

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 474

Topic: Workforce and Quality

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Please provide details of what skill shortages the sector has?

Answer:

The 2012 National Aged Care Workforce Census and Survey reported that three quarters of residential facilities and half of community outlets reported skill shortages in one or more occupations. Of the skill shortages in residential facilities, two-thirds reported Registered Nurse shortages and a half reported Personal Care Worker shortages. Of the skill shortages in community outlets, a third reported Community Care Worker shortages and 15 per cent reported shortages of Registered Nurses.

The Department is undertaking a stocktake of Commonwealth-funded aged care workforce initiatives to provide an evidence-base for developing an aged care workforce strategy to guide the structure and direction of future programmes for the aged care workforce.