

Briefing Note

Director-General

Department of Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Approval

Action required by: 08/11/2013

Urgent – Data submission due to Australian Bureau of Statistics by 8 November 2013.

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF 2013 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE (ECEC) SERVICES CENSUS DATA TO AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Summary of key objectives

- To seek the Director-General's approval to release 2013 ECEC Services Census data to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) by 8 November 2013 to meet National Partnership reporting obligations.
- Census data includes four and five year old children with a disability participating in Government special education programs and the *Bound for Success* Initiative.
- To seek the Director-General's approval to release data on children with a disability participating in Government special education programs and the *Bound for Success* Initiative in the 'public interest' to the ABS under section 426(4)(e)(ii) of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (EGPA).

Key issues

1. In accordance with national reporting arrangements, Queensland provides data each year to the ABS for inclusion in *Preschool Education Australia*. Data are collected annually through the Queensland ECEC Services Census (the census).
2. The 2013 census achieved an overall response rate of 99.1% covering 1,366 long day care, 479 kindergarten, 35 limited hours care, and 29 pre-prep in school services as well as eKindy.
3. Data were imputed, using an agreed method, for six funded services that did not respond to the survey and for 34 funded services that reported they did not run a program as they did not have a qualified teacher during the reference period.
4. Queensland's census submission also includes unit record level data collected under the EGPA for children enrolled in pre-prep programs under the *Bound for Success* Initiative, and four and five year old children with a disability enrolled in Government special education programs.
5. Section 426(4) of the EGPA allows the recording, use and disclosure of student personal information only in specific situations. Section 426(4)(e)(ii), permits the Director-General to provide written consent to certain recording and use of student personal information if 'reasonably satisfied the recording and use is in the public interest'.
6. The Department is satisfied the use and disclosure of personal information for children enrolled in pre-prep programs under the *Bound for Success* Initiative, and children with a disability participating in Government special education programs is in the public interest.

7. Release of this information will support reporting requirements under the National Information Agreement for Early Childhood Education and Care, in particular:
- A nationally consistent approach to data collection under the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood Education;
 - Information requirements of other National Agreements and National Partnerships, including the National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Early Childhood Development and National Indigenous Reform Agreement;
 - Outcomes in relation to the COAG Participation and Productivity Agenda;
 - Other national reporting purposes, including but not limited to the Report on Government Services, Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage, Report to COAG Reform Council, and National Headline Indicators on Children's Health, Development and Wellbeing;
 - Monitoring, research and evaluation related to children, families and early childhood development services under the Early Childhood Development Strategy.

Implications

8. Legal and Administrative Law Branch have

Exempt information under section 48 and schedule 3, section 7 of the RTI Act

Exempt information under section 48 and schedule 3, section 7 of the RTI Act

9. Risks adjoining this process are that parents in these services will not have 'opted in' to this process and may be concerned from a privacy and confidentiality perspective. However, information provided to the ABS will be subject to privacy obligations under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*, with confidentiality being a legislative guarantee by the ABS. The Department considers that the risks attending this process are significantly outweighed by the benefits flowing from provision of these data.
10. Census data that are submitted to the ABS forms the basis for determining the 2013 Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) performance indicator results.
11. Overall, 28,912 ECEC workers are reported to have participated in the census in 2013 compared to 28,412 in 2012 (a 1.8% increase).
12. The total number of children enrolled in a quality kindergarten program in Queensland to be provided to the ABS in this 2013 preliminary data set is almost 53,900. This is an increase of 7.7% on the 50,029 reported by the ABS in 2012.
13. The number of four year old children identified in Queensland in 2013 is likely to be around 63,000 when the ABS releases the 2013 Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data, expected in mid-December this year.
14. This would result in Queensland reporting a participation rate of around 85% for 2013, or an improvement of approximately 8 percentage points.
15. This overall participation figure is an estimate only and should not be regarded as final. The ABS is scheduled to release approved four year-old ERP data on 17 December 2013 and final Queensland enrolment numbers in early March 2014.
16. Queensland reported enrolment numbers might be revised when census data are reconciled against the Commonwealth Department of Education's Child Care Management System data in early November.
17. Further briefs will outline 2013 performance when ABS makes available data such as four year old ERP and ERP by Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) and remoteness.

Background

18. The 2013 census was conducted in August 2013. Data were collected in accordance with the 2013 ECEC National Minimum Data Standards.
19. The Department must provide ABS data tables by 8 November 2013.
20. A copy of the data file with one record example is included at Attachment 1.
21. ABS is scheduled to publish the provided ECEC data in early March 2014.

Right to information

22. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Director-General:

- **approve** including students enrolled under the Bound for Success Initiative and Special Education Programs in the 2013 ECEC Census data set under section 426(4)(e)(ii) of the EGPA;
- **approve** release of 2013 ECEC Census data to the ABS by 8 November 2013; and
- **note** work continues to finalise 2013 performance indicator results for including in the 2014 Annual Report that must be submitted to the Australian Government Department of Education by March 2014.

