



The Hon Jane Prentice MP
Assistant Minister for Social Services
and Disability Services
Federal Member for Ryan

MC16-000397

Mr Bob Buckley
Convenor
Autism Asperger's Advocacy Australia
convenor@a4.org.au

Dear Mr Buckley

Thank you for your email of 16 October 2016 to the Minister for Social Services, the Hon Christian Porter MP regarding concerns about National Disability Insurance Agency's (the Agency) Early Childhood Early Intervention Approach (ECEI). Your correspondence was forwarded to me as the Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services as I have portfolio responsibility for this matter.

I understand you also wrote to the Chief Executive Officer of the Agency, Mr David Bowen, on this matter and a response was provided to you on 3 November 2016. A copy of this letter is enclosed.

As stated in the letter, the Agency continues to consult with experts such as the Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism and advocacy groups around the Early Childhood Early Intervention approach.

I understand that the ECEI approach has been developed to support children aged 0-6 years, including children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This approach recognises that children with ASD require different responses and intervention depending on their individual needs. In recognition that one size does not fit all, the ECEI approach enables individualised early intervention supports. This means the type of intervention and how and where it is delivered will differ for each individual within the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jane Prentice'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a horizontal line under the name.

JANE PRENTICE

Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services

9 NOV 2016