

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000982

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: Commonwealth Home Support Program

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Some organisations have raised concerns about the lack of engagement from government on the planned integration of HCP and CHSP. Now that this has been delayed, will the government commit any funding to provide sector support to assist organisation to prepare for the transition, and for advocacy through this process?

Answer:

The Department has undertaken preliminary consultations on future care at home reform, including policy objectives and reform priorities, over the last nine months. The Department has consulted with peak groups representing consumers, carers and providers, Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) service providers and state and territory governments.

No decisions have been made about the potential integration of home care packages and the CHSP. The Department expects to release a discussion paper on an integrated care at home program in the near future. The Department will work with the sector on implementation of any changes the Government agrees to.