

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programmes Question No: SQ16-000229

Topic: Grants

Hansard page: 24

Senator Carol Brown asked:

In your planning, has it been decided whether the programs will be offered a five-year contract?

Answer:

The Department recognises the benefits of five year grant agreements, where appropriate (that is, one-off grants, or grants for programmes that are subject to review or reform in the near future may not be appropriate for longer term agreements). Longer term agreements allow funded providers to effectively develop and implement strategic methods of service delivery, provide certainty for business continuity, and reduce red tape. They also allow providers to dedicate more of their resources to service delivery; in turn providing valuable support to vulnerable Australians.