

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-224

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: FUNDING FOR CARELINK CENTRES

Hansard Page: CA 44

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Given that the funding for the 54 Commonwealth Carelink Centres runs out in June this year:

- a) Where are you up to in the process to consider refunding?
- b) Have you revisited your position and decided to refund them?
- c) How is that working?

Answer:

a, b and c)

In late November 2010 Minister Butler approved the continuation of currently funded activities under the National Respite for Carers Program and the Carelink Program for a further 12 months (until 30 June 2012). This includes funding for the 54 Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centres (Centres). In December 2010 a letter was sent to the management organisation of each Centre advising them of this decision. In February 2011 representatives from all Centres attended a forum in Canberra at which the extension of funding beyond June 2011 was discussed.