

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000637

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Ageing and Aged Care

**Topic:** Aged Care Approvals Round – Extra Service Status

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 93, 30 May 2017

**Senator:** Macdonald, Ian

**Question:**

Ms Rule: But it has been some time since we have offered Extra Service Status places under the Aged Care Approvals Round. It has been a number of years; I cannot tell you exactly how many; I would have to take that on notice. But they are no longer something that is commonly offered through the Aged Care Approvals Round

Senator IAN MACDONALD: Are there many homes still have that status?

**Answer:**

As at 30 June 2016, there were 2,669 operational residential aged care services nationally. Of these, 249 (approximately 9 per cent) held active Extra Service Status (ESS) on some or all of their places.

These providers should be aware of the ESS on their places as it impacts the amount of government subsidy and/or residents fees they can charge.

A further 159 services have either suspended the ESS on their residential care places or are yet to activate grants of ESS allocated prior to the end of the 2012-13 financial year. Suspensions of grants of ESS are time limited and the service must decide at the conclusion of this period to either extend the suspension or reactivate the places. Grants of ESS that are yet to be activated may be a result of providers/services opting not to provide care on an ESS basis or due to incomplete building works associated with the establishment/expansion of an existing service. In both cases, providers should be aware they hold ESS on some or all of their places as it forms part of their standard business planning.