

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND AGEING

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 11 October 2012

Chair: Steve Georganas MP Deputy Chair: Steve Irons MP

Dementia hearing in Terrigal

Service providers spanning the government, private and community sectors from across the Central Coast will convene in Terrigal to discuss dementia care and service provision at a public hearing on Friday 12 October 2012. The hearing will form part of the inquiry being conducted by the House of Representatives Health & Ageing Committee examining the diagnosis and early intervention of dementia.

Woy Woy Community Aged Care is one of the service providers taking part in the hearing. Their submission to the inquiry lends support to the assertion by many other inquiry contributors that the a diagnosis of dementia can be difficult to accept for the individuals concerned and their carers. Woy Woy Community Aged Care notes that "earlier diagnosis and intervention will assist the person with dementia and their family/carer to continue their usual involvement in the community and maintain their dignity as strategies and medications can be introduced at an earlier stage."

Committee Chair. Steve Georganas MP said that "smaller communities often lack the resources available in larger metropolitan centres for managing dementia. The hearing in Terrigal will allow the Committee to develop a better understanding of how dementia diagnosis, treatment and care can be better managed to assist persons with dementia and their families."

Time	Witness
08:30am	Specialist Mental Health Services for Older People
09:00am	Sue Mann Nursing and Community Service
09:30am	Neurology Department, Gosford Hospital
10:15am	Woy Woy Community Aged Care
11:00am	Break
11:15am	Health Promotion Central Coast
12:00pm	Community Care Services Central Coast Ltd
12:45pm	Break
1:00pm	Reliance Medical Practice
1:30pm	Dementia Care Services
2:15pm	Close

PROGRAM

Venue: Wamberal Room, Crowne Plaza Terrigal, Pine Tree Lane, Terrigal NSW

The hearing will be webcast live on: www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

For media comment, please contact the Office of Steve Georganas MP on 08 8376 9000. **For all other enquiries**, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/haa</u>.