Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation

DEEWR Question No. EW0960 13

Senator Nash asked on 14 February 2013, Hansard page 15

Question

JETCCFA Eligibility

Senator NASH: Were there any cases of parents claiming JET who were then found to be ineligible over the last year? How does that process work, or are there any? Mr Maynard: Yes, there would be. Again, this is an application process that is managed by DHS, so we would need to test with them the extent of people seeking to become JET compliant, JET eligible, and whether they have been rejected. I anticipate that the answer would be ves. Senator NASH: Could you take that on notice as well and also if any subsequent action was taken. Mr Maynard: Sorry, can I test that a little more? My answer was in relation to a request to become eligible being rejected. Senator NASH: No. Sorry, what I was asking was have any of the parents been found to be ineligible? Mr Maynard: Having been approved? Senator NASH: Absolutely, yes. Mr Maynard: Again, we will need to seek some advice from DHS. Senator NASH: But that would then play in probably with the earlier questioning, but if you could have a look, that would be really useful, thank you very much. Ms Paul: Your question goes to: once they are on JET, is it then found actually that they should not have been on it and that they ceased to be eligible? Senator NASH: Yes. Ms Paul: Sure, that is fine.

Answer

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has provided the following response:

When parents notify DHS that their circumstances have changed, this can result in them being re-assessed as ineligible for Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance (JETCCFA). For example if the parent is no longer studying. DHS also checks ongoing entitlement to this assistance when a parent reapplies for JETCCFA at the end of their initial 12-month period. DHS also has a trigger to cancel JETCCFA eligibility when the customer has lost eligibility for their income support payment.