

MINISTER FOR AGEING, MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions from Ms Westwood

- 1. How exactly have you delivered the Stronger Together 2, 3,900 places for decision support services' (advocacy, support coordination etc) for 2011/12 and part of the 3,900 places for 2012/13?**

Answer

As Minister for Disability Services, I made a conscious decision to delay the establishment of Ability Links NSW, which would deliver the places this question refers to. This was based on the unsuccessful tender for Ability Links NSW due to market failure. A range of one off projects were planned and put in place to alleviate immediate demand, align efforts with *Stronger Together 2* objectives and build consumer readiness based on the outcomes of the *Living Life My Way* consultations.

Recurrent funds allocated for decision support places in 2011/12, and part of 2012/13, contribute towards the following one off projects:

- Establishment of a Consumer Development Fund to support consumer readiness for full implementation of client directed supports and individualised budgets, as well as to support effective usage by consumers of a fully established Ability Links NSW program;
- Investing in 750 one off flexible respite packages over two years to support families and carers to maintain their caring arrangements, and investing in emergency response transition units for a further 12 months to cater to the needs of people with disability in crisis;
- Allocating one off funds to the early childhood intervention sector to implement *Stronger Together 2* objectives and support providers to better deliver supports for families with children with disability and their families;
- Providing one off funds to support creating inclusive communities through sport and recreation such as Wheelchair Sports, Rainbow Club inclusive swimming classes, and the Duke of Edinburgh program; and,
- Bringing forward the NGO Large Residential Centres redevelopment program by providing a one off grant for capital, and investing in infrastructure through additional one off capital to non-government providers that will provide contemporary facilities for people with disability.

The NSW Government is committed to delivering all places for decision support services, which includes Ability Links NSW, in a way that will be appropriate and effective for people with disability, their families and carers. This is a total of 20,600 places over the five year life of *Stronger Together 2*, and will be delivered in full by 30 June 2016.

- 2. In regards to the above, how has the \$7.2million for first year and most of \$17.2million for this financial year been delivered? Please provide a breakdown.**

Answer

Of the \$7.2m identified for decision support services in 2011/12:

- \$2.1m was used to support the Ability Links NSW tender, the *Living Life My Way* consultations, and to purchase a range of services including case management and mentoring for people with acquired brain injury, support planning for the Supported Living Fund, information and referral services for people with adult onset disabilities.
- \$5m was allocated to the establishment of the Consumer Development Fund to build the skills and confidence of people with disability, their families and carers to participate in a disability service system based on self directed support and individualised budgets.

In 2012/13 funds will be allocated that support *Stronger Together 2* objectives, provide additional capacity to maintain caring arrangements and support community inclusion for people with a disability, their families and carers.

- 3. Given the government's stated commitment to transparency and accountability - where and how is information about money for decision support services and other Stronger Together money being reported?**

Answer

The NSW Government has previously committed to publicly reporting on the implementation of *Stronger Together 2* on an annual basis. A detailed report on 2011/12 *Stronger Together 2* places and expenditure will be tabled in Parliament.

- 4. The 248 Ability Links coordinators, in the Ministers words will "not only will provide assistance and links for people with a disability but also will ensure that the services are situated within communities to build greater community capacity... coordinators will be moving around in communities to assist organisations across communities to better cater for the needs of people who have disabilities". This is a heavy task, and given it was envisaged Ability Links coordinators will only be paid \$53,000 as opposed to current local area coordinators who are paid around \$80.000, how will Ability Links coordinators, as first cab off the rank for individualised funding, really be able to give people with disabilities the time and deal with the complexities they need?**

Answer

Decisions regarding the salary to be paid to coordinators will rest with the employing organisation once the program is established.

- 5. Given that 1 July 2014 is the start date for the new individualised funding arrangements; when will access points for individualised funding be established and what funding will go towards them?**

Answer

The detailed parameters of the new disability system, including access arrangements, are being developed and will be finalised and announced in 2013. This will be done based on the *Living Life My Way* consultation process conducted in 2011/12.

- 6. The NSW Disability Network Forum argues that it is critical that Independent Advocacy and Information Services are expanded for both individualised funding model and the NDIS. How much money will be committed to these services?**

Answer

Stronger Together 2 includes an additional investment of \$141m in decision support resources to assist people with a disability and their families and carers to be at the centre of decision making about their support options. Ability Links NSW is a key component of the NSW Government's approach to allocating this funding.

Living Life My Way consultations completed in 2011/12 provided extensive feedback from people with a disability, families, carers and other stakeholders on the importance of comprehensive and accessible information about support options and planning assistance to support informed decision making in a self directed disability system. The Government is currently considering options for responding to this feedback, including consideration of the suite of safe guards required in a self-directed system and the role of individual advocacy.

The detailed parameters of the new disability system are being developed and will be finalised and announced in 2013.

7. How much money was spent on the supported living fund for 2011/12? (5 million for 2011/12 and 10 million for 2012-13) How many people has it supported?

Answer

ADHC spent \$638,213 on the Supported Living Fund in 2011/12, supporting 107 clients from 1 June 2012.

8. How much has been spent this year on the supported living fund?

Answer

As at 15 October 2012, \$1.016m has been spent on the Supported Living Fund in 2012/13. There are still some Supported Living Fund funding recipients from the 2011/12 allocation who are finalising their choice of service provider. Once they choose a service provider, funding will be backdated to 1 July 2012.

9. What has happened to the unspent \$5 million for 2011/12?) Please provide a breakdown if necessary).

Answer

The unspent component of the \$5m in 2011/12 from the Supported Living Fund program was re-allocated into other *Stronger Together 2* areas. Refer to Question One from Ms Westwood.

10. The 2010 NSW Inquiry into ADHC Services found that 'people are currently required to reach a point of crisis before supported accommodation becomes available for them". If Stronger Together 2 finishes on 2016 and the NDIS is not set to come in until 2019, what is the Government doing to meet the gap for unmet need for supported accommodation in NSW?

Answer

The NSW Government agrees with the findings of the Productivity Commission's inquiry into Disability Care and Support that the current system of supports is "underfunded, unfair, fragmented and inefficient, and gives people with a disability little choice". NSW through Stronger Together has had bipartisan support to take the NSW disability support system from a state of crisis towards improved basic support.

NSW Person Centred Approach reforms make NSW the leading state in fundamentally changing the system to ensure NSW is 'NDIS ready'. However the system cannot be fixed without a commitment from the Commonwealth Government to fully fund the NDIS as set out in the Productivity Commissions report.

11. How many people applied for supported accommodation in the last financial year?

Answer

311 people were placed on the immediate need register between 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2012.

12. In relation to the above, please provide a breakdown of supported accommodation places funded by ADHC, including for direct ADHC services and non Government services.

Answer

As per the Budget Estimates the number of supported accommodation places in 2011/12 is as outlined in the table below.

Table 1: Supported Accommodation Places 2011/12

	ADHC 24/7	ADHC non 24/7	NGO 24/7	NGO non 24/7
Number of places	1,540	91	3,401	3,319
TOTAL	1,631		6,720	

13. How many people were successfully placed in supported accommodation for 2011/12?

Answer

221 people were placed in 24/7 supported accommodation in 2011/12.

14. For previous question, how many placements have broken down and require transfer?

Answer

Ageing, Disability and Home Care does not have a category to record “placement breakdowns”. Should a “placement breakdown” another appropriate accommodation option is located or the person is placed back on the Register of Requests for Supported Accommodation.

15. How many people are on the Register of Request for Supported Accommodation who have anticipated needs for each head of service provided and or directly funded by ADHC for each of the ADHC regions?

Answer

The number of people on the Future Need register as at 27 September 2012 is provided in the table below.

Table 2: Future Need Register

	Number of People
Hunter	191
Metro North	567
Metro South	163
Northern	299
Southern	103
Western	232
TOTAL	1,555

16. How many people are on the Register of Request for Supported Accommodation who had immediate needs for each head of service provided in each of the ADHC regions?

Answer

The number of people on the Immediate Need register for 24/7 supported accommodation as at 27 September 2012 is provided in the table below.

Table 3: Immediate Need Register

	Number of People
Hunter	186
Metro North	206
Metro South	242
Northern	137
Southern	82
Western	82
TOTAL	935

17. How many people by disability type are on the Register of Request for Supported Accommodation in each ADHC region?

Answer

The number of people on the Immediate Need register as at 27 September 2012 by disability type is provided in the table below.

Table 4: Immediate Need Register by Disability Group

	Hunter	Metro North	Metro South	Northern	Southern	Western
Acquired Brain Injury	27	14	13	12	7	6
Autism	7	8	5	8	8	6
Intellectual	122	158	155	85	64	61
Neurological	4	10	5	8	1	3
Not stated	0	1	2			
Physical	17	7	16	20	2	4
Psychiatric	8	3	35			2
Speech	0	1				
Vision	0	2		2		
Not recorded	1	2	11	2		
TOTAL	186	206	242	137	82	82

18. What is the current level of unmet need for supported accommodation in NSW?

Answer

The NSW Government agrees with the findings of the Productivity Commission's inquiry into Disability Care and Support that the current system of supports is "underfunded, unfair, fragmented and inefficient, and gives people with a disability little choice". NSW through Stronger Together has had bipartisan support to take the NSW disability support system from a state of crisis towards improved basic support.

NSW Person Centred Approach reforms make NSW the leading state in fundamentally changing the system to ensure NSW is 'NDIS ready'. However the system cannot be fixed without a commitment from the Commonwealth Government to fully fund the NDIS as set out in the Productivity Commissions report.

19. How many clients/consumers were placed in supported accommodation services in the last financial year were moved directly from the family home?

Answer

In 2011/12, 87 people moved directly from the family home into supported accommodation.

