

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 8

**Question No:** 525

**Topic:** Home Care and Support

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Polley** asked:

What progress is being made to ensure a nationally consistent approach to fees? What are the underlying priorities?

**Answer:**

A national fees policy for the Commonwealth Home Support Programme will be introduced when the programme commences on 1 July 2015. The policy will be introduced gradually over the first two years before coming into full effect from July 2017.

The details of the fees policy will be developed in conjunction with the overall design and development of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. This will be done in close consultation with service providers, consumers and carers. The Department of Social Services is working with the National Aged Care Alliance to establish a stakeholder working group to inform the development of the fees policy.