

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation

DEEWR Question No. EW0209_14

Senator Cash asked on 5 June 2013, Hansard page 50

Question

Early Years Quality Fund - Advisory Board meeting

Senator CASH: The advisory board have a big job tomorrow in relation to their first meeting. Ms Taylor: They do. Senator CASH: There will be a few items that they will be ticking off. Senator McKENZIE: Are they on the agenda? Senator CASH: Are these issues on the agenda? That is a very good question, Senator McKenzie. Are these issues on the agenda for the advisory board tomorrow? Ms Taylor: Yes. We are expecting discussion around criteria. I cannot remember what the agenda is. But I think all of those issues—it is quite a long agenda—that we have discussed here—Mr De Silva: Are being discussed. Senator CASH: How are the advisory board being remunerated? Ms Taylor: There is no remuneration for the advisory board, Senator. They will be reimbursed the costs of travel. Senator CASH: So there is just a reimbursement policy for expenses? Ms Taylor: That is right. Senator CASH: You said that you did not have the agenda with you. Is it possible to table the copy of the agenda for the advisory board's meeting tomorrow? Ms Taylor: I will take that on notice, Senator.

Answer

The Advisory Board met on 6 June 2013. The agenda for that meeting is attached.

Attachment

Early Years Quality Fund Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, 6 June 2013

Time: 08:15 am - 14:30 pm

Venue: Meeting Room 001.City,

Chair: Rachel Hunter

50 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra City

Item No	Time	Agenda Item	Distribution Method	Action	Lead
1	08:15	Welcome and apologies (coffee)		Information	Chair
2	08:25	The Hon Peter Garrett AM MP		Information	Minister
3	08:35	Probity briefing	Verbal	Information	Probity Advisor
4	09:05	Role of the Advisory board in communicating with the sector	Verbal	Information	Chair
5	09:20	Government Decisions made to date	Verbal	Information	Ex Officio
6	09:40	Eligibility criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Care Benefit (CCB) Approval Long Day Care• Compliance with Family Assistance and National Education and Care Services Law• Ability to enter into Enterprise agreement under FWA 2009	Paper	Discussion Advice	Ex Officio
	10:00	Break – Morning tea (15 minutes)			
7	10:15	Assessment criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of assessment process Assessment criteria – evidence required to demonstrate meeting each criterion	Paper	Discussion Advice	Ex Officio
8	11:10	Wages schedule (<i>Referred by Minister</i>) Consideration of wage schedule(s)	Paper to be provided at meeting	Discussion Endorsement	Chair
9	11:40	Ensuring equitable access to funds (<i>Referred by Minister</i>)	Paper	Discussion	Chair
	12:15	Lunch (45 minutes)			
10	13:00	Conditionality of Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enterprise agreements• Increased fee transparency requirements• Fee restraint – actual operating costs	Paper	Discussion Advice	Ex Officio

Item No	Time	Agenda Item	Distribution Method	Action	Lead
11	13:40	Timing for implementation of the Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release Program Guidelines • Opening date for applications • Commencement of grants funding 	Paper	Discussion Endorsement	Ex Officio
12	14:00	Other business	Verbal	Discussion	All Members
13	14:15	Next meeting/steps (24 June - tentative) Likely to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Program Guidelines • Funding arrangements / application processes • Payment, monitoring, acquittal and reporting process • Compliance and funding conditions 	Verbal	Information Endorsement	Chair
14	14:30	Meeting close	Verbal	Information	Chair