

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

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

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No. EW0134_11

Senator Payne provided in writing.

Question

MEREWETHER HEIGHTS EARLY LEARNING AND CARE CENTRE

What processes were used to increase the size of the centre to 68 places over 3500 metres-squared and using the school driveway?

Answer

During the tender process for the development of the Merewether Heights Early Learning Centre, all prospective applicants were informed by the NSW Department of Education and Training (NSW DET) that the amount of available land of 1100 square metres was indicative and negotiable, depending on the successful proposal.

NSW DET agreed to make more land available for this development due to the increased number of places and the constraints associated with the topography of the land at Merewether Heights, which altered the final design details for the centre.

In reference to the driveway see response to EW0133_11.