

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW1004\_13

**Senator Nash asked on 14 February 2013 , Hansard page 90**

**Question**

**Assistance for Isolated Children**

Senator NASH: I will just ask then, has there been any consideration or deliberation around the issue for regional families when it comes to the AIC of the issue of greater distance travelled? Has there been any discussion in the department? Ms Paul: I do not think that there has been recent consideration of these matters, but we will take it on notice. It is a policy matter, so we probably cannot take it too much further.

Senator NASH: I am not asking for a comment on what might happen in the future; I am asking you to provide for the committee, on notice, if there has been any consideration of this issue? Ms Paul: We can usually answer the question 'Have we offered advice on this matter?' We can do that. We will take that on notice. I will not go to the content, obviously, but whether we have advised on the general matter of—

Senator NASH: Yes. That is the exact question I am asking. I certainly understand that you may not be able to provide content.

**Answer**

The Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations provides ongoing policy advice to Government on the effectiveness of the Assistance for Isolated Children's Scheme in meeting its policy objectives and ongoing advice on policy settings.