

# **PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Department of Health and Aged Care**

**Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

**Inquiry into the Aged Care Bill 2024 (Provisions)**

**03 October 2024**

**PDR Number: IQ24-000115**

**Government consultation of the Aged Care Bill**

**Written**

**Senator:** Marielle Smith

**Question:**

What consultation has the government undertaken to develop the Aged Care Bill.

**Answer:**

Building on the engagement the Department had already undertaken through existing advisory bodies such as the Council of Elders, the National Aged Care Advisory Council and through public webinars, two primary public consultations were undertaken.

Consultation on the foundations or core components of the new rights-based Act ran during August and September 2023 and informed preparation of an exposure draft of the Bill for the new Aged Care Act.

On 14 December 2023, the Department released an exposure draft of the Bill for the new Aged Care Act for public consultation.

Consultations ran for 12 weeks until 8 March 2024.

During the 12-week consultation period, the Department received over 320 submissions, more than 800 surveys, and heard from more than 10,000 people at the webinars, workshops and roundtables.

The Department published the exposure draft consultation feedback report on 30 May 2024 along with written submissions – where the author provided permission to do so.

The extensive and valuable feedback has informed the Bill introduced to parliament.

Major components of the Bill, including the new regulatory framework, Support at Home and consumer contribution arrangements have also been the subject of significant consultation processes in their own right.