



Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2022-23
Thursday, 7 April 2022
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Education and Employment Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am to 5.25pm.

The committee called:

- Department of Education, Skills and Employment, including Early Childhood and Childcare; Schools and Youth; Higher Education, Research and International; Skills and Training; and Employment.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

Department of Education, Skills and Employment

- Early Childhood and Childcare Services;
 - department's response to the Mitchell Institute Child Care Desert report
 - total funding and services supported by the Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) and the parameters for qualifying for the fund
 - locations the department has identified with a thin market
 - data reflecting families whose subsidies from the CCCF have been altered
 - measures for improving wages and working conditions of education professionals
 - progress on the implementation of the national strategy
- Schools and Youth;
 - new government programs as a result of the 2022-23 Budget
 - details of the department's implementation of the government's response to the national mental health and suicide prevention plan
 - how funding will be administered for the Indigenous Boarding Providers Grant
- Higher Education, Research and International;
 - details of courses that were discontinued in areas of skill shortage
 - criteria for approving courses in skills shortage areas
 - current data on investment in research and development
 - assessment of applications for regional university centres
- Skills and Training; and
 - funding allocation in the budget to states as part of the national skills agreement
 - process of negotiation for the new national skills agreement
 - feedback from states regarding modelling and changes to fees for VET courses
 - allocation of funding for the skills advertising campaigns
- Employment.
 - new Employment Services Model roll-out and feedback from providers on the transition
 - jobactive system and the online management of changing provider
 - progress on the Local Jobs Recovery Program