

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

Outcome Number: 3.5 Workforce and Quality

Question No: SQ15-000252

Topic: Training

Hansard page: Written Question

Senator Polley, Helen asked:

What progress has been made to ensure Certificates III and IV in Aged Care are consistent and are provided to a high standard and quality?
How has the Department been working with the VET sector and other departments to address ongoing quality issues?

Answer:

In 2014 Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield, Assistant Minister for Social Services, approved funding for the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council to review and revise the vocational education and training package for aged and community care. This will update and improve the quality of those qualifications, including the assessment requirements for each unit. The final endorsement of the training package is required from every State and Territory body before the updated package can be released.

Generally, addressing the quality of training packages is the responsibility of Department of Education and Training. As part of the Stocktake and Analysis of Commonwealth-funded Aged Care Workforce Activities the Department of Social Services liaised with other relevant Commonwealth agencies, including the Department of Education and Training, on issues related to the quality and consistency of VET training for the aged care sector through the Aged Care Workforce Advisory Group that was established to provide advice on this project.