

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.5 Workforce and Quality

Question No: SQ15-000100

Topic: Sanctions

Written Question on Notice

Senator Polley, Helen asked:

Please outline how many sanctions have been issued in the past financial year.
Have any residential aged care facilities been required to close as a result of these issues?

Answer:

- In the 2013-14 financial year, the Department imposed 17 sanctions on 14 approved providers.
- The Department can impose a sanction where there is immediate and severe risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of care recipients or where there is continued non-compliance with legislated responsibilities. The objective of a sanction is to bring a provider back to compliance with their responsibilities under the *Aged Care Act 1997*, whilst ensuring minimal disruption to care recipients.
- In 2013-14, three approved providers – operating four services – had their approved provider status revoked (i.e. were required to cease to operate facilities) due to continued non-compliance with their responsibilities. Two of the four services became the responsibility of another approved provider, and the remaining two services closed with residents transferring to other services.
- Information about sanctions, current and expired, is published on the My Aged Care website.