

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

Outcome Number: 2

Question No: 885

Topic: Families and Communities Programme

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Brown asked:

On 31 March 2014 at the Child Aware Approaches Conference Minister address announced a Child Aware Local Initiatives programme to be launched at 8 locations across Australia. The trial was to commence at the first 2 locations, Townsville and Lismore, by June 2014.

- a. How much funding has been allocated for this trial?
- b. Can you confirm that the trial has commenced at these two sites?
- c. Can you tell me who the local lead organisation is at each of these sites?
- d. How were these organisations chosen?
- e. Have the remaining 6 trial sites been identified?
- f. Have the lead organisations be chosen for trial sites which have been determined?
- g. The announcement indicated that the additional pilot programs would be in place by the end of 2014 but also stated that the rollout-out would take place over 18 months from March. Can you provide a timeline for the roll out?

Answer:

- a. The Commonwealth has provided \$800,000 for Families Australia and the Australian Centre for Child Protection to implement the Child Aware Local Initiative.
- b. The Child Aware Local Initiative has commenced in the first two sites, Townsville Queensland and Lismore New South Wales.
- c. The local lead organisations in the first two sites are the Smith Family in Townsville and the YWCA NSW in Lismore.
- d. The lead organisations were selected in consultation with the Department, state and territory governments and the project partners, Families Australia and the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia.
- e. No. The remaining 6 trial sites have not yet been identified.
- f. Refer to (c) above.
- g. This initiative is being implemented through a staged approach with the first two sites commencing by June 2014 and the remaining six sites by December 2014.