

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

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

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No.EW0796_11

Senator Nash provided in writing.

TENDERS TO OFFER CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR WADEYE AND THE NT

1. For the previous tenders to offer child care services for Wadeye and the NT, does the Department have details on the services currently being offered?
2. How much funding has been made available for each of these services?
3. How many children are currently receiving care there?
4. How many staff are employed in each centre?
5. What qualifications do these staff have?

Answer

1. In addition to the tender at Wadeye, since 1 January 2010, three tenders for provision of child care services in the Northern Territory have been completed. These were at Warruwi, Gunbalanya and Alice Springs. Tenders for the provision of services at Timber Creek, Bagot and Belyuen are not yet finalised.

Long day care and early learning services are being provided at the **Wadeye Children's Services Centre**. In addition, the Wadeye Children's Services Centre provider facilitates access to other services including family support and health services in the community.

Early learning and child care services are being offered at the **Warruwi Crèche**.

Early learning and child care services are being offered at the **Gunbalanya Crèche**.

Out of school hours care in school terms and vacation care in school holidays is being offered at the **Alice Springs Outside School Hours Care Service**.

Early learning and child care services will be offered from the **Timber Creek Child Care Centre** when it is completed.

Out of school hours care in school terms and vacation care in school holidays will be offered at **Bagot** when the tender is completed.

Out of school hours care in school terms and vacation care in school holidays will be offered at **Belyuen** when the tender is completed.

2. How much funding has been made available for each of these services?

The funding to these services is to cover the operational expenses of the services.

- A funding agreement for the period 1 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 commits \$461,618.67 (GST exclusive) for delivery and facilitation of services at **Wadeye Children's Services Centre**.
- A funding agreement for the period 1 January 2010 to 30 June 2011 commits \$197,785 (GST exclusive) for the delivery of services at the **Warruwi Crèche**.
- A funding agreement for the period 1 January 2010 to 30 June 2011 commits \$268,229 (GST exclusive) for the delivery of services at **Gunbalanya Crèche**.
- A funding agreement for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 commits \$185,012.57 (GST exclusive) for the delivery of services at the **Alice Springs Outside School Hours Care Service**.

3. How many children are currently receiving care there?

The services concerned advise the following current enrolments:

- 37 children at **Wadeye Children's Services Centre**;
- 13 children at **Warruwi Crèche**;
- 14 children at **Gunbalanya Crèche**; and
- 25 children at After School Care Program and 43 children at the Vacation Care program **Alice Springs Outside School Hours Care Service**.

4. How many staff are employed in each centre?

- Nine staff members are employed at **Wadeye Children's Services Centre**.
- Three staff members are employed at **Warruwi Crèche**.
- Two staff members are employed at **Gunbalanya Crèche**.
- Three staff members are employed at **Alice Springs Outside School Hours Care**.

5. What qualifications do these staff have?

- At **Wadeye Children's Services Centre** one staff member has a Diploma in Children's Services, one has a Certificate III in Children's Services, three are Studying for Certificate III in Children's Services and one has a degree in Social Sciences.
- At **Warruwi Crèche** one staff member is a qualified Nurse and is working towards a Certificate III in Children's Services.
- At **Gunbalanya Crèche** one staff member has a Diploma in Children's Services.
- At **Alice Springs Outside School Hours Care** none of the current staff has formal qualifications.