

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.3 Home Care

Question No: SQ15-000201

Topic: Home care changes

Hansard page: Written

Senator Polley, Helen asked:

What contingencies are in place if the sector is not ready to implement changes by 1 July 2015?

What is the latest date this decision can be made?

Answer:

The Department has been working in partnership with home care providers and Aged Care Peaks to transition the 59,000 package places to CDC since the announcement of the aged care changes by the former Government in April 2012. The Department is working with the Sector to support the transition to CDC, through capacity building information and resources such as the Home Care Package Programme Guidelines, the Aged Care Changes Road Show as well as capacity building projects that focus on business realignment, change management, cultural change, reform readiness, professional development and training for the workforce, including CoTA Australia and its *homecares today* project.

The Department is working through its State and Territory Office Network to gauge the readiness of the Home Care Package providers most at risk of not being able to transition to Consumer Directed Care (CDC) on 1 July 2015. Information collected as part of the recent Departmental road show and work being undertaken by the Department's State and Territory Office Network, indicates that the vast majority of home care providers are well progressed in their readiness to implement changes. The Department will continue to provide ongoing support to home care providers to transition to CDC.