

# **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]**

**21 October 2024**

**PDR Number: IQ24-000176**

**Pricing going forward**

**Spoken**

**Hansard page number: 18, 20**

**Senator: Anne Ruston**

## **Question:**

Senator RUSTON: What would be really good—maybe you could take it on notice and provide it as soon as you possibly can. I'd like to know when we're actually going to see the future tranches. You said you were in the process of getting a timeline around when OPC can get you that information back. It would be really good to understand when we will see the transition bill.

Senator RUSTON: You also said you would take on notice the number of closures since the start of the year.

## **Answer:**

### **When will we see the Rules?**

- The Rules are being developed progressively and drafts will be published by the department in stages.
- This will provide clarity about the details that will be covered in the Rules and provide stakeholders with ample opportunity to comment and help shape the detail of the Rules before final versions are tabled in the first half of 2025.
- We are open to feedback about how work on the Rules should be prioritised.
- The service list was published for consultation on 27 September 2024.
- An overview of the Rules for Chapter 4 was published on Friday 11 October 2024 and the draft Rules will be published for consultation in the coming weeks.

**When will we see the Aged (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2024?**

- The department is working with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel to develop the accompanying Consequential and Transitional Provisions Bill.
- This is a more administrative piece of legislation, but is necessary to allow the Aged Care Bill 2024 to commence.
- This Bill will set out the deeming and grandfathering provisions in line with the no worse off principle.
- The Bill is intended to be ready for introduction in November 2024.

**Timing in relation to pricing going forward?**

- Advice on price caps by service type will be provided to the sector following Government consideration of guidance from the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA). This is expected to be made available to the sector before the end of the 2024 calendar year. Detailed prices covering aspects such as loadings for after hours, individual allied health rates, and treatment of sub-contracted services is expected to be available to the sector by March 2025, following government consideration of further IHACPA pricing advice.