

Question No: 129

Question: Respite Care Facilities in Alice Springs

Date: 11/08/92

Member: Mr COLLINS

To: MINISTER for HEALTH and COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. Has the Department of Health and Community Services recently conducted a survey to ascertain the number of people in the community who need respite care who cannot get into the Old Timers Home.
2. Has the government publicly advertised for nominations of people who need help for assessment.
3. Does the government consider it a good investment to provide short term care to alleviate pressure on their carers; if so, what has been done to implement this.
4. Should the Northern Territory Tourist Commission be relocated to Darwin, would the government consider its present Alice Springs headquarters building as a suitable Respite Care Centre.

ANSWER

1. No.

2. No.

3. Yes. Following the recent recommendations put forward by the Bonnie Moss consultancy (funded by the Commonwealth), the Commonwealth Department of Health, Housing and Community Services identified funds for Disability Information Group of Alice Springs (DIGAS) to recruit a Coordinator and to develop individual respite care packages. The Northern Territory government is currently considering funding options which will support this service.

4. The present Northern Territory Tourist Commission premises is not considered suitable as a Respite Care Centre.