20. Please provide a breakdown in regions to the question above.

Answer

Region	No. of people moved from family home into supported accommodation
Hunter	11
Metro North	27
Metro South	14
Northern	21
Southern	7
Western	7
TOTAL	87

21. Of the number of people identified above in question 9 and 15, how many are deemed as high priority in each region?

Answer

As at 27 September 2012, 821 of the 935 people on the Immediate Need register were identified as having a high priority. A further breakdown is provided in the table below.

Table 5: Immediate Need Register by Priority

Region	Priority			
	Pending	Low	Medium	High
Hunter	0	11	5	170
Metro North	1	17	14	174
Metro South	1	9	5	227
Northern	0	8	18	111
Southern	0	4	8	70
Western	2	4	7	69
TOTAL	4	53	57	821

22. What is the breakdown by age group of people on the register for each region?

Answer

As at 27 September 2012, the breakdown of people on the Immediate Need register by age group is provided below.

Table 6: Immediate Need Register by Age Group

	Under 18	18-34 years	35-54 years	55+ years
Hunter	2	79	84	21
Metro North	2	115	69	20
Metro South	9	97	114	22
Northern	4	70	53	10
Southern	8	36	29	9
Western	6	36	32	8
TOTAL	31	433	381	90

23. In each of the age groups provided to question 13 above, what is the longest time that a person has been on the Register of Request for Supported Accommodation in each region, also advise what is the date of registration.

Answer

The longest waiting time of a person on the Immediate Need register per age group is provided in the table below.

Table 7: Immediate Need Register by Age Group

Region		Age Group			
		Under 18 years	18-34 years	35-54 years	55+ years
Hunter	Longest wait time	541 days	1111 days	1111 days	1129 days
	Date of registration	5/4/2011	12/9/2009	12/9/2009	25/8/2009
Metro North	Longest wait time	209 days	1111 days	1129 days	1111 days
	Date of registration	2/3/2009	12/9/2009	25/8/2009	12/9/2009
Metro South	Longest wait time	483 days	1130 days	1111 days	1111 days
	Date of registration	2/6/2011	24/8/2009	12/9/2009	12/9/2009
Northern	Longest wait time	94 days	1010 days	1010 days	778 days
	Date of registration	25/6/2012	22/12/2009	22/12/2009	11/8/2010
Southern	Longest wait time	1111 days	1111 days	1111 days	1111 days
	Date of registration	12/9/2009	12/9/2009	12/9/2009	12/9/2009
Western	Longest wait time	1111 days	1111 days	1186 days	1111 days
	Date of registration	12/9/2009	12/9/2009	29/6/2009	12/9/2009

24. How many have been on the Register of Request for Supported Accommodation for longer than six months in each region?

Answer

The total number of people who have been on the Immediate Need register for greater than six months (>180 days) is provided in the table below.

Table 8: Immediate Need by Wait Time > 6 months

	Hunter	Metro North	Metro South	Northern	Southern	Western
No. of clients on the RoRSA for > 6 months	172	170	199	101	73	70

25. For the last financial year how many people who have met the urgent need criteria for supported accommodation are on the waiting list?

Answer

As at 27 September 2012, there were 821 people on the Immediate Need register with a high priority. Refer to table in Question 21.

26. How much money has been provided in the 2012-13 budget to provide for the respite for Ageing Parent Carers program?

Answer

The 2012/13 budget for the Respite for Ageing Parent Carer program is \$16.6m.

27. How many new flexible respite places will be provided for under this program?

Answer

Stronger Together 1 provided for 903 flexible respite places for the ageing parent carer program. Stronger Together 2 will continue to deliver this plus an additional 4,500 new flexible respite places will be rolled out to support carers, including ageing parent carers.

28. How many new Centre based respite places will be provided?

Answer

The 126 centre-based places targeted for older parent carers will continue to be delivered. In addition to the 126 places, ageing parent carers can also access non-targeted centre-based respite places.

29. How many new families will be provided case management through the support coordination program?

Answer

The 19 services across NSW are funded to provide case management support for up to 2,160 families. This includes new referrals and ongoing clients.

30. How many new day program places will be provided in the *Life Choices and Active Ageing* programs?

Answer

Three hundred (300) new Life Choices and Active Ageing day program places will be allocated across New South Wales in 2012/13.

31. How many respite packages were funded and provided to people with disabilities and their carer's in the last financial year, across all regions?

Answer

Approximately 15,400 respite places were provided across the state in 2011/12.

32. How many respite packages are funded for this year across all regions?

Answer

It is planned that a total of approximately 16,266 respite places will be funded across the state in 2012/13.

33. Provide a description, number of packages and breakdown of the different respite packages by each region.

Answer

Respite is provided in a range of settings to meet the individual needs of people with a disability, their families and carers. The following models of respite are currently available:

- Centre-based respite is provided in a home like environment in the community where the person with a disability stays overnight or longer.
- Flexible respite can include a range of options such as respite in a person's own home, with an alternative family carer, and in community settings through camps, holidays and social and recreational activities in the community.

In 2012/13, the estimated breakdown of respite places per region is as follows:

	Metro North	Metro South	Northern	Southern	Hunter	Western	Statewide	TOTAL
Centre-based respite	1,633	2,084	436	439	575	819	20	6,006
Flexible Respite	2,250	2,220	1,677	1,100	1,383	999	631	10,260
Total	3,883	4,304	2,113	1,539	1,958	1,818	651	16,266

34. How many have been provided to date and to how many clients across all regions?

Answer

In 2012/13, approximately 16,266 respite places will be provided across the state to an estimated 12,400 clients. For regional breakdown see table at Q33.

35. How many children with a disability were relinquished by their families to the Department for 2011/12?

Answer

In NSW, it is estimated that there are over 62,000 children and young people with severe or profound disability.

In 2011/12 there were 38 children and young people with a disability who were unable to be cared for by their family and subsequently placed in accommodation provided or funded by ADHC.

In most instances, the family continues to be significantly involved in their child's life.

36. How many adults with a disability were relinquished by their families to the Department for 2011/12?

Answer

In 2011/12 there were 63 adults with a disability who were unable to be cared for by their family and subsequently placed in accommodation provided or funded by ADHC. The age, health or death of a carer often instigated this change in care arrangements.

37. What monies for preventative measures to reduce the rate of families relinquishing care are in the 2012/13 budget? Provide funding by breakdown of programs and places.

Answer

Most programs funded by ADHC are designed to support the person with a disability and their family. This includes the following budgeted for 2012/13:

- Skill Development and Day Programs (\$302.3m, 17,478 places)
- Respite (\$150.8m, 16,266 places)
- Support for Families and Children (\$60m, 11,651 places)
- Therapy and Fixed Term Interventions (\$146.7m, 11,701 places)

38. How many children with disabilities does ADHC provide out-of-home-care for?

Answer

In 2011/12, there was one child/young person with a disability in statutory out-of-home care provided by ADHC.

Children and young people may also access voluntary out-of-home care, mostly through respite services and usually for a short term.

In 2011/12, there were 923 children and young people who accessed voluntary out-of-home care from ADHC provided services.

39. Regarding the previous question, are they the same children referred to in response to budget estimates 2011/12 at question 80? If different, what happened to the previous two children?

Answer

One of the two children referred to in Budget Estimates 2010/11 continued in statutory out-of-home care in 2011/12. The other transitioned to a permanent accommodation place upon turning 18 years and remains in ADHC operated accommodation.

The second child has since turned 18 years of age and also transitioned in the same manner

40. What leaving care plans are in place for these children in out of home care?

Answer

For children and young people residing in ADHC accommodation, planning for leaving care commences when the young person reaches 15 years of age.

The *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* requires that all children and young people who have been in voluntary out-of-home care for 180 days or over have a case plan. These plans document how to achieve long term accommodation and care arrangements that will be in the best interest of the child or young person.

The two young people referred to in question 39 remain supported in their accommodation support placement managed by ADHC. Both had a leaving care plan as part of the Individual Planning process to manage their transition from the care of the Minister for Community Services for when they turned 18. This would have included consideration of ongoing support needs, skill development and formal assistance with finances and decisions related to their lifestyle and health and wellbeing.

41. How many individuals are temporarily occupying a respite bed who would be better suited to permanent accommodation.

Answer

As at 30 September 2012 a total of 11 individuals temporarily occupied respite beds.

42. What plans does the Department have for transitioning these into appropriate supported accommodation?

Answer

All clients have case managers who are currently working with all relevant stakeholders (clients, families/guardians, service providers, etc.) to find appropriate long-term accommodation options.

43. In each region, for each age group, please provide details for longest time spent in respite.

Answer

Currently, four ADHC Regions have individuals occupying temporarily unavailable respite beds.

Region	Longest time spent in respite		
	<i>Child</i>	<i>Young person</i>	<i>Adult</i>
Metro North		58 days	1536 days
Metro South	2195 days *		
Northern			73 days
Western	157 days		220 days

* Complex Health Care Unit

44. For the previous question, are the individuals the same as those referred to in the response to at question 83 in the previous budget estimates?

Answer

Two of the above individuals are the same as those referred to in response to question 83 in the previous Budget Estimates.

45. What is the budget for the recent Fair Work Australia pay equity decisions for ADHC workers?

Answer

ADHC workers are not the subject of the Fair Work Australia pay equity decision.

46. What is the budget for the emergency response program in 2012-13?

Answer

This is a transitional program to meet the needs of people who require interim support or are in crisis when their current living arrangements are not sustainable.

The program provides immediate support responses while longer term options are identified. It does so from within operational budgets within each region on an as needs basis, and is not a separately budgeted amount.

The non-recurrent allocation is anticipated at approximately \$31m for the 2012-13 financial year. These funds are an estimate based on the previous financial years expenditure.

47. How much new money has been allocated to the above program in 2012-13?

Answer

Refer to answer for question 46

48. How many new places were supported through the ERP in 2011-12?

Answer

Emergency Response operates in response to people's need and does not have 'places' as indicated by the wording of Question 49.