APPROVED/ NOT APPROVED


DR JIM WATTERSTON

Director-General

Department of Education, Training and Employment

☐ Copy to Minister's Office

Director-General's comments

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Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYN	Child—SLK Sequential Match code N(N5)	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Person—Indigenous status, code N	Person—letters of family name, text XXX
PSN_LNK_RECKEY	PSN_SLK_MATCH	PSN_DOB	PSN_INDGSTATUS	PSN_LTSFAMNAME
<i>RONOH221120071</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>22112007</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>RON</i>

Person—letters of given name, text XX	Person—sex, code N	Child—maximum preschool program hours available, total hours N[N]	Child—preschool program attendance indicator, yes/no code N	Child—preschool program received from a qualified teacher indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N
PSN_LTSGIVNAME	PSN_SEX	PSN_HRSOFFPW	PSN_ATTENDIND	PSN_RECVDIND
<i>OH</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>

Child—preschool program enrolment indicator, yes/no code N	Child—preschool program fees charged per week, total Australian currency N[N(8)]	Child—preschool program hours attended (per week), total hours N[N]	Child—preschool program hours enrolled (per week), total hours N[N]	Child—preschool program repeater indicator, yes/no/unknown/not stated/inadequately described code N
PSN_ENROLIND	PSN_FEECENSUSWK	PSN_HRSATTPW	PSN_HRSENRPW	PSN_PSREPEATIND
<i>1</i>	<i>10.00</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>2</i>

Person (address)—address line, text [X(180)]	Address—suburb/town/loca lity name, text X[46]	Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}	Person—Australian state/territory identifier, code N	Person—area of usual residence, geographical location CD code, (ASGC 2006) NNNNNNN
PSN_ADDRESL	PSN_ADDRESS	PSN_POSTCODE	PSN_STATE	PSN_CD
<i>50 Daisy St</i>	<i>Bankstown</i>	<i>2345</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1*****</i>

Address—statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11)	Person—area of usual residence, geographic location (Mesh Block), code (ASGS 2011) N(11)	Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X(15)	Organisation—organisation name, text [X(200)]	Service provider organisation (address)—address line, text [X(180)]
PSN_SA1	PSN_MESHBLOCK	EPR_ID	EPR_NAME	EPR_ADDRESL
1#####	1^AAAAAAAA	N112233	Lavender Gardens Preschool	50 Tulip Avenue

Address—suburb/town/locality name, text X[46]	Service provider organisation—Australian state/territory identifier, code N	Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}	Service provider organisation—geographic location (CD), code (ASGC 2006) NNNNNNN	Address—statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11)
EPR_ADDRESS	EPR_STATE	EPR_POSTCODE	EPR_CD	EPR_SA1
Lavender Gardens	1	2345	1*****	1#####

Service provider organisation—geographic location (Mesh Block), code (ASGS 2011) N(11)	Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care, code N	Service provider organisation—management type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Service provider organisation—service activity type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Service provider organisation—service delivery setting, early childhood education and care, code N
EPR_MESHBLOCK	EPR_GOVFUNDTYP	EPR_MANAGTYP	EPR_SERVACTTYP	EPR_DlivSET
1^AAAAAAAA	1	2	7	1

Service provider organisation—number of preschool program service operation weeks (calendar year), total NN
EPR_SRVOPPWKS
40

Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X(15)	Organisation—organisation name, text [X(200)]	Service provider organisation (address)—address line, text [X(180)]
EPR_ID	EPR_NAME	EPR_ADDRESL
<i>N112233</i>	<i>Lavender Gardens Preschool</i>	<i>50 Tulip Avenue</i>

Address—suburb/town/locality name, text X[46]	Service provider organisation—Australian state/territory identifier, code N	Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}
EPR_ADDRESS	EPR_STATE	EPR_POSTCODE
<i>Lavender Gardens</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2345</i>

Service provider organisation—geographic location (CD), code (ASGC 2006) NNNNNNN	Address—statistical area, level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11)	Service provider organisation—geographic location (Mesh Block), code (ASGS 2011) N(11)
EPR_CD	EPR_SA1	EPR_MESHBLOCK
1#####	1*****	1^AAAAAAAAA

Service provider organisation—government funding type, early childhood education and care, code N	Service provider organisation—management type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Service provider organisation—service activity type, early childhood education and care, code N[N]
EPR_GOVFUNDTYP	EPR_MANAGTYP	EPR_SERVACTTYP
1	2	8

Service provider organisation—service delivery setting, early childhood education and care, code N	Service provider organisation—number of preschool program service operation weeks (calendar year), total NN	Service provider organisation—maximum preschool program hours available per week, total hours N[N]
EPR_DLIVSET	EPR_SRVOPWKS	EPR_PREHRSAVBLPW
1	40	20

Service provider organisation—preschool program weekly tuition fee schedule amount, total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN	Enrolled Indigenous 3 yo children	Enrolled Non-Indigenous 3 yo children
EPR_FEESCHAMT	ENR_INDTOTAL_3_M_F	ENR_NONIND_3_M_F
5.75	1	0

Enrolled Indigenous 'not-stated' 3 yo children	Total Enrolled 3 yo children	Enrolled Indigenous 4 yo children
ENR_NS_3_M_F	ENR_TOTAL_3_M_F	ENR_INDTOTAL_4_M_F
0	1	2

Enrolled Non-Indigenous 4 yo children	Enrolled Indigenous 'not-stated' 4 yo children	Total Enrolled 4 yo children
ENR_NONIND_4_M_F	ENR_NS_4_M_F	ENR_TOTAL_4_M_F
9	0	11

Enrolled Indigenous 5 yo children	Enrolled Non-Indigenous 5 yo children	Enrolled Indigenous 'not-stated' 5 yo children
ENR_INDTOTAL_5_M_F	ENR_NONIND_5_M_F	ENR_NS_5_M_F
1	5	0

