

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0191_14

Senator Lines asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 69

Question

Offers made under the Early Years Quality Fund (EYQF)

Mr De Silva: There were offers made under the EYQF program. A letter was sent in October. I can double-check the date, but it basically said, 'The conditional offer that has been made is now revoked.' It was sent on 11 October. Senator LINES: Can you furnish us with copies of that letter? Mr De Silva: I could send you a template.

Ms Paul: We can take that on notice and think about that. I just want to have a look at the letter. I do not imagine that would be a problem. Senator LINES: So why do you need to take it on notice? It is a letter that has gone out to the sector. Ms Paul: Right. Sorry, I misunderstood the question. That is fine. Senator LINES: So you will furnish us with the copy of that? Ms Paul: Yes.

Answer

A copy of the letter sent to services that had received a conditional offer is attached.



Australian Government
Department of Education

Early Years Quality Fund
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11 October 2013

ID:

Legal Name

Address

SUBURB STATE POSTCODE

Attention: Contact name

Contact email

Early Years Quality Fund Application – Business Name

Thank you for your application in relation to the Early Years Quality Fund (EYQF).

In early August 2013 you were advised by the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations that it had conditionally approved funding for your organisation. As you may be aware, the Australian Government's policy position on the EYQF is set out in the Better Child Care and Early Learning Policy.

On 28 September 2013, the Government announced an independent review of the EYQF. The review will consider the establishment process and implementation of the EYQF. The outcomes of the review will inform the Government's consideration of the future policy in relation to the EYQF.

The review is expected to be completed by the end of October 2013. The review may result in the Government deciding to distribute EYQF funds in a different way. Until that time no expenditure under the EYQF will be approved.

If your organisation has not yet implemented wage increases or otherwise has not yet fulfilled the conditions of the Commonwealth's offer of funding, that offer of funding is hereby revoked.

Your organisation should do nothing further to commit itself to wage increases in the expectation that EYQF funding will be made available for those wage increases.

The Minister and the department will work with the sector concerning the future policy of the EYQF.

Yours sincerely

David De Silva
Group Manager
Early Childhood Initiatives Group
11 October 2013