49. Given there are no set number of places in the ERP, how many clients were supported through emergency circumstances in 2011/12?

Answer

There were 353 clients requiring support via the Emergency Response program in 2011-12.

50. How many people have been in any way reliant on this funding through either accommodation/support (which includes residing in a facility) for over six months in the 2011-12 financial year?

Answer

Of those clients entering this interim program in 2011-12 there were 124 people who were receiving accommodation support for over six months.

6months – 2yrs	84
2-5yrs	37
5-8yrs	1
8-10yrs	1
10yrs	1

In light of this Ageing, Disability and Home Care has instituted a program that aims to provide sustainable options for people with disability rather than be reliant on this crisis driven program.

51. How many people have used the ERP program funding to be living in alternative family placements and accommodation in the 2011-12 financial year?

Answer

As at 30 June 2012, 190 people accessed the Emergency Response program .

52. What is the longest time for someone to utilise the ERP for alternative family placement and accommodation for 2011/12 and was it the same client referred to in q93 response to budget estimates?

Answer

One client accessed the Emergency Response program for 1,096 days.
The client in Q93 of the 2010/11 budget estimates return is not the same client as the client in the answer to Q52 of the 2011/12 return.

53. Young people with disability continue to be referred to the aged care sector and nursing homes to have their housing and support needs met. This has long been identified as inappropriate and harmful. How many people were referred to aged care disability providers or nursing homes to have their housing and support needs met in 2012/13? Provide a breakdown for each region and by age.

Answer

Responsibility for aged care facilities falls under the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. Ageing, Disability and Home Care does not have records of younger people being referred to aged care facilities.

54. What actions will be taken to ensure that social workers are not forced to have to refer people under 50 to aged care residences because of the lack of other options available?

Answer

Applications can be made to the Young People in Residential Aged Care program or Ageing, Disability and Home Care's Intake, Referral and Information services in each region to identify supports available for people with disability.

55. As of 30 June 2012, how many people with disabilities under the age of 50 currently reside in nursing homes in NSW?

Answer

Information provided by the Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) shows that as at:

- June 2012, there were 242 people under 50 years of age living in aged care facilities in NSW;
- June 2011, there were 266 people under 50 years of age living in aged care facilities in NSW
- June 2010, there were 290 people under 50 years of age living in aged care facilities in NSW

56. What planning is the government doing to appropriately address their current needs?

Answer

In October 2011, Disability Services Ministers committed to continue the effort to improve outcomes for the Young People in Residential Aged Care target group.

Ministers previously discussed that good outcomes for this target group cannot be delivered solely by specialist disability services. A broader approach and focus on systemic improvements, with linkages to non specialist services has been incorporated into the program's management

57. For 2011-12 how many of these people under 50 had been moved out of residential aged care and into accommodation which is more appropriate and suitable to their needs?

Answer

In 2011-12, 68 people were moved out of aged care and into supported accommodation.

58. What extra funding has the NSW Government in addition to ongoing federal Government funding, provided this year to transition these individuals to more appropriate accommodation?

Answer

NSW has jointly funded the Young People in Residential Aged Care Program with the Australian Government. The NSW and Australian Governments have each provided a total of \$40.6m over the last five years.

Funding of over \$25.3m per annum (\$12.6m from each Government) has now been absorbed into the National Disability Agreement funding base and will continue to be used to support younger people with a disability in, or at risk of entering residential aged care.

59. Over this 2012-13 budget and forward estimates what is the Government's commitment to increase both the range and number of supported housing options so there is appropriate accommodation provided for young people with moderate to high clinical needs?

Answer

Under *Stronger Together 2* an extra 1,750 supported accommodation places will be delivered comprising:

- 550 young people leaving care
- 200 people in contact with the criminal justice system
- 700 people in need of accommodation support
- 300 places in the Supported Living fund.

All of these programs will provide an increased range of options for young people with moderate to high clinical needs and the most appropriate choice would be made on a case by case basis.

60. How many Aboriginal people with a disability have been taken out of aged care residences and placed into more appropriate care under the NSW Younger People in Residential Aged Care Program from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

Answer

There were no Aboriginal people with a disability relocated from aged care under the Young People in Residential Aged Care program from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

61. What recurrent funding has the Government allocated in 2012-2013 to continue implementing the Boarding House Reform Program? In particular, what funding is allocated to support people with disabilities with high needs to move into appropriate long-term accommodation and support options?

Answer

Total program allocation is \$71.2m in 2012/13. \$66.6m is allocated to community-based accommodation support services for approximately 665 former Licensed Residential Centre residents with high support needs and \$4.6m is allocated for the provision of services to residents of Licensed Residential Centres.

62. The NDIS aims to deliver greater choice and control for people with disability in the supports and services they purchase and receive. How does the Government envisage the leadership role of people with disability in the roll out, implementation and monitoring of the NDIS?

Answer

The Government is committed to ensuring that key features of NSW reforms under *Stronger Together 2* reflect the disability system features sought by the many people with disability, families, carers and service providers who participated in the *Living Life My Way* consultations.

Because people with disability, families, carers have had the opportunity to express their aspirations through the Living Life My Way consultations, NSW is in a position to provide leadership in any eventual roll out of an NDIS, both at a government and a community level.

The New South Wales Government always has and always will be committed to the implementation of the NDIS, in accordance with the recommendations of the Productivity Commission.

The Federal Government is yet to commit a single dollar for the national rollout; they've simply announced money for the trials.

The Commonwealth's contribution of \$1 billion over four years is a quarter of what was recommended by the Productivity Commission. Whilst the Commonwealth will spend this \$1 billion, over the same period, the New South Wales Government will in fact be investing \$8 billion into disability care and support for the people of this state.

Whilst negotiations on full scheme NDIS design, funding and governance are yet to be finalised prior to the commencement of the NSW Hunter NDIS launch site, NSW supports people with disability having choice and control of all elements of the NDIS.

63. How does the Government see the NSW Disability Advocacy sector assisting in the quality framework and complaints handling for the NDIS in NSW? Will this sector be specifically involved in the Hunter NDIS test site?

Answer

The detailed quality assurance, monitoring and complaints handling arrangements for the NDIS launch site in NSW will be subject to COAG's deliberations on NDIS overall scheme design, funding and governance. Please see the responses to Questions 62 and 64.

64. How are people with disability in NSW being supported to be ‘NDIS ready’?

Answer

While intensive planning is underway for the launch of the NDIS in the Hunter, the Government will continue to implement the *Stronger Together 2* reform program to ensure that people with disability are positioned to move seamlessly to a NDIS.

Living Life My Way consultation feedback highlighted the need for additional investment in building the capacity of people with a disability and their families and carers to make the transition to a reformed disability system. A total of \$5m has been allocated to a Consumer Development Fund to support capacity building activities and initiatives, including strategies for reaching Aboriginal and culturally and linguistically diverse communities. A strategic framework for allocating this funding is currently under development.

65. What funds are available in the budget for the closure of and transition from large residential centres?

Answer

Stronger Together 1 allocated \$30m in capital funding for the redevelopment of the Riverside Centre.

Stronger Together 2 allocates \$255m in capital and recurrent funding for new and additional accommodation for all residents currently living in ADHC and non-government operated large residential centres. This includes \$160.4m for the redevelopment of ADHC operated Westmead and Rydalmere Centres to be expended over the next three years.

In June 2012, one-off grants valued at \$10.6m were distributed to four non-government organisations, to enable them to start the redevelopment of their large residential centres.

The new accommodation will include new group homes and specialist accommodation for people who require high support for complex ageing, behaviour or health-related issues.

66. How many large residential centres remain and where are they located?

Answer

The remaining ADHC operated large residential centres are located in Morisset, Shoal Bay, Stockton, Westmead, Rydalmere and Orange.

The remaining NGO operated large residential centres are located in Ryde, Llandilo, Cherrybrook, Box Hill, Lidcombe, Freeman's Reach, Allambie Heights, Orchard Hills, Dural, Taree, Kincumber, Maitland and Griffith.

67. How many people currently reside in large residential centres? Please provide a breakdown.

Answer

As at 30 June 2012, there were 853 people living in six ADHC operated large residential centres, while 14 non-government organisations provided 360 supported accommodation places.

ADHC operated:

Centre	Number of People
Kanangra	73
Stockton	379
Tomaree	43
Westmead	152
Rydalmere	159
Riverside	47

NGO operated:

Centre	Number of People
Cherrywood Village	33
Crowle	36
Dundaloo	25
Inala Main Home	25
Kincumber Lodge	29
MS Study Centre	15
Mai-Wel Lodge	11
McCall Gardens	54
New Haven Farm	26
Ningana	4
Sunnyfield	42
Thorndale	20
Venee Burgess	35
Warrah	5

68. How is the Government reporting on progress against the plan to close large residential centres?

Answer

Project Control Groups for each redevelopment meet regularly to plan and manage the closure of each centre. The Project Control Groups report regularly to the ADHC Executive, and in turn, the Minister's office.

Additionally, progress reports will also be communicated via the *Stronger Together 2* Annual report. In previous years progress was reported through the Ageing, Disability and Home Care Annual Report.

69. Is the government operating a 'no new admissions' policy to large residential centres?

Answer

Yes

70. Please provide a breakdown of services provided under the HACCC program funded by the NSW Government by disability and age.

Answer

From 1 July 2012 the Commonwealth assumed full operational responsibility for Home and Community Care services for people aged 65 years and older and Aboriginal people aged 50 years and over (older people) in NSW. NSW has retained responsibility for the provision of basic community care services for younger people.

Community care supports are provided for younger people with a moderate, severe or profound disability that require basic maintenance and support to remain living in their own homes, and their carers.

In 2011/12 NSW provided community care supports to 49,851 people across NSW.

