

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000875

OUTCOME: 11 – Ageing and Aged Care

Topic: Home Care Subsidy

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

How are home care subsidies / supplements calculated? E.g. what is the formula for arriving at the daily allowances and how does that account for staff wages, travel, and other costs such as provision of superannuation, training and career development for the home care worker?

Answer:

Home care is funded by the Government through the payment of a basic subsidy and additional supplements based on the needs of the care recipient. There are four levels of home care packages available with different annual subsidies ranging from \$7,924 for people with basic care needs to \$48,184 for people with high care needs. These amounts are indexed.

The subsidy rates are set at an aggregate level for each package type rather than parts of the subsidy being attributable to particular costs. In addition to the base level of subsidy the following additional supplements may be payable: Oxygen supplement, Enteral Feeding supplement, Dementia and cognition supplement, Veterans' supplement and Viability supplement.