



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

Ms Pothida Youhorn  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Youhorn,

I am writing in relation to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Budget Estimates 2022-23 Health Portfolio hearing on 10 November 2022.

I wish to clarify evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health and Aged Care (page(s) 97 of the Proof Hansard refer).

In answering a question from Senator Ruston I said: "Yes, I believe he was referring to the quarterly financial reports which will give us up-to-date data on the number of staff in each facility and also the care minutes."

It has been brought to my attention that although the Quarterly Financial Report (QFR) collects the total number of direct care hours provided by staff employed in direct care roles, neither the QFR nor the Quarterly Financial Snapshot (which will publish data collected through the QFR at the sector level) will report on the number of nurses that are needed in the aged care sector.

However, the QFR can be used to calculate approximately how many Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff there were employed across direct care role categories (including, for example, Registered Nurses, Enrolled Nurses, Personal Care Workers, Allied Health, etc.).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eliza Strapp'.

Eliza Strapp  
First Assistant Secretary  
Market and Workforce Division  
Department of Health and Aged Care

5 December 2022