

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood, Working Age and Indigenous Participation**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0247\_14

**Senator Back asked on 6 June 2013, Hansard page 28**

**Question**

**38 Children and Family Centres**

Senator BACK: The last question I want to ask, in line with that earlier question, is: how were the sites chosen? The point being made is: why were centres chosen in or near Darwin, Cairns, Rockhampton, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Adelaide and Perth when mainstream services would easily have been available in those areas? Is that valid? Is that the case? Ms Paul: I would have to take that on notice—these are the 38 Indigenous ones? Senator BACK: Yes.

**Answer**

The 38 Children and Family Centres are being established in a mix of remote, regional and urban locations where there is demonstrated need for these services.

The selection of individual locations by state and territory governments and agreed by the Australian Government considered factors such as:

- the distribution of the Indigenous child population aged 0-four years within the jurisdiction
- the relative level of need within the jurisdiction
- existing level of service provision
- identified service delivery gaps
- opportunities for joint investment, including into existing services
- level of community involvement and support
- capacity of service providers including good governance, engagement of partnerships, or potential to develop such capacity
- the ability to connect with existing services, whether Indigenous or non-Indigenous and with the broader economy.