

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

**Outcome**            1

**DEEWR Question No. EW1122\_09**

Senator Payne asked on 25 February 2009, EEWL Hansard page 49.

**Question**

*New Early Learning and Care Centres – Building Costs*

How does the average \$1.7 million allocated for one of the 38 new early learning care centers compare with the average industry cost of building a new child care centre?

**Answer**

The Early Learning and Care Centres are being delivered in partnership with States and Territories and the child care sector. It was never expected that the Australian Government contribution would cover the full cost of construction of a new centre.

An independent Quantity Surveyor engaged by the department estimated the cost for a new 50 place child care centre constructed in a capital city in accordance with the relevant state or territory regulatory requirements ranged from \$2.0 million to \$2.3 million. In regional and remote areas the cost varies depending on the location.