Total Enrolled 5 yo children	Enrolled Indigenous 6 yo children	Enrolled Non-Indigenous 6 yo children
ENR_TOTAL_5_M_F	ENR_INDTOTAL_6_M_F	ENR_NONIND_6_M_F
6	0	0

Enrolled Indigenous 'not-stated' 6 yo children	Total Enrolled 6 yo children	Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children enrolled in a preschool program, total N[NNNN]
ENR_NS_6_M_F	ENR_TOTAL_6_M_F	EPR_INDIGPRENR
0	0	4

Service provider organisation—number of preschool program enrolments, total number N[NNNN]	Attending Indigenous 3 yo children	Attending Non-Indigenous 3 yo children
EPR_NUMPREENR	ATT_INDTOTAL_3_M_F	ATT_NONIND_3_M_F
18	0	0

Attending Indigenous 'not-stated' 3 yo children	Total Attending 3 yo children	Attending Indigenous 4 yo children
ATT_NS_3_M_F	ATT_TOTAL_3_M_F	ATT_INDTOTAL_4_M_F
0	0	1

Attending Non-Indigenous 4 yo children	Attending Indigenous 'not-stated' 4 yo children	Total Attending 4 yo children
ATT_NONIND_4_M_F	ATT_NS_4_M_F	ATT_TOTAL_4_M_F
8	0	9

Attending Indigenous 5 yo children	Attending Non-Indigenous 5 yo children	Attending Indigenous 'not-stated' 5 yo children
ATT_INDTOTAL_5_M_F	ATT_NONIND_5_M_F	ATT_NS_5_M_F
1	4	0

Total Attending 5 yo children	Attending Indigenous 6 yo children	Attending Non-Indigenous 6 yo children
ATT_TOTAL_5_M_F	ATT_INDTOTAL_6_M_F	ATT_NONIND_6_M_F
5	0	0

Attending Indigenous 'not-stated' 6 yo children	Total Attending 6 yo children	Service provider organisation—number of Indigenous children attending a preschool program, total number N[NNNN]
ATT_NS_6_M_F	ATT_TOTAL_6_M_F	EPR_INDIGPREATND
0	0	2

Service provider organisation—number of children attending a preschool program, total N[NNNN]	Service provider organisation—number of preschool program hours enrolled, total hours N[NNNN]	Service provider organisation—preschool program attendance hours, total hours N[NNNN]
EPR_NUMPREATND	EPR_PREHRSENRPW	EPR_TOTPREATNDHRS
14	235	170

Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X(15)	Organisation—organisation name, text [X(200)]	Service provider organisation (address)—address line, text [X(180)]
EPR_ID	EPR_NAME	EPR_ADDRESL
<i>N112233</i>	<i>Lavender Gardens Preschool</i>	<i>50 Tulip Avenue</i>

Address—suburb/town/ locality name, text X[46]	Service provider organisation—Australian state/territory identifier, code N	Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}
EPR_ADDRESS	EPR_STATE	EPR_POSTCODE
<i>Lavender Gardens</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2345</i>

Service provider organisation—geographic location (CD), code (ASGC 2006) NNNNNNN	Address—statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2011) N(11)	Service provider organisation—geographic location (Mesh Block), code (ASGS 2011) N(11)
EPR_CD	EPR_SA1	EPR_MESHBLOCK
1#####	1*****	1^AAAAAAAA^

Record - Statistical linkage key, code 581, XXXXXDDMMYYYYN	Person (employed)—person identifier, string XXXXXX[X(14)]	Person (employed)—type of work activity, early childhood education and care, code N
TCH_LNK_RECKEY	TEACHER_ID	TCH_TYPWRKACT
MIHIC021119832	JV50001267	1

Person (employed)—role of early childhood education and care worker, code N	Person (employed)—education field of highest relevant qualification, in early childhood education and care, code N[N]	Person (employed)—level of highest qualification in early childhood education and care, code N[N]
TCH_ROLE	TCH_FLDHIRELQUL	TCH_LVLHIRELQUL
2	1	4

Person (employed)—hours worked in preschool program delivery, total hours NNN
TCH_PSPROGDELHRS
25

Briefing Note

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: Noting

Action required by: 19 July 2013

SUBJECT: SCSEEC INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN 2012

Summary of key objectives

To provide background information with respect to the paper, *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*, specifically regarding:

- the relative performance of Queensland against other jurisdictions in regard to enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education (kindergarten) programs; and
- strategies to improve kindergarten attendance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in remote communities.

Key issues

1. The Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC) has been asked to note out of session the paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*. The paper examines progress towards achieving the Closing the Gap target: "ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education".
2. The paper presents information about access (a kindergarten program is available that the child could attend), enrolment (the family has completed all relevant enrolment requirements for the program) and attendance (child is attending the program).
3. Despite the specific Closing the Gap target, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has not released data regarding the Estimated Residential Population of Indigenous 4 year olds by remoteness at a sub-state level. This is largely due to concerns with the quality of data about Indigenous people reported at regional levels. Given this, the Department cannot determine the proportion of Indigenous four year old children in remote communities that are enrolled in a kindergarten program, and the report does not provide a jurisdictional comparison of this.
4. A mapping exercise has been undertaken by all states and territories to determine whether there are young children in a community and the availability of access to a kindergarten program. 120 locations in Queensland, where there are young children in the community, were reported as remote or very remote.
5. Access to kindergarten programs across Queensland is available through either a long day care service; school-based delivery of a pre-Prep program; a kindergarten service; or through e-Kindy (a distance education kindergarten program delivered by the Brisbane School of Distance Education). As such, it has been reported that there is confidence that all Indigenous children in the year before school, living in remote communities, have access to an early childhood education program.

