

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000931

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Child care safety net - indigenous children investment

Question

In the child care safety net, what level of investment has been allocated for indigenous children in each year of the forwards? How many children will this cater for?

Answer

The Child Care Safety Net has not been disaggregated by specific cohorts of children, including Indigenous children.

The Child Care Safety Net will provide \$858 million over the forward estimates to assist disadvantaged or vulnerable families and children, which is expected to include families from Indigenous backgrounds.

A key element of the Child Care Safety Net is the Community Child Care Fund, which will support child care service providers in disadvantaged communities to address a range of access, affordability, locational and socio-cultural barriers to child care, including in Indigenous communities.

Also as part of the Community Child Care Fund, \$10 million a year will specifically support the integration of child care, maternal and child health and family support services in a number of disadvantaged Indigenous communities, as recommended by the Forrest Review of Indigenous Jobs and Training, *Creating Parity*.