Total NSW Government funding for community care supports for 2012/2013 is \$228.9M, including the following services:

- Allied Health
- Assessment
- Case Management
- Centre-Based Day Care
- Counselling, Support, Information and Advocacy
- Domestic Assistance
- Goods and Equipment
- Home Maintenance
- Home Modifications
- Linen Service
- Meals
- Nursing
- Other Food Services
- Personal Care
- Programs Support
- Respite
- Social Support
- Transport

71. How many are provided by the Department and how many by NGO service providers. Provide a breakdown.

Answer

In 2012/13 Ageing, Disability and Home Care [ADHC] will fund \$103,207,657 to 542 Non Government Organisation [NGO] service providers across NSW for community care services. ADHC also funds the Ministry of Health and Local Health Districts, the Home Care Service of NSW and Transport for NSW \$102,213,146 to provide community care services.

- Ministry of Health - \$0.07m
- Local Health Districts - \$20.96m
- Home Care Service of NSW - \$72,76m
- Transport for NSW - \$8,42m

72. Under the Home and Community Care Capital Strategy how many dementia day centres were completed by December 2012?

Answer

Fourteen of the sixteen dementia day care centres being established will be completed by December 2012.

73. What analysis/modelling have you or ADHC undertaken looking towards the future on workforce retention and demand.

Answer

ADHC is undertaking internal analysis and modelling in light of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), person centre approaches (PCA) and the future need of the sector already underway through *Stronger Together 2* reforms. ADHC is focused and committed to attracting workers to the sector and to manage demand for services.

74. What advice have you received from your Department on these workforce challenges?

Answer

As Minister, I am updated from time to time, as analysis and planning develops.

75. At the start of 2012 Ageing Disability and Home Care made the decision to cancel the tender they had run to provide an individual advocacy support service to the residents of Metro Residences (Rydalmere and Marsden). Given the announcement that these centres will be closing it seems extraordinary not to fund independent individual advocacy for residents at this time, many of whom do not have close family relationships or formal guardianship in place.

Answer

There is only one person living at Metro Residences currently has no family involvement or a Guardian. An application has been made to the Guardianship Tribunal to have a Guardian appointed for this person. Ageing, Disability and Home Care works with an individual's family or guardian to ensure appropriate supports are planned for the future.

A family consultation team of five members was appointed in ADHC to work with the residents and their families as decisions are made about future accommodation. The team has worked closely with staff at Metro Residences and families and guardians as appropriate.

76. Will the Minister be reinstating the advocacy support that was for many years provided to residents by the Western Sydney Intellectual Disability Support Group?

Answer

There will be no reinstatement of an individual advocacy service specifically for the people living at Metro Residences.

Ageing Disability and Home Care will work with families and guardians to ensure individuals receive the support they need in the future.

If any resident or their family require assistance from an advocate, a referral will be made to other ADHC funded advocacy services within the community.

77. If the tender is not reinstated where will the money for that advocacy service be spent?

Answer

Funds have been allocated to Independent Living Centre NSW on an interim basis.

78. The Minister recently confirmed that people with disability are experiencing sexual assaults and other forms of abuse in state run and funded supported accommodation facilities. What concrete steps is the Government taking to increase the safety of people with disability in the support services they're providing?

Answer

Each incident of assault or abuse of people with disability is to be abhorred and every step taken to prevent such abuse occurring. Regrettably, it is likely that no system will be entirely successful at preventing all abuse.

Based on advice received to date, I do not believe that assaults and abuse of people with disability are endemic, widespread or systematic. Nevertheless, media reports from other states are a reminder that we need to be vigilant to prevent such incidents and to investigate any such allegations. They are also an opportunity to check that systems in NSW are appropriate, rather than to deny or on the contrary to sensationalise such issues.

Following the media reports on abuse and neglect in other states, as NSW Minister for Disability Services I requested an immediate review of the adequacy of screening procedures and procedures to investigate allegations of sexual and physical abuse of people with disability in NSW, and that the NSW Ombudsman is to be consulted during the review process. This review is currently in train, and a final report will be provided in December 2012.

In recognition of the significant reforms through *Stronger Together 2*, and the launch of a National Disability Insurance Scheme, ADHC is currently developing comprehensive approaches to establish systems that will respond to allegations of abuse and neglect of people with disability in an individualised and person centred disability system.

79. Does the Minister support a national ‘vulnerable adults’ protection system that outlines action for administrative and legislative reform to increase the protection of people with disability from violence, abuse and neglect? Is this something he will work on with his peers through COAG?

As Minister for Disability Services, I would welcome discussion of any proposal that increased the protection for people with disability from violence, abuse and neglect.

The Ministerial Council of COAG that is working towards the National Disability Insurance Scheme is the appropriate starting point for a national discussion of this issue.

80. Will the Government publically release all investigative reports relating to issues of violence, abuse and neglect of people with disability in all Government, non-government and licensed disability services?

Answer

Public release of all such reports is not appropriate. The impact on victims, their recovery and their privacy mean that such a blanket policy is not appropriate.

81. Does the Government have a commitment to increased training and support of disability service staff on preventing and responding to abuse and neglect?

Yes.

82. The Australian Civil Society Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is a damning indictment on the human rights of people with disability across the country and in NSW. What steps is the NSW Government taking to address the recommendation contained within the report? Will this report be used to inform the NSW Implementation Plan of the NDS?

Answer

The NSW Government agrees with the findings of the Productivity Commission's inquiry into Disability Care and Support that the current system of supports is "underfunded, unfair, fragmented and inefficient, and gives people with a disability little choice". NSW through Stronger Together has had bipartisan support to take the NSW disability support system from a state of crisis towards improved basic support.

The NSW Government is already leading the way to address the rights of the persons with disability by fundamentally changing the NSW system through its Person Centred Approach (PCA) reforms, these reforms are ahead of the NDIS rollout and ensure that NSW is 'NDIS ready'. The Government is committed to ensuring that key features of NSW reforms under Stronger Together 2 reflect the disability system features sought by the many people with disability, families, carers and service providers who participated in the Living Life My Way consultations.

The Productivity Commission's report proposing an NDIS, includes recommendations that Governments should give people with disability various options for exercising choice.

Because people with disability, families, carers have had the opportunity to express their aspirations through the Living Life My Way consultations, NSW is in a position to provide leadership in any eventual roll out of an NDIS, both at a government and a community level.

The New South Wales Government always has and always will be committed to the implementation of the NDIS in accordance with the recommendations of the Productivity Commission. However the system cannot be fully fixed without a commitment from the Commonwealth Government to fully fund the NDIS as set out in the Productivity Commissions report.

83. What resources and strategies will be put in place to ensure the NSW Implementation Plan of the National Disability Strategy delivers cross government (including local government) CRPD coordination and compliance?

Answer

The National Disability Strategy (NDS) will help ensure that the principles underpinning the CRPD are incorporated into policies and programs affecting people with disability, their families and carers. It will contribute to Australia's reporting responsibilities under the Convention.

A plan to implement the NDS in NSW is being finalised in partnership with a committee with representation from all NSW government departments and the NSW Disability Council. The Division of Local Government in the Department of Premier and Cabinet is also represented on the committee.

This NSW plan will support the CRPD, but is not a compliance plan.

Departments are identifying resources to meet the commitments in the draft NSW plan.

84. What is the NSW Government doing towards educating people with disability about their rights and entitlements under the CRPD?

Answer

ADHC released the following two fact sheets in June 2011 which provide information to ADHC's disability workers on human rights in disability services and the CRPD:

- *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;*
- *Human rights and people with a disability.*

Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) has also been working in partnership with the sector to update the *Standards in action* manual. Standard 1, entitled *Rights*, requires that funded service providers are aware of the CRPD and apply the guiding principles of fairness and human rights in all aspects of service delivery. It contains two practice requirements which each have a list of elements that service providers are to implement to comply with the standard:

- Practice Requirement 1: Each person is aware of their rights and can expect to have them respected.
- Practice Requirement 2: Service providers are to uphold and promote the legal and human rights of each person.

85. How much has been spent on consultants for the person centred approaches to date?

Answer

Nil has been spent on consultants as per the definition of a consultant in the [Premier's Circular No. 04-17](#) (*Guidelines for the Engagement and Use of Consultants*).

86. How was the \$4m referred to in question 149 in the previous estimates questions on notice spent for 2011/12, and through whom?

Answer

The funds of \$4m, as part of the \$7.2m in 2011/12 were used to support the Ability Links NSW tender, case management for people with acquired brain injury, support planning for the Supported Living Fund and the Consumer Development Fund as outlined in Q2.

87. To which NGO's was this allocation directed?

Answer

- The Brain Injury Association of NSW Inc – case management for people with acquired brain injury;
- Uniting Church in Australia (NSW) – Supported Living Fund support planner; and
- Council for Intellectual Disability – Consumer Development Fund

88. For 2011-12 what expenditure allocations were made on the operational costs of running Summer Hill Group Homes, Wadalba Group Homes, Norton Road Specialist Living Centre and Casuarina Grove in terms of staffing costs for general support staff and specialist nursing staff, administration overheads and overheads?

Answer

In 2011/12, the expenditure allocations were:

- Summer Hill group homes - \$8,517,728;
- Wadalba group homes- \$2,386,082;
- Norton Road Specialist Living Centre - \$10,426,544; and
- Casuarina Grove - \$12,069,417.

89. For those suffering MS, are the same five people on the waiting list referred to in estimates question 155?

Answer

The September 2011 Register of Requests for Supported Accommodation identified six people with Multiple Sclerosis. Of these six three remain on the Register of Requests for Supported Accommodation as at September 2012.

90. Are there additional people on the waiting list now? If so how many?

Answer

As at September 2012, an additional five people with Multiple Sclerosis have been added to the Immediate Need register giving an overall total of eight people on the Immediate Need register with Multiple Sclerosis.

91. What programs that were funded in 2011-12 have ceased in this financial year and why?

Answer

None .

