

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood

DEEWR Question No.EW0222_12

Senator Nash provided in writing.

Question

Mychild Website

1. Why does the MyChild website not have access to the vacancy and fee data for the Capital Hill Early Childhood Centre?
2. What are the requirements on centres to provide this information?
3. How many child care centres have not provided their vacancy and fee data to the Mychild website?
4. What has been the total cost to date of the MyChild website?
5. Who administers this website?
6. How frequently is it updated?

Answer

1. Each week Child Care Benefit approved services are responsible for reporting their anticipated vacancies for the following week. If a service has not reported vacancy information, then the mychild website will display a message stating that the information has not been provided by the service. For the week commencing 13 June 2011 the Capital Hill Early Childhood Centre was reporting vacancy information.

It is not mandatory for services to provide fee information for publication on the mychild website. As at 10 June 2011, the Capital Hill Early Childhood Centre had not provided fee information.

2. Child Care Benefit approved services are required to report vacancy information on a weekly basis. Each service has until 8pm (local time) every Friday to report the anticipated availability of child care places for each day of the following week. This information is published on the mychild website on the following Monday morning.

It is not mandatory for services to provide fee information for publication on the mychild website.

3. 23 per cent of long day care services had not reported their vacancy information for the week commencing 6 June 2011 and 38 per cent did not have fee information published as at 10 June 2011.

4. \$4.5 million was provided for the Information for Families budget measure across two years (2008-09 and 2009-10). From 2010-11, further development costs have been absorbed by the Department.

5. The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.
6. The MyChild website is updated several times each week.