

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.4 Support for Child Care System Question No: SQ15-000158

Topic: Productivity Commission Report

Hansard page: 43

Senator Lines, Sue asked:

I am really interested in the minister's claim, because the PC report says 60 per cent of families above that income threshold of 130 to 160 are paying fees above the medium. If the subsidy scheme is capped at the medium price, it is not obvious that people will be better off. It is not obvious.

Answer:

The data quoted and graph displayed by the Minister at his National Press Club speech on 25 February 2015 represented the results of the Department of Social Services modelling of the Productivity Commission's recommended child care fee assistance programme.

The Productivity Commission report indicates that on average, families earning up to \$160,000 per annum would be better off. Current data shows that 83.7 per cent of families using approved child care have an income of \$160,000 per annum or less.