

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000146

Senator Kakoschke-Moore, Skye provided in writing

Additional location, size or indigenous loading in child care package

Question

Why is there no additional location, size or indigenous loading included in the child care package?

Answer

The *Jobs for Families* Child Care Package, through the Community Child Care Fund (CCCF), will specifically support services, including Indigenous services, operating in disadvantaged communities to maintain operations due to location or other community or service level challenges.

Under the CCCF, child care services will be able to apply for supplementary funding to:

- reduce the barriers in accessing child care, in particular for disadvantaged or vulnerable families and communities
- provide sustainability support for child care services experiencing viability issues, which may be due to location or size
- provide capital support to increase the supply of child care places in areas of high unmet demand.

The design of the CCCF will be sufficiently flexible to provide targeted support to all child care services that may be facing challenges due to location, size or Indigeneity.

The Australian Government has set aside \$61.8 million within the CCCF for Budget Based Funded (BBF) services, which is equivalent to funding currently provided under the BBF program, to ensure their viability in the new system. This amount will be indexed into the future, and is in addition to fee income that will be available to BBFs under the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and the Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS).

BBF services will be able to apply through the non-competitive process. Together the CCS, ACCS and CCCF income streams guarantee that BBF services will be better off into the future.

The balance of CCCF funds will be available under the competitive grant process.