

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.3 Home Care

Question No: SQ15-000364

Topic: CDC and Consumer Choice

Hansard page: Written

Senator Helen Polley asked:

What is being done to assist smaller providers and those in rural/remote areas with the transition to CDC?

Answer:

To enable home care providers to fully transition their business to CDC, the Department of Social Services is funding a range of capacity building projects that directly deal with issues such as business realignment, change management, cultural change, reform readiness, professional development, and training for the workforce.

COTA Australia and its partners Aged Care Services Australia (ACSA) and Leading Age Services Australia (LASA) have been funded to undertake capacity building projects to support consumers with the introduction of CDC into the Home Care Packages Programme.

COTA's *homecaredtoday* website (<http://www.homecaredtoday.org.au/>) includes resources for smaller providers and those in rural and remote locations transitioning to CDC in the areas of budgeting and finance, goal directed care planning, marketing, and change readiness.

Minister Fifield announced on 24 June 2015 that up to \$20 million will be allocated across more than 500 home care package providers to assist with costs they have incurred in the CDC service model of home care packages.

This one off grant will be based on the number of home care packages a provider has and calculated on the basis of a flat rate of \$274 per place. This will assist smaller providers and those in rural/remote areas with the transition to CDC by recognising the effect this has had on their workforce.

The Department has also recently entered into a contract with Seward Dawson to develop a range of financial support tools to assist providers delivering services to Rural and Remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with their transition to CDC.