92. Which programs and services were funded in 2011-12 are continuing?

Answer

All three programs (Short Term Interventions, Community Support & Supported Accommodation) within Ageing, Disability & Home Care were funded in 2011-12 and are continuing.

93. How much money has been allocated to these services and programs?

Answer

The following table provides a summary of the recurrent budget funding provided to the Ageing, Disability and Home Care division's programs in 2011-12.

	Recurrent Budget 2011/12			
	\$' 000			
	Community Support	Short Term Interventions	Supported Accommodation	Total
Budget Paper No. 3	1,222,317	386,053	1,192,637	2,801,007

94. Of the above programs and services above, how much new money has been allocated on top of the 2011-12 budget in the 2011-12 budget.

Answer

The growth in funding from 2010-11 to 2011-12 for Ageing, Disability and Home Care division is provided in the following table.

	\$' 000			
	Community Support	Short Term Interventions	Supported Accommodation	Total
Budget Paper No. 3 2010/11	1,019,345	331,919	1,116,752	2,468,016
Budget Paper No. 3 2011/12	1,222,317	386,053	1,192,637	2,801,007
Growth in Funding	202,972	54,134	75,885	332,991

The growth in funding includes *Stronger Together 2* indexation, Transitional funding for the National Partnership Agreement on Transitioning Responsibilities for Aged Care and Disability Services and Transfer of NSW Health HACC funding.

95. For the closures or amalgamations proposed for any ADHC offices referred to in question 161 of last years estimates questions on notice, have any occurred. Please specify in each of the regions, and when this occurred?

Answer

No.

96. Are any more closures or amalgamations proposed for any ADHC for the next financial year?

Answer

ADHC sites nominated for closure over the next 12 months are:

Locality	Address	ADHC Region	Estimated date	Proposed Co-location
Sydney	323 Castlereagh St	Central	Early 2013	ADHC - CBD
Taree	2/14 Albert St	Northern	Mid 2013	Community Services
Kempsey	Verge St	Northern	Mid 2013	Community Services
Port Macquarie	Gordon St	Northern	Late 2013	Community Services
Tumut	81 Capper St	Southern	Early 2013	Community Services
Walgett	40 Wareena St	Western	Mid 2013	FACS Access Centre
Nyngan	66B Cobar St	Western	Mid 2013	FACS Access Centre
Yass	81 Comur St	Southern	Mid 2013	Community Services
Bourke	18 Mitchell St	Western	Mid 2013	Community Services
Epping	242 Beecroft Rd	Metro North	Early 2013	ADHC - Parramatta

These closures are dependant upon securing alternative leases or undertaking capital works within other existing FACS offices in order to affect co-location.

97. Are there any staff cuts proposed in Sydney Metropolitan or regional areas?

Answer

As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

98. How does the Minster plan to achieve productivity savings or efficiencies in this next financial year?

Answer

- Efficiency savings are allocated at the Family and Community Services (FACS) Cluster level, and include efficiency dividend, labour cost expense cap, procurement savings, ICT savings and program prioritisation savings. The total efficiencies required across all parts of the Cluster for 2012-13 is approximately \$1.381 million. ADHC will contribute to the achievement of these efficiency targets.

99. What efficiency savings are required by ADHC by 2012-13.

Answer

Refer to QON 98

100. How many blackberries are assigned to your staff?

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

101. For each phone, how much was each bill in the 2011/12 financial year?

The total expenditure on mobile phones by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is set out in the table below. Please note that this expenditure may include mobile phone purchase costs as the financial system does not separate the purchase costs and mobile usage charges.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier's Office	\$103,152	\$76,457	\$68,475	\$27,570
Ministers' Offices	\$475,539	\$358,396	\$120,285	\$169,655
TOTAL	\$578,691	\$434,854	\$188,761	\$197,226

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

102. How many have phones have been lost in your office?

For Premier’s office and Ministers’ offices, the number of phones lost was:

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	5
Total	6

103. What is the cost of replacing those phones?

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

104. How many iPads does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

For Premier's office and Ministers' offices the number of iPads issued was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	10
Ministers	43
Total	53

105. How many iPads have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

iPads are supplied by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and have not been purchased by Ministers' offices.

106. How many iPhones does DPC assign to your Ministerial office and to whom have they been issued?

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

107. How many iPhones have you purchased for your office and to whom have they been issued?

In 2011/12, 179 phones were assigned to the Premier's and Ministers' offices.

108. How many iPhones have been lost in your office?

For Premier’s office and Ministers’ offices, the number of phones lost was:

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	5
Total	6

109. How many iPads have been lost in your office?

For Premier’s office and Ministers’ offices, the number of iPads lost or stolen was as follows.

	2011/12
Premier	1
Ministers	0
Total	1

110. What is the cost of replacing those phones or iPads?

The cost is the normal contract price and this cost is claimed through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund.

111. How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies?

Ageing, Disability and Home Care has 1.5 EFT positions to promote agency achievements and respond to media enquiries

112. What is the forecast for 2012-13 for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed and their total cost?

The total cost of the 1.5 EFT positions referred to in question 111 is \$164,514 plus on-costs

113. Have any of your overseas trips in the past year been paid for in part or in full by using public money?

Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the relevant Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

114. If so, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?

Information regarding Ministerial travel is available on the relevant Minister's appropriate agency website, in accordance with Ministerial Memorandum M2009-10 "Release of Overseas Travel Information".

115. What is the annual remuneration package for your chief of staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers

116. What is the annual remuneration package for your head media advisor?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

117. What is the annual remuneration package for each of your staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at

http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

118. What is the estimated expenditure for your office budget in 2012-13?

The total budget allocation for the Premier's and Ministers' offices in 2012-13 is \$40,103,650, with \$5,744,883 allocated to the Premier's office and \$34,358,767 to the Ministers' offices.

119. Have any office renovations or fit outs been undertaken in your ministerial office since April, 2011?

Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report.

120. If so, could you give details of contracted costs?

Information on the assets balances for leasehold improvements are available in the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report.

121. What is your Ministerial office budget for 2012/13?

The budget allocations for the Premier's office and Ministers' offices are as follows.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Premier	\$7,002,312	\$8,500,000	\$9,075,038	\$5,309,465	\$5,744,83
Ministers	\$39,673,567	\$40,334,000	\$40,978,962	\$31,516,017	\$34,358,767
TOTAL	\$46,675,879	\$48,834,000	\$50,054,000	\$36,825,482	\$40,103,605

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

122. How many political advisors are in your office?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

123. How many administration staff?

Ministerial staff numbers and salary bands are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website at http://www.dpc.nsw.gov.au/about/publications/premiers_and_ministers_staff_numbers.

124. How many Department Liaison Officers are assigned to your office?

Answer

3 equivalent full time ADHC Officers are currently assigned as Departmental Liaison officers in the office of Minister Constance.

Three officers are part time, one full time

125. How many staff in the Department are assigned to Ministerial support duties?

Answer

The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) is consolidating its Ministerial and Executive Support Unit to ensure timely, high quality and accurate advice is provided to portfolio Ministers and also support the Executive to deliver on the Government's priorities.

Around 22 staff undertake allocation, coordination and review, and record keeping functions for all Ministerial matters across FACS to ensure advice provided to Ministers incorporates the perspectives of all relevant Divisions, is accurate, reliable and of a high standard, and that records of decisions are retained in accordance with Government Recordkeeping requirements.

126. Are any contractors or consultants working in your ministerial office?

No

127. If so, in what capacities?

See previous question

128. How much did your Ministerial office spend on contractors or consultants?

Financial statements, including expenditure on consultants, are available in agency annual reports.

129. How much did your Ministerial office spend on taxi fares, including Cab charge in the 2011/12 financial year?

Taxi expenditure by the Premier's office and Ministers' offices as represented in the Department's financial system is represented in the table below.

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Premier	\$26,418	\$32,525	\$27,600	\$15,485
Ministers	\$133,697	\$143,251	\$32,678	\$80,609
TOTAL	\$160,155	\$175,776	\$60,277	\$96,094

Note. 2010-11 figures are a combination of 9 months of Keneally Government and 3 months of O'Farrell Government.

130. Are any of your portfolio agencies undergoing a restructure?

Answer

Yes:

- Home Care Referral and Assessment Centre (RAC); and
- Ability Links NSW – Local Support Coordinators

131. How many jobs are expected to be cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer

- Home Care Regional Assessment Centre (RAC) – estimated 11 positions; and
- Ability Links NSW (Local Support Coordinators in ADHC Regions) – estimated 31 positions by 30 June 2014

132. How many people are expected to have their wages cut as a result of that restructure?

Answer

- Home Care Regional Assessment Centre (RAC) – Nil; and
- Ability Links NSW (Local Support Coordinators in ADHC Regions – Nil

133. How many voluntary redundancies were offered in your Departments since April 2011?

Answer

As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

134. How many voluntary redundancies were accepted from employees in your Departments since April 2011?

Answer

In Ageing, Disability and Home Care there were 45 voluntary redundancies accepted since 1 April 2011.

135. How many voluntary redundancies are expected to be offered in 2012/13?

Answer

As outlined in the 2012/13 budget, the Government's 2011-12 program of voluntary redundancies remains on track to reach its target of 5,000 positions.

A labour expense cap has also been introduced as a new savings measure across the public sector with the target of a 1.2 per cent per annum reduction in labour costs growth.

Directors General will be given as much flexibility as possible to achieve the savings in the most appropriate way to meet the service requirements of their agencies. If it was solely achieved through headcount this would equate to up to 10,000 jobs over four years.

Nurses, police officers and teachers in schools have been quarantined from this measure.

136. How much did your Department(s) spend on catering in 2011/12?

Answer

The Department of Family and Community Services, including Ageing, Disability and Home Care, spend on catering was \$808,000.

137. How much did your Department(s) spend on stationary in 2011/12?

Answer

The Department of Family and Community Services, including Ageing, Disability and Home spend on stationary was \$3.474 million.

