Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.4 Support for Child Care System Question No: SQ15-000446

Topic: Nanny Pilot Programme

Hansard page: Written

Senator Xenophon, Nick asked:

The Minister for Social Services, the Hon Scott Morrison MP has indicated that the IHC (nannies) Pilot programme will run until the end of 2017, after which time he will then contrast the Nanny Pilot against the Government's IHC programme. Will the Government afford the In-Home Care Sector the same opportunities in terms of increased places and funding so as to allow the two programmes to compete on equal grounds?

Answer:

The In Home Care (IHC) Programme and the Nanny Pilot Programme are two separate home based child care programmes running in parallel.

IHC is a mainstream form of approved child care under Family Assistance Law. Eligible families will continue to access IHC, including Child Care Benefit and Child Care Rebate and IHC services will continue to receive support from the Community Support Programme.

The Nanny Pilot Programme, which ends in December 2017, will test the expanded provision of flexible child care. An evaluation of the Nanny Pilot Programme will be undertaken in 2017 which will inform the future Government policy regarding the provision of care in the family home.