

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

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 124

Topic: Outside School Hours Care for Teenagers with Disability Program

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) From my investigations, only TWO organisations have received funding in the Brisbane region. Lifeline is one recipient and they direct the funds to FOUR special schools to provide vacation care only - Mt Gravatt, Mt Ommaney and Beenleigh on the south side and Mitchelton on the north side. Darling Point Special School is the other recipient of funding and they are the ONLY provider of 'before & after school' care for the ENTIRE Brisbane region. Even your website acknowledges that there is a "very high unmet need" in the provision of before, after and vacation care of people with disabilities - why then is there ONLY ONE provider of before and after school care for the entire Brisbane region?
- b) What steps is the department taking to address the unmet need?

Answer:

- a) In the selection process held in 2009 and 2010 funds were not allocated to jurisdictions. Successful organisations were selected on the quality of their responses to the selection criteria.
- b) The service delivery model for the program adopts a multi-sectorial approach that includes child care, disability services, health services and the education sector. Broader responsibility for some of those sectors lies with state and territory governments. As such the program will provide support that partially addresses the complex needs of these teenagers with disability.