

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

Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability Mental Health and Carers Programme

Question No: SQ15-000445

Topic: carers

Hansard page: Written

Senator Moore, Claire asked:

What is the aim of the Integrated Carer Plan and:

- a) how will you ensure that it takes into account carers diverse range of circumstances and needs?
- b) who will be on the Integrated Carer Plan's Advisory Group?
- c) what measures were taken to ensure that the Advisory Group could adequately represent the diversity of needs for Carers, including young carers?
- d) how often will the Integrated Carer Plan's Advisory Board meet?

Answer:

The Integrated Plan for Carer Support Services (Plan) will outline the future carer support service model, including the design and transition of services from the current system, to a fully integrated system.

- a) The Department has commissioned research on the information and support needs of carers and it will use this research to inform the development of the Plan. The Carer Gateway Advisory Group will also provide advice on carer needs.
- b) Membership of the Carer Gateway Advisory Group comprises of:
 - Ara Cresswell (Co-Chair) – Carers Australia
 - James Christian (Co-Chair) – Department of Social Services
 - Frank Quinlan – Mental Health Australia
 - Peter Sparrow – South Australian Carer Support Network
 - Damian Griffis – First Peoples Disability Network
 - Lorenzo Fazzini – Co.As.It
 - Rebecca Reynolds – National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Health Alliance
 - Dr Ron Sinclair – Consumer Advocate
 - David Bowen – National Disability Insurance Agency
 - John Rasa – Networking Health Victoria
 - Anthony Honeyman – APIS Group
 - Fiona Buffinton – Department of Social Services
- c) Members of the Carer Gateway Advisory Group come from a range of backgrounds including experts from service providers, peak bodies and individuals with a lived experience as a carer.
- d) It is anticipated the Carer Gateway Advisory Group will meet monthly.