

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-157

OUTCOME 4: Aged Care and Population Ageing

Topic: HOURS OF CARE

Hansard Page: CA 38

Senator Boyce asked:

What are the average or median hours of care being offered under care packages?

Answer:

The most up to date information available on the hours of assistance provided through community packaged care comes from the 2008 Community Care Census. This census collected information on Government-funded community care and respite programs including: Community Aged Care Packages (CACP); Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH); and Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia (EACHD).

The 2008 Census collected data from 1,242 outlets providing packaged care and/or respite services. The data collected was related to service provision over a period of seven consecutive days of typical service delivery between 18 February and 20 March 2008. Data was collected on 40,284 packaged care recipients, accounting for around 98 per cent all care recipients at the time of the census.

The 2008 Community Care Census found the average hours of assistance (including direct assistance, case management and co-ordination) provided in the three community care package programs were:

- 6.5 hours per week (median 6.0 hours) for Community Aged Care Packages;
- 16.2 hours per week (median 15.5 hours) for EACH packages; and
- 17.5 hours per week (median 16.5 hours) for EACHD packages.