

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

Outcome Number: 8

Question No: 409

Topic: Steering Committee

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Following on from the discussion that occurred in the estimates hearing (pages 58-59 of Thursday's transcript) about the Government's plans to establish a high level Steering Committee to oversee the development and implementation of the five year Healthy Life, Better Ageing Agreement. How is this different from the fully functioning Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing? What is the budget allocation for establishing and running the Steering Committee? How is it being funded? What are the functions, responsibilities and authority of the Committee? What reporting structures will be in place? To whom will it report? How will appointments be made? How will consumers be represented on the Committee?

Answer:

How is this different from the fully functioning Advisory Panel on Positive Ageing?

The Committee will have a focus on red tape reduction and reducing the regulatory burden and costs of compliance for aged care providers, whilst maintaining high standards of care.

What is the budget allocation for establishing and running the Steering Committee and how is it funded?

The Committee will be funded within the current resourcing of the Department of Social Services.

Details on budget, funding, structure, functions, responsibility and authority of the Aged Care Sector Committee are currently being considered by the Government.

What reporting structures will be in place? To whom will it report?

It will report to the Minister for Social Services and the Assistant Minister for Social Services.

How will appointments be made?

Appointments will be determined by Government.

How will consumers be represented on the Committee?

The Committee will represent a broad range of key stakeholders across the sector.