

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000187

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

**Topic:** My Aged Care

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

What are the plans for increasing search options in My Aged Care to look for services based on specialities?

**Answer:**

The service finders are a key feature of the My Aged Care website as they enable consumers to compare service offerings and costs in their preferred location. The Department of Health has made a range of improvements and enhancements to the service finders since the national roll-out in July 2015.

As part of the introduction of Increasing Choice in Home Care reforms, the home care package service finders were significantly enhanced to enable greater functionality. This includes adding search options for special needs groups, specialised services, language, religion and culture.

The Department is currently exploring options to enhance the aged care residential and Commonwealth Home Support Programme finders to similarly facilitate greater search capability for consumers.