Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.4 Support for the Child Care System Question No: SQ15-000113

Topic: In Home Care
Hansard page: Written

Senator Lines, Sue asked:

In relation to the In Home Care program:

- a) How many places have been available in the program over each of the last 10 years, by state, territory and federal electorate?
- b) What is the average hourly cost of providing In Home Care, over each of the last 10 years?
- c) How many places have been allocated, by state, territory and federal electorate over each of the last 10 years?

Answer:

- a) & c) In Home Care places are capped and are allocated to approved services to provide to eligible families as required. As such, the number of available places is subject to continuous change and the department does not collect data about availability. The allocation of places across states and territories is as outlined in Table 1. The department cannot report on how many places are allocated by electorate as In Home Care takes place in the home of the child.
- b) The cost of providing In Home Care depends on the business model of the service providing care.

Table 1—No of Places Allocated 2004 to 2014

| State | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| NSW | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1495 | 1545 | 1545 | 1545 | 1545 | 1734 | 1734 | 1734 |
| VIC | 650 | 650 | 650 | 863 | 851 | 828 | 828 | 828 | 831 | 831 | 831 |
| QLD | 1340 | 1340 | 1340 | 1592 | 1350 | 1385 | 1385 | 1385 | 1745 | 1720 | 1720 |
| WA | 585 | 585 | 585 | 715 | 580 | 580 | 580 | 580 | 605 | 605 | 605 |
| SA | 65 | 65 | 65 | 165 | 165 | 166 | 166 | 166 | 225 | 225 | 225 |
| TAS | 320 | 320 | 320 | 455 | 255 | 255 | 255 | 255 | 325 | 325 | 325 |
| ACT | 85 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| NT | 20 | 20 | 20 | 155 | 182 | 82 | 82 | 82 | 20 | 45 | 45 |
| Total | 4325 | 4325 | 4325 | 5525 | 4963 | 4876 | 4876 | 4876 | 5520 | 5520 | 5520 |

Source: Areas Determinations