6. In the 2012 Annual Report against the National Partnership Agreement for Early Childhood Education (NP ECE), Queensland reported that 66% of Indigenous children were enrolled in a kindergarten program (based on Indigenous population data from 2006 Census rather than the ABS Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991–2021 publication used by DEEWR for this paper). Queensland's target was 78%.

Queensland's performance relative to other jurisdictions

7. In 2008, Queensland's baseline for kindergarten participation was the lowest of all jurisdictions, at 29%. While a lot more work needs to be done to continue increasing participation rates, particularly of vulnerable and disadvantaged children, it should be noted that substantial improvement has been achieved over the life of the NP ECE.
8. Please also note that performance data from all states and territories is not directly comparable as counting methodologies and calculations vary.

Strategies to increase Indigenous enrolment and attendance

9. Increasing kindergarten participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children remains a high priority under the new National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education (NP UA) and also under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership Agreement (IECD NP). There are a range of strategies being implemented to increase kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, including some just recently commenced.
10. The Queensland Government's Solid Partners, Solid Futures also outlines key initiatives that will support the continued access, participation and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in kindergarten programs.
11. For participation and attendance to increase, it is important that early childhood education and care services are safe, inclusive and welcoming places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to learn and develop. As such, key strategies respond to the needs of families and children; early childhood education and care service providers and/or early childhood professionals. Strategies include:
 - Establishment of ten children and family centres (CFCs under the IECD NP) where kindergarten programs are either provided at the centre or brokered through the centre. CFCs provide integrated early years services to holistically support the development and early education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
 - Targeted programs delivered by Early Years Centres to connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with kindy programs.
 - Pre-Kindergarten Grants - funded under the NP ECE and NP UA have been provided in 14 locations across Queensland, for non-government organisations to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to transition between home and early childhood settings.
 - Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Early Childhood – a pilot is being implemented in ten priority locations across Queensland, funded under the NP ECE and NP UA. The program is building the cultural capability of kindergarten program providers to establish welcoming environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
 - Transport solutions – funding to 11 organisations to deliver tailored transport programs in communities where transport is considered a barrier to access. Many of these solutions respond to transport needs identified by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
 - Under the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline transition statements are being used to increase communication between families, kindergarten programs and schools.
 - State-wide community awareness raising - targeting families using television, billboards, radio and doctor's waiting rooms with communications materials specifically developed to target Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

- Continuing to build Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership and workforce capacity in remote locations through:
 - professional development for educators in the pre-Prep programs across the 35 discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
 - delivery of the *Remote Indigenous Professional Development* project and mentoring program funded by the Australian Government.
- 12. Additionally, provision of Queensland Government funded pre-Prep in school program continues in 35 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, generally in very remote locations, to support kindergarten participation of children in these areas.
- 13. Queensland's implementation plan for the new NP UA is currently under development and is to be agreed by the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Education, Training and Employment before it is bilaterally agreed with the Australian Government. This implementation plan will outline Queensland's strategies for improving enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Implications

- 14. There are no financial or legal implications from SCSEEC's consideration of the paper.

Background

- 15. The Australian, State and Territory Governments have made a commitment to the Council of Australian Government (COAG) Closing the Gap target of 'ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years' (by mid-2013).
- 16. This commitment was made within the former NP ECE and is carried on within the NP UA.
- 17. Given that participation in early childhood education is voluntary, the proxy target for the achievement of universal access is 95 per cent enrolment of eligible children in the year before full time school.

Right to information

- 18. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Chief of Staff **note** the information provided to support kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, particularly regarding questions raised about the paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*.

NOTED**FIONA CRAWFORD****Chief of Staff****Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP****Minister for Education, Training and Employment**

/ /

☐ Copy to Minister

Chief of Staff's comments

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Briefing Note

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: Noting

Action required by:

SUBJECT: STANDING COUNCIL ON SCHOOL EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD (SCSEEC) INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN 2012

Summary of key objectives

To provide background information with respect to the paper, *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*, specifically regarding:

- the relative performance of Queensland against other jurisdictions in regard to enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education (kindergarten) programs; and
- strategies to improve kindergarten attendance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in remote communities.

Key issues

1. SCSEEC has been asked to note the out of session paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*. The paper examines progress towards achieving the Closing the Gap target of 'ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education'.
2. The paper presents information about access (a kindergarten program is available that the child could attend), enrolment (the family has completed all relevant enrolment requirements for the program) and attendance (child is attending the program).
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4. A mapping exercise has been undertaken by all states and territories to determine whether there are young children in a community and the availability of access to a kindergarten program. In Queensland, 120 locations where there are young children in the community were reported as remote or very remote.
5. Access to kindergarten programs across Queensland is available through either a long day care service; school-based delivery of a pre-Prep program; a kindergarten service; or through e-Kindy (a distance education kindergarten program delivered by the Brisbane School of Distance Education). As such, it has been reported that there is confidence that all Indigenous children in the year before school, living in remote communities, have access to an early childhood education program.

6. In the 2012 Annual Report against the National Partnership Agreement for Early Childhood Education (NP ECE), Queensland reported that 66% of Indigenous children were enrolled in a kindergarten program (based on Indigenous population data from 2006 Census rather than the ABS Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991–2021 publication used by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for this paper). Queensland's target was 78%.

