



Inquiry into Specialist Disability Accommodation service delivery through Housing ACT

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

Reference: HCSD

Hearing: 11 May 2026

In relation to: SDA funding – implementation

Question received: 16 May 2026

Answer Due: 25 May 2026

Minister, these questions are about the implementation of the SDA scheme.

1. What delivery models for SDA were formally considered (e.g. direct provision, partnerships, separate entity), and can you provide a summary of that analysis?
2. What written advice (legal or from the NDIA) confirms that SDA could not operate alongside public housing eligibility requirements?
3. Why were structural or legislative changes, such as creating a separate SDA entity, **not pursued**, particularly given other jurisdictions have operationalised SDA?
4. Victoria operates as a registered SDA provider and directly manages SDA dwellings, while other jurisdictions successfully deliver SDA through partnerships and market providers, what prevented the ACT Government from adopting either, or both, of these established models?
5. On the evidence available, is the Government's position that SDA delivery was **impossible**, or that it was **possible but not pursued**, and what supports that conclusion?

Thank you.

Ms Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. As this is currently under Cabinet consideration there is no information that can be shared with the Committee at this time.
2. ACT Government representatives have discussed the eligibility requirements and means testing for Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) on multiple occasions with representatives from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA).

The advice has not been provided in writing; however, the *National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013* (Cwth), the *National Disability Insurance Scheme (Specialist Disability Accommodation) Rules 2020* (Cwth) and the *NDIS Practice Standard Supplementary Module: Specialist Disability Accommodation* outline the eligibility requirements for NDIS participants and SDA, as well as standards that apply to providers.

Subsequent legal advice has been sought to support the interpretation and application of these rules to existing public housing assistance programs. This advice is subject to legal professional privilege .

3. Structural or legislative changes have not been made to operationalise SDA as the necessary authorisation as to the role of the ACT Government in the provision of SDA has not yet been sought.
4. The delivery of SDA involves complex policy and funding considerations and requires careful alignment with individual participant needs. Legislative and policy frameworks differ across jurisdictions, meaning models adopted by other jurisdictions may not be directly transferable to the ACT context. Evidence from other jurisdictions demonstrates that SDA provision remains challenging regardless of the approach taken, with many having subsequently reviewed and adjusted their models in response to evolving program settings and market conditions.
5. The ACT Government has not established a position on its role in the provision of SDA.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Administration

Signature:

By the Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs, Ms Yvette Berry MLA

Date:

02/06/26