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. EW1165_12

Senator Back asked on 16 February 2012, Hansard page 10

Refers to previous DEEWR question number <u>EW0861 12</u>.

Question

Special Child Care Benefit

Ms Caldwell: It was DEEWR question number EW0861_12, and relevantly— ACTING CHAIR: There were 11,490 families. 'Of these, 3,850 families benefitted from more than a single 13 week approval ...' Ms Caldwell: Yes. ACTING CHAIR: Very good. It states: In 2010, 53 per cent of approvals of Special Child Care Benefit were in respect of a child at risk and 47 per cent due to temporary financial hardship. You have not got an update of those figures? That was for 2010. Are you not yet in a position to provide us with more current figures. Ms Taylor: I can take that on notice. I will just check that the data has come through on that.

Answer

In the 2010-2011 financial year, Special Child Care Benefit was granted in respect of 18,080 families. Of these, 4,820 families benefitted from more than a single 13 week approval of Special Child Care Benefit during 2010-2011.

In the 2010-2011 financial year, 43 per cent of approvals of Special Child Care Benefit were in respect of a child at risk and 57 per cent due to temporary financial hardship.