

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000069

Senator Lines, Sue asked on 10 February 2016, Proof Hansard page 132

Childcare package - number of families worse off

Question

Senator LINES: Is it possible then to get the breakdown, provided in the minister's media release on 30 January, of who will be better off and worse off because of the changes in terms of children, not just families?

Ms J Wilson: That is difficult, because you have to attribute children back to families, and whether we can do that in a neat way is something that I would have to take on notice. The subsidy rates are based on family incomes. If we disaggregated back by 'children', I am not sure how many links we have back to children and the family income from which they come to be able to untie it in that way. I am happy to take it on notice, but I am just thinking out aloud in terms of the question you asked—

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Ms J Wilson: We needed to know how many children so we could figure out the subsidy levels for each family to do the analysis we have done. That is right. I just need to figure out if every child is linked to a family with income data.

Senator LINES: But you often report on children, including in your quarterly updates. We have had these discussions before, as well.

Ms J Wilson: Did you ask for it to be done exactly like that?

Senator LINES: Yes.

Ms J Wilson: Yes, we clearly have it. That is why I said we need to take it on notice.

Mr Cook: We are happy to take it on notice. I will see what we can do.

Senator LINES: Okay. But you accept that you do currently report on children?

Ms J Wilson: Yes

Answer

Please refer to Additional Estimates question SQ16-000142.