

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000272

OUTCOME: 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: 2016–17 Aged Care Approvals Round

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

- a) When will the allocation of 10,000 residential aged care places and \$64 million in capital grants under the 2016–17 Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR) be made? What is the reason for the delay, given these places and capital grants were funded from 1 July 2016?
- b) Will the Government commit to firm timelines for future ACAR announcements to allow providers to better plan for the delivery of services?

Answer:

- a) The allocation of the 10,000 residential aged care places and \$64 million in capital grants will be made before the end of this financial year. A delay has not occurred with the announcement and allocation of the places and grants being the culmination of a process which is running to schedule for finalisation in 2016-17.

This timeframe aligns with the announcement of the 2015 ACAR which occurred on 18 March 2016.

The Invitation to Apply for the residential and Short-Term Restorative Care places and capital grants was issued on 19 September 2016 and applications closed on 28 October 2016.

On 23 February 2017, the first stage, incorporating the allocation of 475 new Short-Term Restorative Care places, was announced by the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health.

The announcement for the residential aged care places and grants will be made before the end of this financial year.

- b) ACARs are generally held every year. This is well known to the sector. A decision on the timing for future ACAR processes, including application periods and announcement timeframes, will be made following the conclusion of the 2016-17 ACAR.