



**House of Representatives Committee**

**Inquiry into Dementia – Early Diagnosis and Intervention.**

**Verbal submission by Andrew Larpent OBE, CEO Southern Cross Care (SAS&NT) Inc**

**Terms of Reference**

Australia's population is ageing and over the next 20 years the number of people with dementia is predicted to more than double. Early diagnosis and intervention has been shown to improve the quality of life for people with dementia, as well as for family members and carers.

The Committee will inquire into and report on the dementia early diagnosis and intervention practices in Australia, with a particular focus on how early diagnosis and intervention can:

- improve quality of life and assist people with dementia to remain independent for as long as possible;
- increase opportunities for continued social engagement and community participation for people with dementia;
- help people with dementia and their carers to plan for their futures, including organising financial and legal affairs and preparing for longer-term or more intensive care requirements; and
- how best to deliver awareness and communication on dementia and dementia-related services into the community.

**1. Background.**

**a. AL Experience:**

- i. CEO Somerset Care Group 2001-2011
    - 1. UK National Dementia Design Award 2008
    - 2. UK National Dementia Research Award 2008
  - ii. Chairman UK National Care Forum 2006 – 2011
  - iii. Board Member International Association of Homes and Services for the Ageing 2006 – 2012.
  - iv. Winston Churchill Travel Fellowship 2010-11.
- b. International dimension of dementia – A global challenge**
- c. Scale – The Dementia Tsunami approaches**
- d. The UK experience**
- i. Health and Social Care – Mind the gap
  - ii. National Dementia Strategy 2009
  - iii. Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia 2012

**2. Towards a National Dementia Strategy – Need for a whole system approach.**

- a. Living well with dementia – change the language
- b. Break out from Health departments
- c. Engage business community
- d. Planning
- e. Education
- f. Transport & Infrastructure

- g. Arts and culture
  - h. Sport
  - i. Social Inclusion
  - j. Police and emergency services
  - k. Voluntary groups
  - l. Local government
  - m. Communities
  - n. Health
3. Health Paradigm vs Psychosocial Paradigm.
- a. A disease or a social condition – use of language
  - b. Hospital and medical models are inadequate
  - c. Cultural issues – CALD, NESBs
  - d. Funding and policy gaps
  - e. Challenges in primary health
  - f. Interface with mental health
  - g. Service design - integration – primary co-ordination – Medicare Locals
  - h. 1<sup>st</sup> stop shop – GP or Town Hall?
4. The individual journey
- a. Navigating the system
  - b. Case management
  - c. Support for carers and families
  - d. Disablement within the care system
  - e. Living well – enablement model – personhood - Connected Lives
5. Research and Innovation
- a. International research
  - b. Research into practice – the role of the provider
  - c. SCC Research and Innovation Centre
6. A Dementia Friendly Society
- a. Dementia Friendly Cities
    - i. Urban planning
    - ii. Transport
    - iii. Design of buildings and environments
  - b. Dementia Friendly Communities [www.innovationsindementia.org.uk](http://www.innovationsindementia.org.uk)
    - i. Archie’s Project – Williton [www.somersetcare.co.uk](http://www.somersetcare.co.uk)
    - ii. Goolwa?
  - c. Education and awareness
  - d. Circles of support
    - i. St John Circle of Friends Program
  - e. Day services
  - f. Carer respite
  - g. Dementia Farms

7. Technology

- a. Developer – manufacturer - ..... consumer. Who fills the gap – the service provider

8. The Arts and Creativity in Dementia

- a. Drama – [www.laddertothemoon.co.uk](http://www.laddertothemoon.co.uk)
- b. Ageing Artfully - [www.baringfoundation.org.uk/AgeingArtfully.pdf](http://www.baringfoundation.org.uk/AgeingArtfully.pdf)
- c. Dance – Keep Dancing - BUPA  
<http://www.bupa.co.uk/jahia/webdav/site/bupacouk/shared/Documents/PDFs/care-homes/general/shall-we-dance-report.pdf>
- d. Storytelling. AL's WCMT report. [http://www.wcmt.org.uk/reports/796\\_1.pdf](http://www.wcmt.org.uk/reports/796_1.pdf)

9. The workforce

- a. Doctors
- b. Nurses – Admiral Nurses
- c. Social workers - Navigators
- d. Care workers – specialist dementia care staff
- e. Informal carers
- f. Volunteers

10. The Way Ahead

- a. International study
- b. An holistic national strategy – not led by Health
- c. Partnerships - let the community sector lead the agenda
- d. Innovation support
- e. Whole of Government approach
- f. Whole of society approach

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