

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-366

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: YOUNG PEOPLE IN NURSING HOMES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Siewert asked:

The aged care branch has clearly worked with the health area of DoHA to work on transition care and interim care service models for older people coming out of hospital and making their way to residential aged care or back home - but has there been any attention given in discussion to these kinds of transitional arrangements for younger people facing the same dilemmas?

Answer:

Through the National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services (NPA) the Commonwealth is providing up to \$1.623 billion to the states and territories to deliver 1,316 new subacute care beds and community-based services nationally over the period 2010-11 to 2013-14.

These services will help to improve health outcomes, functional capacity and quality of life for people requiring subacute care services, including younger people with disabilities.

Under the NPA, states and territories determine the delivery and distribution of subacute beds and services according to local need.

The states and territories are required to actively engage with relevant sectors in the development of their Implementation Plans and throughout the agreement period.

Younger people with disabilities are also able to access transition care places provided under the *Aged Care Act 1997*, where there are no more appropriate services available to meet the person's needs. Transition Care places provide a package of services for up to twelve weeks, with the possibility of an extension up to six weeks if needed. The services include low intensity therapy and may include nursing support and personal care.