Queensland's performance relative to other jurisdictions

7. In 2008, Queensland's baseline for kindergarten participation was the lowest of all jurisdictions, at 29%. While a lot more work needs to be done to continue increasing participation rates, particularly of vulnerable and disadvantaged children, it should be noted that substantial improvement has been achieved over the life of the NP ECE.
8. Please also note that performance data from all states and territories is not directly comparable as counting methodologies and calculations vary.

Strategies to increase Indigenous enrolment and attendance

9. Increasing kindergarten participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children remains a high priority under the new National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education (NP UA) and also under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership Agreement (IECD NP). There are a range of strategies being implemented to increase kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, including some just recently commenced.
10. The Queensland Government's *Solid Partners, Solid Futures* also outlines key initiatives that will support the continued access, participation and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in kindergarten programs.
11. For participation and attendance to increase, it is important that early childhood education and care services are safe, inclusive and welcoming places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to learn and develop. As such, key strategies respond to the needs of families and children; early childhood education and care service providers and/or early childhood professionals. Strategies include:
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 - Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Early Childhood — a pilot is being implemented in ten priority locations across Queensland, funded under the NP ECE and NP UA. The program is building the cultural capability of kindergarten program providers to establish welcoming environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
 - Transport solutions — funding to 11 organisations to deliver tailored transport programs in communities where transport is considered a barrier to access. Many of these solutions respond to transport needs identified by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
 - Under the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline, transition statements are being used to increase communication between families, kindergarten programs and schools.
 - State-wide community awareness raising — targeting families using television, billboards, radio and doctor's waiting rooms with communications materials specifically developed to target Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

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 - professional development for educators in the pre-Prep programs across the 35 discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities; and
 - delivery of the *Remote Indigenous Professional Development* project and mentoring program funded by the Australian Government.
- 12. Additionally, provision of Queensland Government funded pre-Prep in school program continues in 35 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, generally in very remote locations, to support kindergarten participation of children in these areas.
- 13. Queensland's implementation plan for the new NP UA is currently under development and is to be agreed by the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Education, Training and Employment before it is bilaterally agreed with the Australian Government. This implementation plan will outline Queensland's strategies for improving enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

Implications

- 14. There are no financial or legal implications from SCSEEC's consideration of the paper.

Background

- 15. The Australian, State and Territory Governments have made a commitment to the Council of Australian Governments Closing the Gap target of 'ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years' (by mid-2013).
- 16. This commitment was made within the former NP ECE and is carried on within the NP UA.
- 17. Given that participation in early childhood education is voluntary, the proxy target for the achievement of universal access is 95% enrolment of eligible children in the year before full-time school.

Right to information

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Recommendation

That the Chief of Staff:

note the information provided to support kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, particularly regarding questions raised about the paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*.

NOTED



FIONA CRAWFORD

Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP

Minister for Education, Training and Employment

2017113

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Chief of Staff's comments

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Mary Lincoln
Director

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Executive Director
Kathryn Woods
Program Management, Funding
& Performance

Tel: 323 79645

Date: 16/07/2013

Endorsed by:
Deputy Director-General
Annette Whitehead
Policy and Programs

Tel: 324 73365

Date: 18/07/2013

Endorsed by
Director-General
Dr Jim Watterston

Tel: 3237 1070

Date: 23/7/2013



Briefing Note

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: Noting

Action required by: 19 July 2013

SUBJECT: SCSEEC INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN 2012

Summary of key objectives

To provide background information with respect to the paper, *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*, specifically regarding:

- the relative performance of Queensland against other jurisdictions in regard to enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education (kindergarten) programs; and
- strategies to improve kindergarten attendance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in remote communities.

Key issues

1. The Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC) has been asked to note out of session the paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*. The paper examines progress towards achieving the Closing the Gap target: "ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education".
2. The paper presents information about access (a kindergarten program is available that the child could attend), enrolment (the family has completed all relevant enrolment requirements for the program) and attendance (child is attending the program).
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4. A mapping exercise has been undertaken by all states and territories to determine whether there are young children in a community and the availability of access to a kindergarten program. 120 locations in Queensland, where there are young children in the community, were reported as remote or very remote.
5. Access to kindergarten programs across Queensland is available through either a long day care service; school-based delivery of a pre-Prep program; a kindergarten service; or through e-Kindy (a distance education kindergarten program delivered by the Brisbane School of Distance Education). As such, it has been reported that there is confidence that all Indigenous children in the year before school, living in remote communities, have access to an early childhood education program.

6. In the 2012 Annual Report against the National Partnership Agreement for Early Childhood Education (NP ECE), Queensland reported that 66% of Indigenous children were enrolled in a kindergarten program (based on Indigenous population data from 2006 Census rather than the ABS Experimental Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 1991–2021 publication used by DEEWR for this paper). Queensland's target was 78%.

Queensland's performance relative to other jurisdictions

7. In 2008, Queensland's baseline for kindergarten participation was the lowest of all jurisdictions, at 29%. While a lot more work needs to be done to continue increasing participation rates, particularly of vulnerable and disadvantaged children, it should be noted that substantial improvement has been achieved over the life of the NP ECE.
8. Please also note that performance data from all states and territories is not directly comparable as counting methodologies and calculations vary.

