

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

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

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0647_15

Senator Lines asked on 22 October 2014 , Hansard page 99

Question

Child Care Early Learning Projects

Senator LINES: I am after a list. When you said 'across a number of programs', I want you to list those programs and the savings.

Ms Paul: They are listed on page 83.

Senator LINES: The dot points?

Ms Paul: It says \$14.7 million from Child Care Early Learning Projects.

Senator LINES: Yes, but what are the projects?

Ms Paul: You want to know what is inside them?

Senator LINES: Yes.

Ms Paul: That is fine. We may have to take that on notice.

Senator LINES: I am after what is in the projects and what the savings against each one are.

Ms Paul: That is fine. When we say, 'We streamlined program delivery,' you want to know what we actually did?

Senator LINES: Yes. Thank you, Ms Paul.

Ms Paul: That is fine.

Senator LINES: Have any non-government organisations had their funding reduced, cancelled or not extended?

Ms Paul: From those savings?

Senator LINES: Yes.

Ms Paul: We might roll that into the answer.

Senator LINES: All right. Lovely. Could you provide me a list of organisations?

Ms Paul: I am not sure there have been, but that is what we will go to.

Senator LINES: And then what service they had previously delivered for that funding?

Ms Paul: I think, on the whole, these were savings which were prospective, and my recollection is they did not have an impact on existing contracts and so on. I am pretty confident about that. I am not sure that you would find there would be any services which have had funding cut. I think that would be true. It is prospective—

Senator LINES: If you could check that and—

Ms Paul: Yes. Certainly we can unpack what was streamlining and what was—

Senator LINES: Thank you very much.

Answer

The Child Care Early Learning Projects totaling \$14.7 million over the forward estimates referred to in 2014-15 Budget Paper Number 2 on page 83 relate to non-ongoing, ad hoc projects and administrative measures. Identified changes include:

- efficiencies in conducting the National Early Childhood Education and Care Workforce Census.
- reducing advertising costs.
- reducing research and evaluation activities.

No non-government organisations have had their funding reduced as result of the redirection of funds within the Child Care Services Support Programme.