138. What is your Department's catering budget?

Answer

The Department of Family and Community Services catering budget is \$798,000.

139. What is your Department's stationary budget?

Answer

The Department of Family and Community Services stationary budget is \$3.347 million.

140. Since April 2011 have any of the agencies in your Department(s) changed their branding?

Answer

As of 3 April 2011 our name changed to Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Family and Community Services.

The Ageing, Disability and Home Care logo was updated to reflect this change and comply with the NSW Government Branding Style Guide.

141. If so, how much was spent on rebranding the agency?

Answer

No specific expenditure was allocated to the rebranding. Rebranding occurred through natural business as usual processes when re-ordering depleted stationery, resources or materials.

Changes were cost neutral.

142. How long is the average turnaround for responding to correspondence in your Department(s)?

Answer

The Department of Premier and Cabinet recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

143. How many pieces of correspondence have been outstanding for more than 60 days?

Answer

The Department of Premier and Cabinet recommended time frame for completing responses to correspondence from Ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the public is 20 working days from the Department's receipt of the correspondence.

However, it is not always possible to comply with this time frame for any number of reasons including: the nature and complexity of the matter; stakeholder consultation; or further information required from other Departments and sources.

144. In 2011/12 how many invoices has your Department(s) failed to pay a supplier or contractor for more than 30 days?

Answer

As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

145. As a result of late payment, how much penalty interest has been paid to contractors since 1 January 2011?

Answer

As the Premier stated in Parliament on 23 August 2012, the 30 day bill payment policy formally commenced on 1 January 2012. The first quarterly performance report is currently being finalised for release. In the first quarter almost 92 per cent of invoices were paid within 30 days, consistent with our policy and initiative. 31 small businesses have already been eligible to receive automatic interest charges on overdue accounts.

146. How many invoices have been outstanding for longer than 60 days?

Answer

For Ageing, Disability and Home Care division, of the 94,245 payments to suppliers or contractors in 2011/12, 517 were more than 60 days after the end of the month in which the invoice was raised.

For the Home Care Service of NSW, of the 24,309 payments to suppliers in 2011/12, 172 were more than 60 days after the end of the month in which the invoice was raised.

147. Given your department provide recurrent grant funds to non-government organisations

a) What are the names of all organisations in receipt of funding?

Answer

Please refer to the attached list for the names of all non-government organisations funded by ADHC in 2011/2012. The list includes local councils that also deliver services using the Funding Agreement for NGOs.

148. What is the total amount of funding received by each organisation including goods and services tax?

Answer

Please refer to the list attached at Q147 for total funding received by each organisation. GST is excluded because all grants funding is quoted in the Funding Agreement as GST exclusive.

149. On what date was the funding advanced?

Answer

Recurrent base funding is paid in advance of each financial quarter. Payments are also made on a weekly basis for funding adjustments and when contract documents are signed and returned by organisations.

ADHC made 6755 payments to funded organisations through out 2011/2012.

150. What was the purpose for each grant or funding advance?

Answer

Please refer to the list attached at Q147 for a breakdown of funding by programs which describes the purpose of the funds.

151. Was any funding withheld or returned?

Answer

Funding is returned (recovered) under annual financial acquittals arrangements or returned directly if the organisation is unable to deliver the agreed services. Funding can also be withheld if organisations no longer meet the pre conditions for receipt of Government funds or are in default of their funding agreement with the Department.

152. If so, what were the reasons for withholding or requiring the funding to be returned?

Answer

Funding is withheld or returned in order to recover unexpended funding from organisations. Unexpended funding arises because an organisation is not able to fully spend their funding to deliver the service. An example of unexpended funding is where staff costs are temporarily reduced because a client exits the service and the vacancy created is not immediately filled.

It should be noted that in some situations unexpended funding is not recovered by ADHC. Approval can be given for organisations to retain unexpended funding if they can demonstrate how the funds will be used to deliver the services that they have been contracted to provide. The rules for how ADHC manages the recovery or retention of unexpended funds are set out in the Acquittals Guide.

153. What is the indexation rate applied to non recurrent grant funds in 2011/2012?

Answer

Non recurrent funding is based on costs at a point in time and is not indexed.

Indexation is provided to supplement recurrent funding to meet cost increases including wages and the consumer price index movements.

154. What was the indexation rate applied to recurrent grant funds in 2011/12?

Answer

The indexation rate applied to recurrent grant funds in 2011/12 was 2.55%.

155. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

156. How many contractors has your Department(s) retained since 1 July 2012 and at what cost?

Answer

There are 51 contractors as at 1 July 2012 with an average hourly rate of approximately \$54.00 per hour.

157. What is the current level of Aboriginal employment within your Department(s)?

Answer

2009, 2010 and 2011 data can be found as published in the annual Workforce Profile Snapshot Reports. 2012 data is due to be released when the State of the Public Sector Report is released in late 2012. These reports can be found on the PSC website: <http://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/pscinternet/information.page>.

Additionally, NSW Treasury Circular 11/03 prescribes the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Disclosure Requirements, requiring that NSW public sector agencies include EEO data in their annual reports.

158. How has that changed since 1 July 2011?

Answer

Refer to QON 157

159. Since 1 July 2011, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your Department(s)?

Answer

Nil for Ageing, Disability and Home Care division and Home Care Service of NSW.

- 160. In relation to feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews:**
a) Is your department currently undertaking any feasibility studies, audits, taskforces or reviews? If so; then;

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

161. What are the terms of reference or details of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

162. Who is conducting the study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

163. Was each study, audit, taskforce or review was publically advertised seeking expression of interest or competitive tenders?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

164. Is there a contract in place detailing terms of engagement for the study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

165. What is the timeline of each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

166. What are the details of any costs involved in each study, audit, taskforce or review?

Answer

As with previous NSW Governments, the Government undertakes feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews to inform government decision making. A number of feasibility studies, audits, taskforces and reviews are currently being undertaken across the NSW Government.

167. Has the Minister been provided with Speech, Voice or Media Training since becoming Minister?

If so, then;

- a. Who conducted the training?**
- b. When was it conducted?**
- c. Where was it conducted what were the costs of the training?**
- d. Who paid for the training?**

No

Questions from Ms Barham

1. What funding has been allocated for legal services and advocacy for older people in NSW, especially in regional and rural areas in recognition of the findings of the 2004 Law and Justice Foundation Report Access to Justice and Legal Needs: The Legal Needs of Older People in NSW?

a. What level of elder abuse was recorded in 2011/2012 by category?

Answer

The Law and Justice Foundation report identified a need to increase the number of people completing end of life planning documents.

Office for Ageing, Department of Family and Community Services (FACS), in conjunction with NSW Trustee and Guardian (TAG), is developing a planning for later life public awareness campaign designed to increase awareness of the importance of completing end of life planning documents such as wills, powers of attorney, guardianships and advance care directives before capacity is lost.

The campaign will use the Planning Ahead Tools website currently managed by TAG as the central information 'referral' point. FACS has committed \$500,000 to this initiative.

Furthermore, a NSW Helpline and Resource Unit will be established in early 2013 to help address the abuse of older people. It will be a specialist referral and information service providing support and resources to older people, service providers, and government and non-government agencies. The service will support a number functions including:

- operating a toll free telephone service to provide information, referral and practical support across NSW;
 - providing community awareness and education to service providers and frontline workers;
 - developing local and regional networks such as health, community care and legal services to enhance rural and regional based strategies and initiatives; and
 - supporting the implementation and distribution of a revised Interagency Protocol as a framework for addressing the abuse of older people in NSW.
- a. FACS does not currently collect data regarding elder abuse. A study by Monash University in 2010 estimated the incidence of elder abuse affects 0.5 to 5 percent of people 65 and over. Other Australian studies suggest 3 to 7 percent of people over the age of 65 will experience abuse from someone with whom they have a relationship of trust, with financial abuse identified as the fastest growing type of abuse.

Elder abuse occurs in many forms such as financial, psychological, physical,sexual and neglect. An older person may experience more than one type of abuse. Rates of physical and sexual abuse are small and tend to decrease in older age.

The establishment of a NSW Helpline and Resource Unit in early 2013 will provide a specialist state-wide service and over time will collect relevant statistical and demographic data to gain a better understanding of the degree of abuse on older people in NSW.

- 2. Is it correct that the Ageing Grants Program is currently being reformed in line with the NSW Ageing Strategy?**
- a. How will this reform affect funding to support services to assist older people?**
 - b. What will this ultimately mean for this program?**

Answer

Yes. NSW Ageing Strategy is to be funded within existing resources across Government and also from the Ageing Grants Program within FACS. An implementation plan outlining commitments under the Ageing Strategy is currently being developed.

3. How many Life Choices and Active Ageing day program places have been allocated for 2011/12, how many were available in 2010/11?

Answer

A total of three hundred and sixty one (361) new Life Choices (LC) and Active Ageing (AA) day program places were allocated across NSW in 2011/12. This is in addition to the seven hundred and fifteen (715) LC/AA places available in 2010/11.

- 4. Has the 'Ageing in Place: Impacts of Ageing on the Accommodation Service System' research report that was due for completion last December been completed? And if so, is it publicly available?**

Answer

The 'Ageing in Place' report has been completed. It is anticipated that it will be publicly released in November 2012.

5. What funds are allocated to dementia programs for 2011/12?

Answer

Ageing, Disability and Home Care allocated \$3.4m in new funding through the Home and Community Care Program to dementia related service provision in 2011/2012 and \$1.4m in non-recurrent funds was allocated to dementia specific projects supporting the priorities of the *NSW Dementia Services Framework 2010-2015*.

6. What funds have been allocated for the pilot program offering person centred packages for people with younger onset dementia?

Answer

Ageing, Disability and Home Care allocated \$1m in recurrent funds through the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program to the pilot program offering person centred packages for people with younger onset dementia.

