

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-125

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE - COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME

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Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

With respect to the Community Visitors Scheme, could you provide me with an updated list of the projects that have been funded, the evaluation process, and when applications for new projects are open?

Answer:

The Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) was established in 1991-92. Submissions were called from nursing homes to nominate residents who were isolated from regular contact with friends and family and would benefit from a Community Visitor. Submissions were also invited from community based organisations to act as auspices for the CVS, and subsequently nursing homes were allocated to auspice organisations. In 2006-07, an additional 912 places were offered. The additional places were allocated to Aged Care Planning Regions (ACPR) without a CVS organisation, or in those areas where service levels were low. This allocation was based on the number of existing CVS places located in an ACPR relative to the number of operational places. The Department does not conduct regular funding rounds for the CVS.

The Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) funds 157 auspices to provide one on one volunteer visitors to residents of Australian Government subsidised aged care homes. A list of organisations is at [Attachment A](#). The CVS auspices are required as part of their funding agreement to provide key performance indicators such as the number of active visitors and total number of visits each year to the Department.