

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. SQ15-000955

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Nanny pilot programme

Question

The Minister's media release on 20 April announcing the nanny pilot program said "Provision has been made to continue support at the same level beyond the trial period, as an ongoing measure."

- a. How much "Provision has been made to continue support at the same level beyond the trial period, as an ongoing measure", in terms of funding allocated in the 2015-16 Budget?
- b. Where does this money sit in the 2015-16 Budget papers? Where is this additional funding found?
- c. Given the cost of the two-year pilot is \$246 million, it is reasonable to assume that the annual cost of continuing the nanny program would be in excess of \$100 million a year?
- d. And given the pilot ends in 2017, it is correct that there has been funding provide beyond the pilot for the remainder of the forward estimates, that is, for 2017-18 and 2018-19? So that would be in the order of an additional \$246 million?
- e. For every year of the forwards, how much money has been allocated for the nanny trial, regardless of whether or not it have been classified as a 'lapsing program'.

Answer

Funding is available under Programme 2.7 Child Care Subsidy for the future provision of care in the family home for the remainder of the forward estimates. This has not been included as a separate allocation. The evaluation of the Nanny Pilot Programme will provide information about how care in the family home could be supported beyond the pilot period. As a result of the Mid-Year Fiscal Economic Outlook, the funding available for the Nanny Pilot Programme has been revised to \$184.5 million over three financial years.