

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

**Outcome Number: 2**

**Question No: 848**

**Topic: Families and Communities Programme**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Brown** asked:

The budget announcement indicates that 5 year funding agreements will be offered to Family and Relationship Services, of which Communities for Children Direct is current a component. What evidence informed the decision to exclude Communities for Children Direct services from the offer of 5 year funding agreements?

**Answer:**

Communities for Children Direct is not a component of Family and Relationship Services (FaRS). Communities for Children Direct and FaRS were different Activities under the former Family Support Program.

Six month funding extensions are being offered to the majority of existing service providers with grant funding due to expire on or before 30 June 2014, including Communities for Children Direct services.

From 1 July 2014 a new Families and Communities Programme will commence. Providers previously receiving funding under Communities for Children Direct will have the opportunity to apply for longer term funding, commencing 1 January 2015.