

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 3**

**Question No: 403**

**Topic: Aged Care - Home Support**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Polley** asked:

What communication has taken place between the Department and home support providers in relation to transitional funding arrangements?

**Answer:**

The Department of Social Services has recently undertaken a range of communication activities with providers around the development of and transition into, the Commonwealth Home Support Programme.

On 20 May 2014, the Department released the *Key Directions for the Commonwealth Home Support Programme Discussion Paper* (Discussion Paper). All providers were notified via email of the release of the paper. The Discussion Paper has been informed by advice from a number of stakeholders, including the National Aged Care Alliance and its Home Support Programme Advisory Group.

The Discussion Paper was aimed at eliciting feedback from consumers, providers, and workers on the key directions proposed for the programme. Consultation for the Discussion Paper closed on 30 June 2014, after being publicly available over a six-week period on the Department's website at [www.dss.gov.au/chsp](http://www.dss.gov.au/chsp). The website also includes fact sheets, frequently asked questions and a submission template.

The Department also provided stakeholder briefings on the aged care reforms and the Commonwealth Home Support Programme, which concluded on 26 June 2014.

The Commonwealth Home Support Programme enquiry email line ([chsp@dss.gov.au](mailto:chsp@dss.gov.au)) continues to be open for enquiries for any interested stakeholders.