Strategies to increase Indigenous enrolment and attendance

9. Increasing kindergarten participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children remains a high priority under the new National Partnership Agreement on Universal Access to Early Childhood Education (NP UA) and also under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership Agreement (IECD NP). There are a range of strategies being implemented to increase kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, including some just recently commenced.
10. The Queensland Government's Solid Partners, Solid Futures also outlines key initiatives that will support the continued access, participation and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in kindergarten programs.
11. For participation and attendance to increase, it is important that early childhood education and care services are safe, inclusive and welcoming places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to learn and develop. As such, key strategies respond to the needs of families and children; early childhood education and care service providers and/or early childhood professionals. Strategies include:
 - Establishment of ten children and family centres (CFCs under the IECD NP) where kindergarten programs are either provided at the centre or brokered through the centre. CFCs provide integrated early years services to holistically support the development and early education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
 - Targeted programs delivered by Early Years Centres to connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with kindy programs.
 - Pre-Kindergarten Grants - funded under the NP ECE and NP UA have been provided in 14 locations across Queensland, for non-government organisations to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to transition between home and early childhood settings.
 - Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Early Childhood – a pilot is being implemented in ten priority locations across Queensland, funded under the NP ECE and NP UA. The program is building the cultural capability of kindergarten program providers to establish welcoming environments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.
 - Transport solutions – funding to 11 organisations to deliver tailored transport programs in communities where transport is considered a barrier to access. Many of these solutions respond to transport needs identified by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.
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Implications

- 14. There are no financial or legal implications from SCSEEC's consideration of the paper.

Background

- 15. The Australian, State and Territory Governments have made a commitment to the Council of Australian Government (COAG) Closing the Gap target of 'ensuring all Indigenous four year olds in remote communities have access to early childhood education within five years' (by mid-2013).
- 16. This commitment was made within the former NP ECE and is carried on within the NP UA.
- 17. Given that participation in early childhood education is voluntary, the proxy target for the achievement of universal access is 95 per cent enrolment of eligible children in the year before full time school.

Right to information

- 18. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Chief of Staff **note** the information provided to support kindergarten participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, particularly regarding questions raised about the paper *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*.

NOTED**FIONA CRAWFORD****Chief of Staff****Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP****Minister for Education, Training and Employment**

/ /
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Chief of Staff's comments

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Date: 17/07/2013

Briefing Note

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: Noting

Action required by: 19 July 2013

SUBJECT: STANDING COUNCIL ON SCHOOL EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD (SCSEEC) INDIGENOUS ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN 2012

Summary of key objectives

To provide background information with respect to the paper, *Indigenous Enrolment and Attendance in Early Childhood Education in Remote Communities in 2012*, specifically regarding:

- the relative performance of Queensland against other jurisdictions in regard to enrolment and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in early childhood education (kindergarten) programs; and
- strategies to improve kindergarten attendance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children living in remote communities.

Key issues

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7. In 2008, Queensland's baseline for kindergarten participation was the lowest of all jurisdictions, at 29%. While a lot more work needs to be done to continue increasing participation rates, particularly of vulnerable and disadvantaged children, it should be noted that substantial improvement has been achieved over the life of the NP ECE.
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FIONA CRAWFORD

Chief of Staff

Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP

Minister for Education, Training and Employment

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Date: 16/07/2013

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Date: / /2013

Briefing Note

Chief of Staff

Office of the Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: Noting

Action required by:

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FIONA CRAWFORD

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Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP

Minister for Education, Training and Employment

201713

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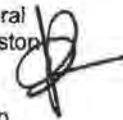
Tel: 324 73365

Date: 18/07/2013

Endorsed by
Director-General
Dr Jim Watterston

Tel: 3237 1070

Date 23/7/2013



Report on Government Services 2014 – Measure Brief

Measure Title: Proportion of children (aged 3-5 years) enrolled in a preschool program from special needs groups

Brief prepared by: Department of Education, Training and Employment

Contact Officer: Laura Hackett, Principal Information Officer
323 70253
Laura.hackett@dete.qld.gov.au
(available between 6 January 2014 and 1 February 2014)

Summary of issue:

- There are lower proportions of children participating in preschool programs (kindergarten program in Queensland) than the proportion in the community for children:
 - from a non-English speaking background
 - with a disability
 - from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background

ROGS Reference:

- Page 3.25, Table 3.5
- Table 3A.15

Data:

Representation of children from special needs groups in preschool services									
Cohort	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Aust
NESB									
Preschool	12.2	-	8.2	na	12.4	2.8	22.6	na	8.6
Community	23.7	23.4	13.2	17.7	15.4	7.4	19.6	39.3	20.0
Children with disability									
Preschool	7.4	-	2.8	3.1	12.0	1.0	3.1	4.2	5.6
Community	7.3	3.9	7.3	6.8	5.5	7.2	7.3	np	6.3
Indigenous									
Preschool	4.5	1.2	4.4	6.8	6.1	7.5	3.1	38.4	4.4
Community	4.6	1.2	6.7	5.7	3.6	7.0	2.5	40.9	4.8

*Victorian data not yet available

Queensland's performance:

- In 2012–13, the proportion of children from non-English speaking backgrounds in Queensland preschool programs was lower than the proportion in the community (8.2% compared to 13.2%). However, the participation rate was broadly consistent with the national cohort (8.6%).
- In 2012–13, the proportion of children with disabilities enrolled in preschool programs was lower than in most other states and territories. This proportion was also considerably lower than

the proportion in the community (2.8% compared to 7.3%). Only Tasmania reported a lower representative proportion.

