

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No. EW0133_11

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

**TENDER CONDITIONS FOR MEREWETHER HEIGHTS EARLY LEARNING AND
CARE CENTRE**

Is the Department aware that the tender for the centre set several conditions including covering an area of 1100 metres-squared, a separate driveway and a centre with 42 places?

Answer

The documentation supporting the tender indicated the site was 1100 square metres, although this was subject to the negotiation. The documentation specified the Early Learning and Care Centre was to have its own access and was expected to deliver an average of 50 places.

The documentation supporting the tender mentioned that the centre should have its own access and car parking area. Provision of separate access to the centre has not proved practicable due to the slope of the site from Cedar Crescent. The possibility that a separate driveway off Summer Place would take up further additional space from the infants' play area was also a factor influencing the determination by NSW DET that the shared access point on Cedar Crescent would be more suitable for the centre.