

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

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

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood**

**GOODSTART**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0306\_11**

**Senator Payne asked the following question on 2/06/2010, Hansard page 17.**

Mr Kimber—It is a \$15 million loan over a seven-year repayment period. The repayments have been structured so that there is no cost to the government or to the taxpayer. The loan is covered by four trust deeds: a loan facility agreement between GoodStart and the Commonwealth; a common terms deed between GoodStart, National Australia Bank and the Commonwealth; a security trust deed with the same parties; and also an inter-creditor deed. It is quite a complex arrangement. It is a seven-year repayment period, and it uses the Commonwealth bond rate from time to time to calculate the interest that is payable on the loan. It is calculated quarterly, but the exact details of that will vary from time to time depending on the Treasury bond rate. Obviously it is a commercial loan. It was negotiated with a range of parties to be repaid over seven years.

Senator PAYNE—Can any of those documents be made available to the committee?

Mr Kimber—That is something I would have to take on notice. You would understand the commercial sensitivity of these arrangements for all parties.

Senator PAYNE—Would you do that, please?

Mr Kimber—I will take that on notice.

Ms Paul—I would want us to seek the parties' agreement if it is okay, because it is commercial-inconfidence.

**Answer**

Following the Committee's request to the release of the Deeds governing the Government's \$15 million loan to GoodStart, the Department wrote to representatives from the National Australia Bank and GoodStart, seeking their consent to the tabling of the Deeds in question which they are also party to.

Having now received the consent of the National Australia Bank and GoodStart, the Department provides copies of the following four Deeds as requested by the Committee:

1. The Commonwealth Loan Facility Agreement;
2. The Intercreditor Deed;
3. The Security Trust Deed; and
4. The Common Terms Deed.