- In 2012–13, the proportion of children from Indigenous backgrounds enrolled in preschool programs was lower than in the community (4.4% compared to 6.7%). However, the participation rate was consistent with the national average (4.4%).
- Since implementation of the National Partnership on Early Childhood Education, Queensland representation of children from diverse needs groups have shown strong improvement consistent with overall preschool participation:
 - The number of children from non-English speaking backgrounds accessing preschool services has increased from 2335 in 2010 to 4170 in 2012, representing an increase of 79%.
 - The number of children with disabilities accessing preschool services has increased from 859 in 2010 to 2464 in 2012, representing an increase of 187%.
 - The number of children from Indigenous backgrounds accessing preschool services has increased from 1529 in 2010 to 2450 in 2012, representing an increase of 60%.

Analysis:

- The Queensland and Australian Governments are committed to increasing the participation of all children in a kindergarten program.
- Since 2010 funding has been made available through the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS) to kindergarten and long day care services to offset the costs of delivering an approved kindergarten program.
- All services can receive an additional subsidy for each child whose parent, carer or guardian holds a Health Care Card or equivalent. The subsidy is provided to services to reduce out-of-pocket costs for eligible families. The kindergarten fee relief is providing a real and significant financial benefit for disadvantaged families.
- Supporting children with diverse needs is critical to achieving universal access including children with disability and those from non-English speaking backgrounds.
- Tailored communication materials targeting participation of disadvantaged children, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and children with diverse needs (including children from non-English speaking backgrounds) to increase awareness of, and enrolment in, approved kindergarten programs have been produced.

Children with a disability

- In 2013 the Queensland Government invested \$1.9 million to enable kindergarten services to support children with a disability to participate in their programs, a threefold increase on 2010 funding levels. Kindergarten services can apply for funding under the Disability Support Funding (DSF) Program to support children with a suspected or diagnosed disability to benefit from a quality early childhood education.
- In addition, \$1.5 million over three years (2012-2015) is available to provide Specialised Equipment and Resources to kindergarten services state wide. Under the program, eligible kindergarten services have free access to specialised equipment and professional resources to support children with disability or additional needs to take part in a kindergarten program.

Report on Government Services 2014 – Measure Brief

- The Queensland Government engaged the Queensland Studies Authority to provide professional development for teachers on inclusive practices to support children with diverse needs, including strategies for supporting children with disability.

Children from a non-English speaking background

- Since 2012 the Queensland Government has: funded free interpreting support to facilitate kindergarten program enrolment for families with low English proficiency; including translated parent information sheets in 30 languages; and established a translate function on select kindergarten program family pages on the Department website.
- In 2013 the Pre-kindergarten Grants Program commenced implementing community-based engagement and support programs that connect families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with kindergarten programs and support the establishment, implementation and ongoing progress of community-kindergarten.
- Incentives totalling \$1.1 million have been made available in 2013 to increase the cultural and linguistic diversity of the early childhood workforce and support activities that assist cultural inclusion and promote collaborative partnerships with local culturally and linguistically diverse families and communities.
- Early Years Centres are supporting families in 15 communities across Queensland through both small and large centres and outreach services. The Early Years Centres are 'one-stop-shops' that provide integrated early childhood education and care, family and parenting support, and child and maternal health services to families expecting a child or with children aged up to eight years. The Early Years Centre initiative receives recurrent funding of approximately \$8.9 million per annum.

Indigenous children

- In 2013 the Pre-kindergarten Grants Program commenced implementing community-based engagement and support programs that connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families with kindergarten programs and support the establishment, implementation and ongoing progress of community-kindergarten partnerships.
- The Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Early Childhood (EATSIPEC) cultural competence support and guidance program also commenced in 2013 in targeted regional and urban areas of Queensland. Through EATSIPEC, approved kindergarten program providers are supported to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and children and deliver inclusive early childhood education programs.
- Ten Queensland's Children and Family Centres, established under the Indigenous Early Childhood Development National Partnership, are operational and are being leveraged to increase access and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in local kindergarten programs, including supporting the marketing of local kindergarten programs.
- Of the 85 Queensland Government funded kindergarten services opened in 2012, 42 are in locations where the 4 year old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population is 6% and above. This was in addition to 5 of the 23 opened in 2010 and 2011.
- Incentives totalling \$1.1 million were made available in 2013 to increase the cultural and linguistic diversity of the early childhood workforce. This includes supporting activities that assist cultural inclusion and promote collaborative partnerships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities.

Report on Government Services 2014 – Measure Brief

- In 2013-2014 PlayGroup Queensland has been funded \$300,000 to develop models designed to support and strengthen the transition from playgroup to kindergarten, particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in key priority locations.
- A \$1.25 million Transport Assistance Grants Program in 2013-2016 has been implemented to support 12 organisations to deliver transport solutions to increase kindergarten access and participation of children in rural and remote locations and children from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, refugee and low-income families.

Ms Gwynn Bridge
Chief Executive Officer
Childcare Queensland
PO Box 137
SPRINGWOOD QLD 4127

Dear Ms Bridge

Thank you for your email dated 18 March 2013 regarding the establishment of new kindergarten services across Queensland.

The Queensland Government is strongly focussed on helping to prepare children for their first years of formal schooling through the provision of quality kindergarten programs. It is not the intention of the Government's kindergarten infrastructure initiative to compete with long day care services, rather the intention is to provide extra places where they are needed.

As you know the operating model for the extra kindergarten services established under the initiative is different to a typical long day care service. The kindergarten service provides a part-time or sessional program that operates typically from 9am to 3pm over a five day fortnight during school terms. The service is also not eligible for the Federal Government child care subsidies and hence would not attract families that can claim these child care subsidies through a long day care service.

