

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates 24-28 February 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Funding for Aboriginal Early Childhood Support and Learning Inc

**Senator:** Senator Rachel Siewert

**Question reference number:** 133

**Type of Question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 11 April 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Why has the funding for Aboriginal Early Childhood Support and Learning Inc (AECSL) been cut?

**Answer:**

Funding to Aboriginal Early Childhood Support and Learning Inc as an Indigenous Support Unit under the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000* (IETA) ceased as at 31 December 2013 when transitional arrangements concluded.

The services provided through these transitional arrangements are now the responsibility of the state and territory governments, which receive funding under the National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education.

The funds have been redirected to the early childhood Supplementary Recurrent Assistance programme to improve educational outcomes for Indigenous preschool children.