Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.4 Residential and Flexible Care Question No: SQ15-000249

Topic: Dementia Training and support

Hansard page: Written Question

Senator Polley, Helen asked:

What training and support is currently available in dementia care for residential care providers?

Answer:

Training in dementia care for residential care providers is available through the Dementia Training Study Centres (DTSCs) and the Dementia Care Essentials Programme (DCEs). Support for the sector is also provided through the Dementia Behaviour Management Advisory Services (DBMAS).

The DTSCs provide free training to the aged care workforce to enable them to improve the quality of care and support provided to people living with dementia and their families. The DTSCs target health professionals qualified and/or seeking to be qualified at a tertiary level.

The DCEs provides free education to eligible aged and community care workers providing support for people with dementia. It provides dementia specific units from the Community Services Training Package, at the Certificate III and Certificate IV levels.

The DBMAS provide clinical interventions and support to assist aged care workers, health professionals and family carers improve their care of people with dementia experiencing Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia.