

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12-092

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: Accreditation Standards for Residential Aged Care

Type of Question: Hansard Page 4, 30 May 2012

Number of pages:

Senator: Senator Siewert

Question:

What opportunities does the Department see for simplification and harmonisation of quality and accreditation processes across aged care and other accreditation and quality process that are required by the government?

Answer:

The *Living Longer Living Better* aged care reforms announced on 20 April 2012 streamline and enhance the consistency of aged care regulation through changes to the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency (ACSAA). It will be replaced by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (the Quality Agency) from 1 July 2014.

The Quality Agency will assess homes against the residential aged care Accreditation Standards and it will undertake quality assurance of home care services against the Community Care Common Standards, expanding on the current role of ACSAA.

The Quality Agency will give service providers a single agency with which to deal on the quality assurance of residential and home care services that they deliver.