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: SQ15-000499

Topic: Community Child Care Fund

Hansard page: Written

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah asked:

The competitive grants process delivered through the Community Child Care Fund will disadvantage Indigenous services – as evidenced by the Indigenous Advancement Strategy funding process. We know that dozens of services - who had put in countless hours creating funding applications - were unsuccessful, and were generally given no explanation and therefore no insight into why this decision was made.

- (a) What evidence do you have that suggests that this policy will work for the targeted group of services in disadvantaged areas?
- (b) What have been the learnings from the IAS process that have fed into this policy?

Answer:

The Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) is grounded in evidence, including the Productivity Commission Inquiry report on Childcare and Early Childhood Learning, stakeholder consultations, and the review of the Budget Based Funded Programme.

The Department is also consulting on this through the Regulation Impact Statement process.

Any learnings from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy will feed into the implementation of the CCCF.