

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30 May 2011

Question: E11-537

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: AGED CARE RATIO

Hansard Page: CA 65

Senator Boyce asked:

What are the costs and changes to the aged care ratio associated with the \$211.7 million estimates variation in the Budget Papers?

Answer:

The national target planning ratio for operational aged care places is 113 aged care places for every 1,000 people aged 70 years and over. The 113 places are comprised of 48 high care places and 65 low care places. Within this, there is another ratio of 88 residential and 25 community care places.

This measure provides for a short term change to this ratio to 86 and 27, respectively. Under this measure the number of residential care places decreases by 2,497 and the number of community and flexible care places increases by 2,529. As community care packages are marginally cheaper to deliver than residential care places (because they do not include accommodation) a savings of \$211.7 million is generated over five years from 2010-11. A breakdown of the costs is included in the response to question E11-100.