

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.2 National Disability Insurance Scheme Question No: SQ16-000393

Topic: Disability & Carers Policy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

In 2014, during the Victorian State election and in the 2016 Federal election government service provision in Victoria under the Department of Health and Human Services failed to ensure eligible individuals were engaged and delivered their supports to enable them to participate in electoral processes. What safeguard is the Department going to introduce to ensure delivery of supports including engagement to enable citizens to comply with Commonwealth law?

Answer:

A participant can choose to use the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funded supports to facilitate their participation in voting, and other civic duties.

The Australian Electoral Commission provides direct assistance to those with a disability (within or outside the NDIS) during both enrolment and the voting process, including the ability to register as a postal voter and allowing individuals to nominate a person to assist them with voting at a polling place. The NDIS would not duplicate these supports.