7. What funds have been allocated to Aboriginal dementia care? And how many clients will this assist in what areas and what are the support services being offered?

Answer

Ageing, Disability and Home Care allocated \$330,000 in non-recurrent funds to the Koori Dementia Care Project. This project was funded in 2010/2011 to operate for three years. The project involves working with six Aboriginal communities (Kempsey, La Perouse, Tharawal, Nambucca, Coffs Harbour and Western Sydney). The focus of the project is on achieving meaningful and sustainable advances in community dementia awareness and on developing local dementia care skills.

An amount of \$365,000 in non-recurrent funds was also allocated to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statewide Project Officer project. This project was funded in 2010/2011 to operate for three years. The project aims to facilitate engagement and collaboration with local Aboriginal communities across NSW to develop community appropriate initiatives for dementia awareness and for increasing uptake of dementia and mainstream support services.

In 2011, Ageing, Disability and Home Care launched the new Aboriginal specific dementia resource *Look after your brain: A guide to dementia for Aboriginal people*. These projects are not aimed specifically at clients, but aim to raise awareness about dementia and build sector capacity for developing and providing Aboriginal dementia services.

In 2011/2012, Ageing, Disability and Home Care allocated \$3.4m in new funding through the Home and Community Care Program to dementia related service provision. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are one of five special needs groups of the Home and Community Care Program recognising that Aboriginal people face greater challenges in receiving adequate, appropriate and accessible services.

8. Does the Government monitor Local Governments delivery of access facilities for the aged? Does the Government provide support or funding to assist councils in the preparation or delivery of Ageing policy and or strategies?

Answer

The NSW Division of Local Government is responsible for local government across NSW.

One of the initiatives within the NSW Ageing Strategy is the Age-Friendly Community Local Government Grants Scheme. This Scheme aims to support planning and responses to population ageing in the Local Government Sector.

The Local Government Grants Scheme is being coordinated by the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW, with support from FACS and the Division of Local Government.

A total of \$550,000 has been made available. Grants are one-off allocations of up to \$25,000 for individual councils, or up to \$60,000 for projects by two or more councils. Grant applications close on 16 November 2012 and successful councils will have until 30 June 2014 to complete their projects.

- 9. As one in six people in Australia have a hearing loss in Australia, Does the Government monitor or provide support for the delivery of public venue provision of Assistive listening devices or other appliances to support people with a hearing loss.**

Answer

The Government does not monitor the delivery of public venue provision of Assistive listening devices or other appliances to support people with a hearing loss.

Questions from Ms Barham

1. What funds are available in the 2012/13 Budget to deliver YPIRAC services and specifically for:
 - a. New residential accommodation
 - b. supported accommodation
 - c. home modification
 - d. in home services
 - e. maintenance

Answer

- a. For 2012/13, the Young People in Residential Aged Care program budget allocated \$17.7m for recurrently funded supported accommodation (inclusive of group home type accommodation and individual accommodation support packages).
- b. see answer to (a) above.
- c. \$720,000 was allocated in 2008/09 for the provision of home modifications to the Young People in Residential Aged Care program client group. To date, home modification services have been provided to 20 people, with costs ranging from \$500 to \$113,000 per referral.
- d. see answer to (a) above. Young People in Residential Aged Care program accommodation offers a range of support services based on client need.
- e. There is no separate allocation for maintenance.

2. Where will new YPIRAC accommodation facilities be constructed?

Answer

New facilities have already been built and are operational in the Sydney suburbs of Smithfield, Kentlyn, and Claymore.

Facilities have also been constructed in Mullumbimby, Armidale, Albion Park, Kemblawarra, Wagga Wagga, Cowra and Fingal Bay.

Facilities scheduled to be operational imminently are in Mount Hutton, Springfield and Bomaderry.

Facilities still to be constructed will be in the Metro North region, Guildford, and Caringbah.

3. What is the total funding for YPIRAC for 2012/13 in NSW and what is provided by the Commonwealth to continue the YPIRAC program and what is the State contribution?

Answer

Funding of over \$25.3m per annum (\$12.6m from each Government – Australian and NSW) has now been rolled into the National Disability Agreement funding base and will continue to be used to support younger people with a disability in, or at risk of entering residential aged care.

4. How many young people with disabilities were assisted or are to be assisted in the program to move out of residential aged care into alternative accommodation in the current financial year?

Answer

As at June 2012, 58 people have been moved out of aged care into Young People in Residential Aged Care program supported accommodation, and a further 10 people have been supported to move out of aged care into other accommodation not funded by YPIRAC.

An additional 45 people are planned to move out of aged care into alternative accommodation.

- 5. According to an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report, as at June 2011, 2297 people with disabilities under the age of 65 continued to live in residential aged care facilities in NSW – 287 of those under the age of 50, what is being done to assist these people, to either, find alternative accommodation or be provided with further support?**

Answer

Funding of over \$25.3m per annum (\$12.6m from each Government – Australian and NSW) has now been rolled into the National Disability Agreement funding base and will continue to be used to support younger people with a disability in, or at risk of entering residential aged care.

6. How many people are currently on the needs register waiting for services under the YPIRAC program? When are they likely to receive assistance? What supports are being offered to them whilst they wait?

Answer

There are currently 66 people within the Young People in Residential Aged Care program who have expressed an interest in moving to supported accommodation should a suitable vacancy arise.

It is not possible to advise when these vacancies will arise. Whilst they await consideration for vacancies they are managed by a Young People in Residential Aged Care program support planner who coordinates services to meet their needs for equipment, specialist supports including physiotherapy, community access and one-off funding requests.

7. According to the program guidelines, the National Evaluation and Performance Reporting Framework provides the basis for overall reporting and evaluation of the NSW YPIRAC program to the Australian Government. This reporting includes a commitment to annual reporting against agreed milestones, a mid-term evaluation and final evaluation. What are the milestones? Have they been reached? How does NSW compare with the other states?

Answer

In mid 2009, a mid-term review of the National Young People in Residential Aged Care Program commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) recommended that the Young People in Residential Aged Care Program be evaluated on a jurisdictional basis.

In March 2010, Health Outcomes International (HOI), a specialist consultancy, was engaged to undertake the evaluation of the NSW Program.

The primary focus of the NSW evaluation was to determine, via collection of qualitative data, the impact of the NSW YPIRAC Program on the lives of program participants and identify barriers to, and facilitators of, program success.

The evaluation also aimed to identify recommendations to inform future program objectives, directions and alignment, should there be a commitment to expand the Program.

The evaluation was generally very positive about the program and the effect it had on program participants, though it did state that demand for services exceeded what the program can supply.

The evaluation report was published in March 2011 and has since been made available to the public on the Ageing, Disability and Home Care website.

NSW is aware of two other evaluations completed by South Australia (SA) and Victoria.

The SA evaluation, dated May 2012, focused on clients' individual experience, their satisfaction with accommodation and support and the impact of the program on their quality of life. It did not attempt to examine the overall program's performance. Similarly the Victorian evaluation, dated June 2012, focused on quality of life outcomes for program participants. As such a direct comparison with other states cannot be made.

Milestones set out for the YPIRAC program were targets included in the Bilateral Agreement at the outset of the program. The program has exceeded these targets in all program objectives as outlined in the table below:

YPIRAC achievements against Bilateral targets

Program Objectives (PO)	2010-11 target	Program activity by PO as at June 2012
1. Move younger people with disability currently accommodated in residential aged care into appropriate supported disability accommodation where it can be made available and if this is what clients choose.	(109 – 143)	122
2. Divert future admission of younger people with disability who are at risk of admission to residential aged care into more appropriate forms of accommodation; and	(47 – 60)	119
3. Enhance the delivery of Specialist Disability Services to those younger people with disability from whom residential aged care remains the only available suitable supported accommodation option.	(65 – 100)	1093
TOTAL	(221 – 303)	1334

As the bilateral agreement has ended, states no longer report on these targets.

8. According to ADHC there are currently over 400 people on a needs register waiting for an Attendant Care Package. What actions are taken to assist those on the waiting list receive personal care services?

Answer

All applicants of the Attendant Care Program (ACP) and High Needs Pool (HNP) are provided with written information on other possible service options at the time of application. These include Home and Community Care (HACC) services, and services available through the Home Care Service of NSW and Commonwealth Carelink.

Applicants are also encouraged to contact the Attendant Care Physical and Disability Unit (ACPDU) by telephone at any time to discuss their application. ACPDU staff provide verbal advice on other possible service options that may be available to applicants.

- 9. What funds are available for Attendant Care Package places and services in NSW ? and**
- a. how many people are on the waiting list**
 - b. what is the time frame for service delivery**
 - c. what actions are taken to support those on the waiting list receive personal care services**
 - d. does this delay slow the rate of discharge from hospitals and rehabilitation centres**
 - e. if so, is the Government committing increased funds to this program**

Answer

A total of 868 Attendant Care Program places were available in 2011/12 with total funding of \$66.6m. These places were broken down into:

- 812 base places at a cost of \$63.1m; and
- 56 new ST2 places at a cost of \$3.5m.

- a. As at 30 June 2012, there were 429 applicants on the Service Need Register who were below 65 years of age.
- b. When vacancies arise, applicants with the highest priority are referred for assessment of their personal care and support needs. The assessment report is generally received by the ACPDU between four and six weeks after the initial assessment notification letter is sent to the applicant.

A decision regarding program suitability and allocation is made as quickly as possible although delays can occur when there are issues that need to be followed up. These issues may include queries about the recommended services, concerns about eligibility, concerns about viability in the community and OH&S risks. Once a client is approved for the Attendant Care Program, they have a ten week timeframe in which to select a service provider and commence services.

- c. All applicants of the Attendant Care Program (ACP) and High Needs Pool (HNP) are provided with written information on other possible service options for personal care at the time of application. These include Home and Community Care (HACC) services, and services available through the Home Care Service of NSW and Commonwealth Carelink.

