

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 102

Topic: Family Support Program

Hansard Page: 16/02/2012 - CA17

Senator Fifield asked:

What is the funding model for the Malvern Special Needs Playgroup based on? What are the opportunities for funding for the Playgroup?

Answer:

Malvern Special Needs Playgroup is not funded under a Playgroup model.

The service was funded under the Responding Early Assisting Children (REACH) Program for the period 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2011.

From 1 July 2011 REACH projects were integrated into the Family Support Program (FSP) and Malvern Special Needs Playgroup has been funded as a Communities for Children (CfC) Direct service under the FSP. CfC Direct services focus on promoting positive family functioning, safety and child development, particularly for families who are vulnerable, at risk or living in disadvantaged circumstances.

Malvern Special Needs Playgroup entered into a three year funding agreement to deliver CfC Direct services to the value of \$57,881.64 (GST exclusive) per year from 2011-12 to 2013-14. This funding enables Malvern Special Needs Playgroup to support families with children aged 0-6 years that have a disability and/or developmental delay by offering:

- two playgroup sessions per week each operating for four hours duration during school terms under the supervision of a kindergarten teacher, therapists, volunteers and a coordinator;
- children's weekly music sessions; and
- parent respite and peer support.