Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2010-2011

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No.EW0800_11

APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE IN FLOOD AFFECTED REGIONS

Senator Nash asked on 24/02/2011, Hansard page 10.

Question

Senator NASH—Have you had any applications for this [local emergency assistance] due to the floods as well? Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria have all been pretty hard hit. Is there any from flooding?

Answer

The Department received and approved three applications from approved child care services in Queensland for Business Continuity Payments. No applications were received from New South Wales or Victorian services.

DEEWR also invoked Local Emergency Provisions under Family Assistance Law in response to the flood disaster for all CCB Approved Services in Queensland and those located in disaster declared Local Government areas of New South Wales and Victoria. This enabled more flexibility to be granted for the 42 day absence provision.

DEEWR has also provided assistance in Special Child Care Benefit payments to families suffering financial hardship as a result of flooding in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.