

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

**Outcome Number: 3.5 Workforce and Quality**

**Question No: SQ15-000400**

**Topic: Accreditation**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Helen Polley asked:**

Has the department investigated and considered the problems experienced in New Zealand when accreditation was privatised?

What is being done to ensure these problems are not replicated in Australia?

**Answer:**

The Department is aware of New Zealand's system for accreditation of rest homes and the performance audit of that system by New Zealand's Office of the Auditor-General in 2009.

The Department will consider lessons learned by New Zealand, and other relevant countries and industries, in its development of options for establishing a market for accreditation services.

Options will also be co-designed with representatives of the aged care sector through the National Aged Care Alliance.