

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-042

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: DEMENTIA INITIATIVE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

I have constituents who are very concerned that this Government is no longer committed to the Dementia Initiative, Can the Department provide information which will repudiate these concerns and especially outline the Government's commitment to this major issue in our ageing community?

Answer:

There is no reduction in the Government's commitment to Dementia.

Funding for Dementia programs and activities that together comprise the Dementia Initiative, will be addressed through a number of avenues and incorporated into a range of funding mechanisms under the Flexible Funds announced in the Government's 2011-12 Budget.

Support will continue under the new Funds created in this year's Budget for people with dementia in aged care homes and in the community and for respite for carers of people with dementia.

Support for Dementia is included in the new Fund structure under the following Funds:

- Aged Care Service Improvement and Healthy Ageing Grants Fund – Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Services; Dementia Training Study Centres; National Dementia Support Program; and the Dementia Community Support Grants.
- Aged Care Workforce Fund – Dementia Care Essentials, Dementia Education and Training for Carers, Dementia Skills Training for people in the community.
- Single Point of Contact for Health Information, Advice and Counselling Fund – National Dementia Helpline currently funded as part of the National Dementia Support Program.
- National Health and Medical Research Council – Dementia Collaborative Research Centres.