

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 101

Topic: Better Start for Children with Disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Fifield asked:

How are you progressing with the planning and implementation of this initiative?

Answer:

Planning and implementation of the initiative is on track and progressing well.

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs has established an Expert Reference Group to provide advice on issues related to the implementation of the initiative.

A selection process to identify a provider to deliver the Registration and Information Service commenced in early March. This service will confirm a child's eligibility for Better Start and register them for the early intervention funding.

A telephone Helpline will open from May 2011 to provide information to families, intending service providers and the general public about the Better Start initiative.

An open selection process for the Better Start Early Intervention Service Provider Panel will commence in April 2011.