

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 & 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000857

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

**Topic:** HCP - Release of Packages

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

How many new HCPs, at each level, will be released in 2017-18 each month? What funding is allocated for this? How does this compared to actual releases in 2016-17?

**Answer:**

It is expected that Home Care Packages will continue to be released weekly in 2017-18. The number of packages to be released each week may change over time, as the number released takes into account packages that have been exited or not taken up in previous weeks, and new packages that are available for release in line with the agreed forward estimates model.

Approximately \$1.96 billion is allocated to the Home Care Packages Program in 2017-18.

The number of new packages released will ensure the home care market continues to grow in line with the aged care planning ratio.

The Department of Health intends to provide public reporting on the release of packages early in the second half of the year, as part of broader reporting on the operation of the new national arrangements in the home care system.