

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000158

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Comparing current system with proposed child care changes

Question

In relation to the cost of each part of the proposed child care changes – if possible please roll the current system forward so that the comparison is like-for-like in 2017-18 terms. If this is not possible, please outline the financial year that each part of the comparison is based on.

- a. What is the increased expenditure associated with removing the current CCR cap for families earning up to \$185,000? How many children and families will benefit?
- b. How much has been saved by moving from the current CCB and CCR activity tests to the new activity test? Please break this down to show how much has been saved moving people from each step on the current test, to each step on the new test? How many children and families will be impacted by each change to the activity test?
- c. What is the cost associated with increasing the cap on assistance from \$7,500 per child per year to \$10,000 per child per year for families earning over \$185,000? How many families and children have benefited?
- d. For each category of Special Child Care Benefit that is moving across the become the Additional Child Care Subsidy – what is the increase or decrease in cost? And how many children and families will be negatively or positively impacted in each case?
- e. What is the overall level of expenditure on the Child Care Subsidy, and the number of children and families who will receive the subsidy in \$10,000 steps – or other income grouping that the Department can provide – from an annual income of \$0 up to \$340,000 or more?
- f. At each of the above steps, how much less or more is being spent, and how many less or more children and families will receive assistance compared to the current CCB/CCR system?

Answer

Please refer to Additional Estimates question SQ16-000081.