

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Cross Portfolio Indigenous Matters 3 June 2011

Question: E11-569

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: REMOTE AND INDIGENOUS SUPPORT SERVICE BUILDING AUDITS

Hansard Page: CA 54/55

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) What facilities are eligible for Remote and Indigenous Service Support?
- b) Of these facilities, which ones have been audited?
- c) Of the third party audits of Flexible Aged Care facilities undertaken on behalf of the Department, are these audits publically available?
- d) If no, can you provide an outline of the findings and current actions?

Answer:

- a) The Remote and Indigenous Service Support program is available to approximately 312 aged care services across Australia.

To be eligible aged care services must be:
 - residential aged care services operating under the *Aged Care Act 1997* that are located in remote and very remote areas;
 - residential aged care services operating under the *Aged Care Act 1997* with 20 per cent or more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, located anywhere in Australia;
 - National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program services;
 - providers of Community Aged Care Packages (CACP), Extended Aged Care in the Home (EACH) and Extended Aged Care in the Home Dementia (EACHD) as well as the National Respite Carers Program (NRCP), located in remote and very remote areas; and
 - providers of CACP, EACH and EACHD as well as the NRCP, with 20 per cent or more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, located anywhere in Australia.
- b) Building audits of the 28 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program services have been undertaken.

- c) No.
- d) Audits have now been completed in all National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program services. These audits identified the need for a range of improvements and contracts worth \$1.98 million for upgrades have been entered into with the eleven Northern Territory services. Audit results from the remaining jurisdictions are now being examined and will be discussed with service providers before agreements are entered into.