

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0102_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

Program 1.1 Budget

Program 1.1 administered expenses are budgeted to decrease significantly over the forward estimates, compared to the estimates from the 2013-14 Budget, with \$298.325 million budgeted for 2015-16 (compared to \$361,513 budgeted for 2015-16 in last year's budget) and \$294.251 million budgeted for 2016-17 (compared to \$369.345 million budgeted for 2015-16 last year's budget). Please provide a list of:

- a) all programs that are being cut or reduced and why;
- b) names of organisations that are having funding cut or reduced and why;
- c) when these organisations and services were informed of their funding cuts or reductions;
- d) what types of services will be reduced;
- e) how many children and families will be impacted by these cuts or reductions.

Answer

The changes to the Child Care Services Support Programme involve the reallocation of \$38.2 million through the identification of a number of areas where streamlining and administrative efficiencies will assist in meeting increased costs in priority and demand driven child care programmes. This realignment will ensure the programmes are more sustainable and better targeted and will maximise the benefit of investment particularly in light of the implementation of the \$200 million Long Day Care Professional Development Programme. Detail regarding changes to individual programmes can be found in *Budget 2014-15 Budget Measures Budget Paper No.2* p.83.