

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

REVIEW OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT NO.23 (2014-15)

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Audit: Audit Report No.23 2014-15

Title: Administration of the Early Years Quality Fund

Member: Mr David Brunoro, on behalf of the JCPAA

Type of question: Proof Committee Hansard, p.2, 12 November 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 February 2016

Number of pages:

The Public Accounts and Audit Committee has requested answers to the following questions on notice:

Question:

1. Goodstart's application was between the 50th and 60th lodged (see Ms Kairouz, ANAO, Committee Hansard, Canberra, 12 November 2015, p. 3). Before Goodstart's application:

- 1a. Were the applications a mixture of complete and incomplete?

Answer: Yes. Paragraph 4.11 to 4.14 of the report discusses the issue of complete applications.

Audit analysis indicates that 23 applications received before Goodstart's application were incomplete when the first email (for these applications) was submitted. These applications were submitted in multiple emails or resubmitted with amendment.

Question:

- 1b. Were there any other applications from large providers? If so, how many and were any of these incomplete applications?

Answer: No. The audit found that there were no other applications from large providers received before Goodstart's application.

Question:

2. Were application forms the same for small and large providers, i.e. was there a separate application form for each category?

Answer: The ANAO found and noted in the report that there were separate application forms for single service providers and multi service providers (paragraphs 4.4 and 4.5 of the audit report). Applicants were divided into small and large provider pools and could only apply for grant funding appropriate to their organisational size. Applicants were required to

self-assess if they were small or large providers according to the number of service sites.

Providers with:

- 15 service sites or less were classified as small providers; and
- 16 or more service sites were classified as large providers.

A large multi service provider could choose to use the single service provider form.