Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2011-2012

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care

DEEWR Question No. EW1162_12

Senator Back asked on 16 February 2012, Hansard page 9

Question

Special Childcare benefit - Rejected Payments

Senator BACK: Yes. That is what I am saying—in terms of the payments being reinstated. Can you tell us how many, if any, of those rejections have subsequently been overturned and now have payments reinstated? Ms Taylor: I can give you some information on that, but that is the detail that the Department of Human Services has, so I will take it on notice to get the accurate detail. But I understand they are looking at around 60 cases. I think that is the number. I understand that they have reinstated a large proportion of those cases. I do not have the figures on that. As they are going through that process, it is changing. So I can take that on notice and get that for you. Senator BACK: If you would, I'd be appreciative. I would also be keen to know, in providing that information, if you could give us some indication of where you are against budget targets for the time period that you are able to provide that information for. I am interested in knowing if you are going to underspend or if there is going to be a budget blowout. That would be of great interest to me.

Answer

The Department of Human Services has provided the following response.

63 reviewed cases were granted payment.