## **Senate Community Affairs Committee**

## ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

## SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2016 – 2017 Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings

**Topic:** Providers

Hansard Page: Written Senator Siewert, asked:

Has the NDIA requested service providers share identifiable information on individuals with them without the consent of the individuals concerned before these individuals have applied for the NDIS?

a) If yes, has the NDIA sought advice as to the interpretation of section 55 of the NDIS Act 2013?

## **Answer:**

The National Disability Insurance Agency (the Agency) has requested that service providers share identifiable information on individuals before these individuals have applied for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This information will help bring people into the NDIS as quickly as possible with minimal disruption to their lives.

In certain circumstances these providers have advised clients of their intention to share information with the Agency.

The Agency is very conscious of privacy concerns associated with the transfer of individualised data. The Agency has sought advice in relation to the interpretation of s55 of the *NDIS Act 2013*.