

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5.1 Disability Mental Health and Carers Programme

Question No: SQ15-000880

Topic: Carers Respite

Hansard page: Written

Senator Claire Moore asked:

1. Noting that the Commonwealth Respite and Carelink Centres (CRCCs) website was decommissioned May 2015, and the CRCCS funding commitment ceasing 30 June 2017:
 - a. How much respite is committed to for carers with the CRCCs?
 - b. What is the current funding commitment for the CRCCs which provide access to emergency respite services?
 - c. What is the current annual funding for respite for carers and when is it funded until?
 - d. How is the Department planning to replace the CRCCs services currently undertaken when they cease 2017?

Answer:

- a. Under the National Respite for Carers Programme (NRCP), CRCCs are funded to deliver carer respite and support activities, including subcontracting short-term and emergency respite based on assessed need. In 2014-15, 59,699 carers were assisted.
- b. Under the NRCP, DSS has committed \$60.3 million in 2015-16 for CRCCs to provide carer respite and support activities, including short-term and emergency respite.
- c. Under the NRCP, DSS has committed \$60.3 million in 2015-16 and \$61.3 million in 2016-17 to provide carer respite and support activities.

Under current grant agreements, CRCCs are funded until 30 June 2017.

- d. Work has been taking place with the sector and carers on the development of a future carer support model. This work will inform the Government's decision on a future integrated carer support services model.