

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000705

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: Living Longer Living Better Legislative Review

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

Can you detail the process and timeline for the Living Longer Living Better Legislative Review including when, where and who will be consulted and how the report will be structured? Will the full review be released publicly, and if so, when will it be release? What is the Budget for the review? Will any advertising be undertaken to encourage engagement in the review, and if so what is the budget? The terms of the review, as per the legislation, state that the Minister can specify any other issues to be considered by the review. Has the Minister specified any such issues? will the Minister specify that the Aged Care Funding Instrument or the cost of providing care in residential aged care be included? If not, why not?

Answer:

Timeline

The Aged Care Legislated Review (the Review) commenced on 22 September 2016, following Assistant Minister Wyatt's announcement of the appointment of Mr David Tune to lead the Review. The final report on the Review is to be provided to the Minister by 1 August 2017.

Budget for the Review

The Review has not been set a fixed budget.

Consultation and advertising for the Review

The legislation states that the Review must make provision for public consultation and, in particular, must provide for consultation with:

- approved providers;
- aged care workers;
- Consumers;
- people with special needs;
- carers; and
- representatives of consumers.

On 12 October 2016, a Review webpage was established on the Department of Health's website. The webpage provides updates on the Review, including opportunities for consultation.

On 14 October 2016, a call for submission process opened. The submission process will close at 5.00pm (AEDT) on Sunday 4 December 2016.

On 19 October 2016, a notification email regarding the call for submissions was sent through the Department's Bulk Information Distribution Service. The following types of organisations were notified: home care package service/provider; residential care service/provider; Commonwealth Home Support Programme/Home and Community Care service/provider; flexible care service/provider; peak bodies; Aged Care Assessment Teams/Services (ACAT/ACAS); and GP/other health professional.

On 21 October 2016, a notification regarding Mr Tune's appointment was sent to providers through the Department's 'Information for Aged Care Providers Newsletter'.

On 4 November 2016, a notification email regarding the call for submissions was sent to the Aged and Disability Advocates Australia for dissemination to the Advocacy Network.

On 5 November 2016, a newspaper article appeared in The Australian, Sydney Morning Herald, Herald Sun, Courier Mail, Adelaide Advertiser, West Australian, NT News, Hobart Mercury and the Canberra Times to encourage people to share their views and experiences as part of the Review. This was at a cost of \$19,636.21.

On 18 November 2016, a reminder on the call for submissions will be sent to providers through the Department's 'Information for Aged Care Providers Newsletter'.

Final report for the Review.

The final structure of the Report is yet to be determined.

The Minister must table a copy of the final report in each House of Parliament within 15 sitting days of receiving it.

Other issues for the Review to consider

At this time, the Minister has not specified any other issues for the Review to consider.