

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-001019

Senator Paterson, James asked on 20 October 2016, Proof Hansard page 90

Compliance and National Quality Framework

Question

Senator PATERSON: How many of the services that have been investigated had been assessed and rated by state and territory governments as in line with the National Quality Framework?

Mrs Pearce: I cannot tell you that off the top of my head.

Senator PATERSON: On notice is okay.

Mrs Pearce: But I can take it on notice. I do know that some of the more spectacular cases had been.

Senator PATERSON: They had been assessed as in line with the National Quality Framework?

Mrs Pearce: Or they had not been assessed at all.

Ms Wilson: The recent ones in Sydney, for example.

Senator PATERSON: Yes. If you could take on notice the number, and also state by state—if you could break that down by state, on notice. Thank you.

Answer

Under the National Quality Framework, state and territory regulatory authorities rate and assess services against the National Quality Standards.

In the 2015–16 financial year and in the 2016–17 financial year to date, 27 criminal investigations relating to alleged fraud were undertaken. Of the entities associated with these investigations, the Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority's (ACECQA) national register shows nine had not been assessed and rated.

Of the 18 entities that were assessed and rated, two were rated as 'Significant Improvement Required'.

Of the nine entities that had not been assessed and rated, three were in NSW, three were in VIC, two were in Qld and one was in the ACT.

The ACECQA National Quality Framework Snapshot, as at 30 June 2016 shows that only 40 per cent of all family day care services have been assessed and rated by the relevant and responsible state or territory authority.