

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000700

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: Aged Care Roadmap

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Can you tell us what status you attach to the Aged Care Roadmap? Is it Government policy? If not, why not? If not, what is the Government's long term vision for aged care beyond Consumer Directed Care? How much was spent on the Aged Care Roadmap? Can you provide a detailed response to each of the recommendations of the Aged Care Roadmap, or at least a response to how the recommendations fit into existing arrangements? Will the Government provide any funding to implement any of the recommendations of the Aged Care Roadmap?

Answer:

The Aged Care Roadmap is the Aged Care Sector Committee's advice to the Government on future directions for aged care.

The Government is committed to an aged care system that is sustainable, consumer driven and market based. The Aged Care Roadmap provides a basis for policy discussions as the Government and the sector move towards this destination.

\$42,622 (GST inclusive) was spent on development of the Aged Care Roadmap. This covered the costs of the Forum (including facilitator) conducted on 21 August 2015, Roadmap Advisory Group meetings and design costs.

Much of the work currently being undertaken by Government aligns with content in the Aged Care Roadmap. This includes:

- Continued development of the My Aged Care gateway to improve access to information and facilitate better support (*Roadmap domain: How do consumers prepare for and engage with their aged care?*)
- Reform of the Aged Care Funding Instrument (*Roadmap domain: How are eligibility and care needs assessed?*)
- Reviewing consumer support arrangements for dementia care to develop a more streamlined model as well as implementing the commitment for specialist dementia care units (*Roadmap domain: How do we make dementia care core business?*)

- Reforms to the Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR) with the current ACAR removing the allocation of home care places and a state-based allocation approach being tested for residential aged care places (*Roadmap domain: What care is available?*)
- Demand/supply research with a tender initiated to understand the level and type of demand (*Roadmap domain: What care is available?*)
- Work underway on the establishment of a Single Quality Framework (*Roadmap domains: Who provides care?/How will quality be achieved?*)
- A review of the Bond Guarantee Scheme by the Aged Care Financing Authority (*Roadmap domain: Who pays?*)
- Developing and implementing an integrated plan for carer supports (*Roadmap domain: How will the formal and informal workforce be supported?*).

Whether further funding will be provided to implement additional Aged Care Roadmap recommendations is a decision for Government.