

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000898

**OUTCOME:** 11 – Ageing and Aged Care

**Topic:** Short-Term Restorative Care (STRC) Programme

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Polley, Helen

**Question:**

- a) What modelling has been done and on what basis has it been determined that approximately 2,000 short term restorative care places were needed each year?
- b) Is this adequate to meet unmet need?
- c) If no modelling was undertaken, on what basis was the decision made?

**Answer:**

A recommendation from the 2011 Productivity Commission Inquiry Report *Caring for Older Australians* was that ‘an intensive reablement service should be introduced to give greater focus on independence, rehabilitation and restorative care.’

In recognition of the important role this type of care plays, short-term restorative care places have been included in the aged care provision ratio. The aged care provision ratio of 125 aged care places for every 1,000 people aged 70 years or over by 2021-22 is based on expected need. The inclusion of short-term restorative care places ensures that the number of places will increase over time in line with population growth.

Once fully operational (2,000 places), approximately 12,000 additional people each year will be expected to benefit from this new programme.