

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2007-08 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 1

DEEWR Question No. EW100_08

Senator Stephens provided in writing.

Question

Child Care Services

The department advised during the hearing that between 2006/07 and 2007/08 there were change in the mix of child care services affecting the budget lines.

For 2006/07 and 2007/08, please identify child care services operated by each of the following, and what percentage of overall services this represents:

- State and Territory Governments
- Local Governments
- Community based organisations
- Private companies

Answer

The Child Care Services Support Program (CCSSP) funds are split across three items:

- Child Care Services Support – Bill 1
- Child Care Services Support (SPP) – Bill 2: payments to State and Territory Governments
- Children's Services LGA – Bill 2: payments to Local Government Associations.

If a service, eligible for funding under the CCSSP, is provided by a State/Territory Government or local government authority, the funds are paid from the appropriate Bill 2 item. Payments to all other sector types (i.e. private or community based) are paid from the Bill 1 item. Hence, the reduction in the estimates for the Bill 2 items reflected an estimated decrease in those sectors' participation among services eligible for sustainability assistance.

The number and percentage of approved child care services¹, according to sector, for 2006-07 and 2007-08 (as at 1 February 2008) is as follows:

Bill	Sector ²	2006-07		2007-08 ³	
		No.	%	No.	%
Bill 2	State Government	570	4.7	543	4.5
Bill 2	Local Government	1,008	8.3	973	8.0
Bill 1	Community based	5,370	44.0	5,182	42.5
Bill 1	Private	5,247	43.0	5,489	45.0
Total		12,195	100.0	12,187	100.0

Notes:

(1) Refers to all types of approved child care services (i.e. after school hours care, before school hours care, family day care, in-home care, long day care, occasional care and vacation care).

(2) Based on sector information as specified within Centrelink's Childcare Operator System (COS).

(3) Refers to the 2007-08 financial year up to 1 February 2008.

Source: Centrelink administrative data.