

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. SQ17-000552

Senator Collins, Jacinta asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 80

Behavioural changes in modelling patterns of usage

Question

Dr Bruniges: I can talk to the general model and then refer to Ms Wilson to give her a bit of a break there. The new model takes in the key changes. The first of those changes is what we call a responsive growth estimate, which means that the new model responds to recent growth trends, such as either sharp growth or, in fact, a decline due to the successful compliance that the minister mentioned, for example, in family day care. They do that by usage. The other thing that that model does is it replaces a single 10-year rolling average methodology with a statistical projection by each service type. So, you are getting a finer discrimination between the service type rather than one, which gives us a better modelling capacity.

The second thing, as I said, are the patterns of usage, the childcare-type differences, looking at different growth rates, patterns of usage and payment entitlements across the service types. And better data reliability.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Patterns of usage?

Dr Bruniges: Yes.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: Are there any behavioural change elements in that?

Dr Bruniges: I would have to take that on notice, but I do not think so. It is more around patterns of usage of family day care versus different services.

Answer

No.