Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000950

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Additional Child Care Subsidy

Question

What level of 'top up' subsidy will be provided to children at risk under the Additional Child Care Subsidy? In dollar terms, what will the 'top up' subsidy be per hour? What will the maximum 'top up' subsidy be?

Answer

Children who are 'at risk of serious abuse or neglect' will receive up to 50 hours per week of subsidised child care irrespective of their parents' activity. Their subsidy will be equal to 100 per cent of the actual fee charged, up to 120 per cent of the hourly fee cap by service type.

The 'top up' will be the difference between what the family is eligible for under the Child Care Subsidy and the fee the family is paying, and will vary due to individual circumstances up to 120 per cent of the hourly fee cap.