for continual maintenance of the GST status of individual support items within the Catalogue. The ATO website provides information on GST and the NDIS for the general public.

The NDIA undertakes annual reviews of indirect taxation impacting the NDIA and NDIS. These reviews inform changes to procedural and process supports within the NDIS. From 1 July 2016, the NDIA intends to provide additional support for providers, participants and carers in relation to GST matters.