From:

Community Affairs, Committee (SEN)

To: Cc: Subject:

FW: Hansard corrections - ParentsNext, including its trial and subsequent broader rollout inquiry - 27 February Melbourne

**Date:** Friday, 8 March 2019 3:12:50 PM

Attachments:

## Dear Jeannette

Thank you for your email, and for the opportunity to respond to the following question that Jobs Australia took on notice during the hearing in Melbourne last week. It is on page 44 of the Hansard:

**Senator WATT:** Is it something that your member organisations raise—that they're either happy with the level of discretion they have or they're not?

**Mr Defteros:** In terms of the suspensions, there's very little discretion. The whole TCF has really automated a lot of the decision-making that providers used to—

**Senator WATT:** What about the content of plans? Feel free to take that on notice.

Mr Defteros: I'll take it on notice.

On behalf of Jobs Australia, I can advise that our members report that they are happy with the level of discretion they have on the content of participation plans. There is flexibility in the types of activities that can be agreed upon. Plans are developed and approved through negotiation with participants, and take into account their individual circumstances and goals. Some providers also reported the development of in-house activities to support parents where externally offered activities were not available in the local community.

Kind regards

Peter

## **Peter Defteros**

**Acting Senior Policy Manager** 

\*Jobs Australia has recently moved offices, we are now located at Level 4, 100 Dorcas Street South Melbourne.\*

Freecall: 1800 331 915 | T: 03 9349 3699 Level 4, 100 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne www.ja.com.au

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