



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023 **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by Ms Nicole Lawder MLA on 13 November 2023: Mr Moysey took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard proof transcript 13 November 2023 [PAGE 10]

In relation to: Universal quality early childhood education for three year-olds initiative

MS LAWDER: I would like to touch on the waiver. Generally, for the preschool program, which has degree-qualified early childhood teachers or a transition agreement with the Education Directorate, centres need to be meeting or exceeding the national quality standards for educational programs and practice in governance and leadership. Can all centres in the ACT meet these standards or are they meeting these standards?

Mr Moysey: Currently, 67 services are working towards that. I want to stress that the quality ratings are not compliance ratings; they are quality ratings. So the quality work is all the way through until you get to the point where you reach compliance issues. Compliance issues are all set out in the national law, as to what you should comply with, and the quality ratings are about how you are going in reaching the quality standard and all the elements under the standard.

MS LAWDER: Is that 67 of the 169?

Mr Moysey: That is 67 of all services.

MS LAWDER: Which is how many?

Ms Efthymiades: That includes all out of school care.

Mr Moysey: It includes out of school care.

Ms Efthymiades: And all government preschools. So it is a much larger number than that 169.

Mr Moysey: I am going to say it is about 53, but I can take that on notice just to clarify the number. It is going to be under 53 services, because the number—

MS LAWDER: That are working towards it?

Mr Moysey: That are working towards.

Ms Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

There are 192 long day care services in the ACT. 131 long day care services are meeting the National Quality Standard (NQS) or above. 48 long day care services are working towards the NQS. A further thirteen services have not yet been assessed against the NQS.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:

Date: 27/11/23

By the Minister for Early Childhood Development, Ms Yvette Berry MLA.