

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3.1 Disability, Mental Health and Carers Question No: SQ16-000368

Topic: Disability and Carers Policy

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

1. Does the Department have information on how many agencies are compliant with their obligations under the Carer Recognition Act 2010 Part 3 s7(1)-(2)? If so, how many agencies are compliant?
2. Can you provide concrete examples of actions taken by agencies to meet these obligations?
3. How many agencies are currently classified as Public Service Care Agencies for the purposes of the Carers Recognition Act 2010?
4. Of these Public Service Care Agencies how many are compliant with their obligations under the Carer Recognition Act 2010 Part 3 s8(1)-(3)?
5. Can you provide concrete examples of actions taken by Public Service Care Agencies to meet these obligations?
6. Are the obligations on Associated Providers incorporated into the Department of Social Services funding agreements?
7. Since 1 July 2015 the Department provided advice on the obligations under the legislation to:
 - a. Agencies
 - b. Public Service Care Agencies
 - c. Associated Providers(If yes please indicate the number of instances)

Answer:

1. This information is not required to be collected by the Department of Social Services (DSS).
2. This information is not required to be collected by DSS. However, examples of actions taken by DSS are published in the agency's annual reports.
3. This information is not required to be collected by DSS.
4. This information is not required to be collected by DSS.
5. This information is not required to be collected by DSS. Examples of actions taken by DSS are published in the relevant Public Service Care Agency's annual reports.
6. The DSS standard funding agreement terms and conditions oblige funding recipients to comply with relevant laws, Australian Government policies, codes of ethics, regulations or industry standards relevant to the activity.
7. The Department has provided advice to an agency on its obligations under the *Carer Recognition Act 2010* on one occasion since 1 July 2015. In that timeframe, the Department has not provided advice to any public service care agencies or associated providers.