Applicants are also encouraged to contact the Attendant Care Physical and Disability Unit (ACPDU) by telephone at any time to discuss their application. ACPDU staff provide verbal advice on other possible service options that may be available to applicants.

- d. Applicants who are in-patients in hospitals or rehabilitation centres are given high priority for services. Discharge planners and social workers assisting applicants while they are in hospital and are responsible for coordinating access to appropriate supports on discharge.

ADHC provides advice to these officers on pathways to access available ADHC services and provides key referral points such as Commonwealth Carelink, ADHC Regional Offices and possible Home and Community Care (HACC) services. A number of service options other than those funded by ADHC may be available to those applicants being discharged from hospital settings. The most common include ComPacks, TRANSPAC and Community Health funded support services.

- e. The NSW Government has committed to an additional 300 Attendant Care Program places at a cost of \$58.1m under *Stronger Together 2*.

10. With the High Needs Pool and Attendant Care services both offering clients with severe physical disabilities intensive in-home personal care services can it be explained why those who use High Needs Pool are required to make a client contribution to the services they receive, whilst those in the Attendant Care Program have no such obligation?

Answer

The Attendant Care Program (ACP) ACP is funded under the National Disability Agreement (NDA) and delivered by a panel of approved providers. The High Needs Pool (HNP) is jointly funded by the NSW Government (through the Community Care Supports Program for younger people) and the Australian Government (through the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program for service provision to older people). The HNP is delivered solely by the Home Care Service of NSW (HCS).

It is the right of any service provider, including ACP service providers, to consider client contribution. The HCS charges a contribution for services delivered under the HACC Program, including the HNP.

In 2007, the HCS introduced a statewide standard contribution charge. This is to ensure equity in the charging of contributions and consistency with the fee principles in the national program guidelines for the HACC Program.

Clients of the HCS, including those receiving services under the HNP, can apply for a review of the standard contribution.

The level of contribution is not intended to recover the full cost of service; rather, clients pay a standard contribution towards the cost of the service. The HCS does not deny services to people who are unable to afford to pay for services.

- 11. When applying for the Attendant Care Program or High Needs Pool, there is a single application form, so how does ADHC determine which of the two services a client is to receive? And**
- a. Is the client made aware of the differences between the two services? And that one has a fee attached to it (HNP) and the other does not (ACP)?**

Answer

Program allocation is determined after the completion of an independent assessment of an applicant's essential personal care and support needs.

In determining program allocation, ADHC considers:

- the preference of the applicant, where possible;
- the suitability of one program over another in relation to the total hours of care required, the type and length of services required, the need for specialist disability support and the presence of an existing service relationship with Home Care; and
- the budget capacity of each program at the time of approval.

Applicants approved for support under the HNP are provided with information about the standard contribution charged for service provision by the HCS as well as information on the process for requesting a fee review.

It is the right of any service provider, including ACP service providers, to consider charging a client contribution. Consideration is provided for clients who cannot afford a fee.

- 12. Can clarification be provided as to the funding of Attendant Care Program and High Needs Pool in relation to state and federal funding contributions ? and**
- a. Do the funding mechanisms change when clients reach 65 years of age for either service?**

Answer

The Attendant Care Program (ACP) is funded by NSW under disability services program. The budget source for this program includes Commonwealth contributions to specialist disability services in NSW defined under the National Disability Agreement.

a. In accordance with the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Health Reforms, the Australian Government is responsible for funding the delivery of disability services for people aged 65 years and over and Aboriginal people aged 50 years and over. The *National Partnership Agreement on Transitioning Responsibilities for Aged Care and Disability Services (2011)* sets out cross-billing arrangements for the Australian Government to reimburse NSW for the provision of disability services to older people, including the ACP.

The High Needs Pool (HNP) is funded by NSW through the NSW Community Care Supports program for younger people, and separately funded by the Australian Government under the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program with regards to service provision for older people.

The Australian Government has committed that it will not substantially alter existing service delivery arrangements for community care services, including HNP, prior to 1 July 2015.

13. As the Attendant Care Program offers clients the option of individualised funding, does this also apply to the High Needs Pool and if not, why not ? or is it proposed for the future?

Answer

All services delivered under both the Attendant Care Program (ACP) and High Needs Pool (HNP) are individualised, which means they are tailored to the needs of each individual client according to their assessed personal care and support needs.

14. How many people with disabilities were housed in large residential facilities in 2010/11 and what are the figures for 2011/12 in both ADHC and NGO facilities? and were any new residents admitted into any such large residential facility in the current year? If so how many?

Answer

As at June 2011, there were 925 people with a disability who were supported in ADHC operated large residential facilities and 400 places were provided to people with a disability in NGO operated large residential facilities.

As at June 2012, there were 853 people with a disability who were supported in ADHC operated large residential facilities and 360 places were provided to people with a disability in NGO operated large residential facilities.

The reduction in the number of people living in ADHC operated large residential centres during 2011/12 was primarily due to the closure of Peat Island. The reduction in the number of people living in NGO operated residential centres during 2011/12 was due to the redevelopment of Ferguson Lodge, operated by Paraquad.

There is a “no new admissions policy” in place, therefore no new residents were approved to be permanently supported at ADHC or NGO operated large residential facilities in 2011/12.

15. How many people were on the register of request for supported accommodation for 2010/11 and 2011/12?

Answer

As at 29 June 2011, 710 people were on the Immediate Need register for 24/7 supported accommodation.

As at 29 June 2012, 888 people were registered on the Immediate Need register for 24/7 supported accommodation.

16. What is the average waiting time for assistance with supported accommodation and has this time increased or decreased from the previous year?

Answer

The average wait time for people placed in 24/7 supported accommodation in 2011/12 was 848 days and in 2010/11, 764 days. The wait time has increased by 84 days since 2010/11.

17. How many people moved from the family home to supported accommodation in 2011/12?

Answer

In 2011/12, 87 people moved from the family home into supported accommodation.

18. How many new places were made available for
- Supported accommodation
 - Supported living packages
 - And what locations were these allocated to?

- 103
- 107
-

New Places 2011/12		
Region	Supported Accommodation	Supported Living Fund
Hunter	13	20
Metro North	20	22
Metro South	18	28
Northern	27	17
Southern	10	8
Western	15	12
Total	103	107

19. How many allegations of abuse by carers were reported to the police in 2011/12?

Answer

14 Matters were referred to Police in 2011 and 2012.

20. The budget contains 70 Aboriginal and family intensive support packages. Would you explain what services are on offer with these packages? Is this personal care?

Answer

This program is known as *Services Our Way*, and is designed to provide flexible, person-centred, individualised packages to Aboriginal people with a disability and their families.

The services on offer in the program include: purchasing traditional supports such as respite and therapy; accessing community, recreation and cultural opportunities; or purchase of necessary equipment for activities of daily living.

No. This is not personal care.

21. What is figure for 2011/12 of Aboriginal clients receiving services from the Aboriginal Home-Care Service?

Answer

Two thousand four hundred and thirty (2,430) Aboriginal clients received services from Aboriginal Home Care Service in 2011/2012.

22. How many young Aboriginal people with a disability receive services and how many are receiving either services within the High Needs Pool or Attendant Care Package?

Answer

Young Aboriginal people, for the purposes of this question, are defined as being under the age of 50 years.

In 2011/12 approximately:

- 4,163 young Aboriginal people were accessing ADHC funded/operated disability services. This represents 8.2% of all people accessing these services.
- 3,608 young Aboriginal people were accessing HACC services. This represents 13.8% of all people accessing these services.
- 23 young Aboriginal people were accessing Attendant Care Packages and the High Needs Pool. This represents 3% of all people accessing these services.

23. Is ADHC on track to reach the self directed funded goal of 10% by July 2014? What steps are in place to provide the delivery of this goal across the range of ADHC services?

Answer

The Government is on track to delivering the *Stronger Together 2* commitment to expanding the availability of individualised funding arrangements to anyone receiving disability services by July 2014.

The detailed parameters of the new disability system, including service arrangements, are being developed and will be finalised and announced in 2013. These parameters are developed based on the outcomes of the *Living Life My Way* consultations.

24. Can specific information be provided on the expenditure of the Industry Development Fund ?

Answer

Expenditure of the Industry Development Fund as at 30 September 2012:

- Total funding expended to date on completed projects including project administration and overheads is \$4,120,189.
- Total funding committed to date for active multi-year projects is \$13,325,520.

25. Has the Community Complaints Policy been finalised as per the Complaints Process Improvement project and advice to the Ombudsman that it would be available by late July / early August 2012?

Answer

ADHC has advised the NSW Ombudsman's Office that the draft policy will be made available to them for feedback in late October 2012.

**26. What was the Enable NSW budget for 2010/11, what is the 2011/12 budget?
And what is the budget for repairs and maintenance of equipment?**

Answer

Specific questions regarding EnableNSW are best directed to NSW Health.

**27. How many clients received equipment in 2010/11 and 2011/12?
and how many items of equipment were provided?**

Answer

Specific questions regarding EnableNSW are best directed to NSW Health.

28. What has been the level of utilisation of the payroll tax rebate of up to \$4,000 for employers who provide a permanent job to a person with a disability who has completed the ADHC Transition to Work Program?

Answer

To date five eligible applications to the Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme (Disability Employment) have been made. This includes four applications for the first instalment of the rebate (\$2,000 after the first three months employment) and one application for the second instalment of the rebate (\$2,000 after six months employment).

The Payroll Tax Rebate Scheme (Disability Employment) is administered by the Office of State Revenue (OSR) which approves all rebate requests. Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) maintains regular contact with the OSR to identify when claims have been made.

29. What is the level of employment of people with disabilities in NSW public service?

Answer

At June 2012, the Public Service Commission estimates show that 3.6% of public sector employees were identified as having a disability, including 1.1% who were identified as having a requiring a workplace adjustment.