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## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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The Prime Minister said today that at the time the assets test was announced by the Government it was made clear that it would be regularly monitored to ensure that any anomalies that became apparent in its implementation were speedily addressed and remedied. The Government's objective had always been to avoid any confusion and uncertainty on the part of pensioners.

The regular monitoring of the test will be carried out by the Department of Social Security, and the Office of Aged Care in the new Department of Community Services will be involved.

The Prime Minister said that he welcomed the offer of assistance by New South Wales state officials in the monitoring of the test and in the identification of any anomalies or inequities which become evident in its administration.