

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Senate Community Affairs References Committee

Support at Home Program

01 April 2026

PDR Number: IQ26-000033

Assessment in relation to the outcomes of the restorative care program

Spoken

Hansard page number: 23

Senator: Michelle Ananda-Rajah

Question:

Senator ANANDA-RAJAH: It would be great if you could, on notice, provide us with a little bit of data on how you've assessed the outcomes of the restorative care program. There's a huge economic benefit, obviously, in keeping people out of hospital and making sure they get back on their feet again. We'd be very interested, as a committee, in how that particular element has been progressed.

Ms Snow: I'm very happy to take that on notice.

Answer:

- Outcomes of the Restorative Care Pathway are assessed through functional and clinical measures focused on improving independence and reducing reliance on higher-cost care.
- Participants enter the program with clearly defined restorative goals, with progress reviewed at entry, during the episode and at exit by allied health and nursing professionals.
- Exit planning considers whether participants have regained function, maintained independence, or required reduced levels of ongoing support.
- At a system level, the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (Department) monitors operational data on how effectively the program delays or avoids progression to more intensive supports, including the number of approvals, completion of restorative episodes and post-episode transition trends.

- While hospital avoidance has many causes, restorative care plays an important preventative role by stabilising people following illness or injury and supporting recovery at home.
- Implementation of the Support at Home program will include an evaluation. This will include the Restorative Care Pathway.