

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.1

Question No. 16

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2006:

In relation to Family Relationship Centre Locations; it appears that locations identified by FaCSIA as having need did not receive FRC's (e.g. Caboolture)

What advice provided by the Department to the Attorney-General was accepted in relation to where the Family Relationship Centres would be located?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

At the time the Department was developing advice to the Attorney-General on locations, the then Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) provided input on the basis of a draft needs analysis it was developing that ranked areas on the basis of need. However that input was not intended to be used as stand alone rankings. Instead, FaCS understood it would be used in conjunction with other data on population distribution, accessibility and the distribution of other services in particular locations.

The advice the Attorney-General's Department provided to the Attorney-General in most cases did not refer to the FaCS rankings. Instead, an overall assessment of the options for locations was provided.