



Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2018-19
Thursday, 21 February 2019
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Community Affairs Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.01am until 11.01pm.

The committee called the following entities of the Social Services Portfolio:

- National Disability Insurance Agency
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Quality and Safeguards Commission

The committee concluded its consideration of the Social Services Portfolio.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- calls for a Royal Commission into disability abuse and the involvement of the Department of Social Services in providing advice to government;
- projects announced under Tranche 2 of the Try, Test and Learn Fund;
- operation of the National Redress Scheme, particularly: the number of applications made; applications handling processes; and work being done to have institutions who were named in the Royal Commission participate in the scheme;
- evaluation and monitoring of the Cashless Debit Card trial;
- utilisation rates of NDIS participants' plans and initiatives to improve plan utilisation rates for participants from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and indigenous communities;
- issues associated with the operation and design of the National Rental Affordability Scheme;
- correspondence sent by the Department of Human Services and budget savings associated with Online Compliance Intervention processes; and
- income support payments provided to people effected by the recent flooding in Townsville.