The target group for this initiative is families that do not use or require long day care. The Government's strategy is to provide access for all families to a quality kindergarten program. Families will choose a model of care that meets their preference and family situation. Consequently, the demand for kindergarten services should be considered separately from the demand for long day care services.

It is important to note that the maximum capacity rather than the existing occupancy rate were considered in this analysis. Vacancies in long day care centres are not considered a reliable indicator of local kindergarten demand.

My Department uses detailed demographic data to compare the supply of kindergarten places to the 4 year old population in planning areas throughout the State. This demographic analysis is then verified by regional early childhood officers, who have local knowledge about the kindergartens services within their areas and the uptake of those services.

I am advised that in all of the areas selected for new kindergartens, regional early childhood officers verified the outcomes of the demographic analysis either through providing evidence of existing kindergarten programs being full with waiting lists and/or expected future demand growth of kindergarten-aged children.

Specifically in relation to Gordonvale, my Department has identified that a kindergarten service is required as the demographic analysis shows that there is a deficiency of kindergarten places in the area, and regional early childhood officers have advised that the existing kindergarten is full with a waiting list.

The Department is conducting a tender to select the service provider for the new services and local early childhood education and care services are eligible to apply. This will ensure that local expertise is available to ensure the service operates effectively and provides an opportunity to link to other services in the local area.

Thank you for raising this important matter with me. I invite you to contact my Office Manager, Ms Lisa Pennisi on telephone 3237 1000 to arrange a meeting to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/100244



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

18 APR 2013

Ms Gwynn Bridge
Chief Executive Officer
Childcare Queensland
PO Box 137
SPRINGWOOD QLD 4127

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30 Mary Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15033 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1000
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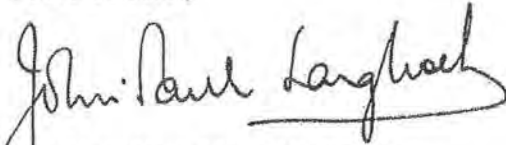
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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John-Paul Langbroek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/100244

MINISTERIAL BACKBENCH LIAISON RESPONSE – Proposed Gordonvale Kindergarten - MULGRAVE EO

- The Department of Education, Training and Employment's kindergarten planning methodology involves an assessment of supply and demand for kindergarten places in a local planning area.
- The supply of kindergarten places is estimated from the licensed capacity of existing early childhood education and care services, using a formula agreed with Childcare Queensland. This takes into account total potential places available in early childhood education and care services, regardless of actual utilisation. Population data is derived from the 2011 census.
- The kindergarten planning data for the Gordonvale local planning area identified a deficiency of kindergarten places. The local planning area comprised Gordonvale, East Trinity, Goldsborough, Green Hill, Little Mulgrave and Wrights Creek.
- The new kindergarten service will provide up to 44 places for kindy-age children in the year before full-time school (i.e. turn four years by 30 June in the year of enrolment).
- The service will provide a kindergarten program for 15 hours per week, 40 weeks per year (school hours and during school terms) and charge fees for children that enrol.
- The service will not be eligible for the Australian Government's child care benefit (CCB) subsidies.
- The service will be eligible for subsidies under the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme (QKFS). Families with an Australian Government Health Care Card or equivalent may be eligible for additional subsidies which can make access to a kindergarten program low or no cost.

Contact Officer:

David Shearer
Director
Office for Early Childhood
Education and Care
(07) 3239 0530

Approved by:

Kathryn Woods
Executive Director
Office of Early Childhood
Education and Care
(07) 3237 9645

Minister's Office File Ref:	
Department File Ref:	13/226325

Briefing Note

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Approval**Action required by: 19/07/2013**

Urgent – Tight construction timeframes for delivery of kindergarten infrastructure on state schools for 2014 school year this issue has been discussed in MIB. Approvals beyond this date will impact on build time of the kindergartens

SUBJECT: NEW KINDERGARTENS PLANNED TO OPEN IN 2014**Summary of key objectives**

- The Minister's approval is sought to proceed to establish additional kindergarten services in 18 locations and undertake further assessment of service delivery options for seven locations.

Key issues

- Since the Minister for Education, Training and Employment approved 25 extra kindergarten services to be established in 2014 new information has come to light regarding local demand, child care vacancy rates, outcomes of tenders and ongoing funding from the Australian Government.
- On the basis of the new information, in seven of the 25 locations further assessment of service delivery options is recommended before they proceed. These locations demonstrate a combination of low interest from local families, relatively high vacancy rates in existing services and lack of interest from potential providers. A list of locations and relevant details is outlined at **Attachment 1**.
- In most of the remaining locations (18 of the 25), data confirming low child care vacancy rates and strong demand from local families to enrol in the new services supports the establishment of extra kindergarten places.
- Of these 18 locations, 12 are proposed to be established on state school sites. For half of the state school locations, a service provider will need to be appointed as no applications were received during the service provider tender process. It is recommended that these projects proceed and the Department negotiate with relevant stakeholders to identify a suitable service provider.
- Construction timeframes for services on state school sites are tight with Infrastructure Services advising the sites will not be completed until mid-January 2014 at the earliest. This will mean that the services will not likely be ready to open for day 1 of Term 1, 2014.
- The other six locations will involve the establishment of extra services on five non-state school sites and at one existing kindergarten service with funding provided by the Queensland Government. The Department is finalising negotiations with these organisations including funding and timing of projects.
- Under the new National Partnership Agreement for Universal Access to Early Childhood Education, there is uncertainty over the ongoing funding from the Australian Government to support kindergarten services and programs beyond 2014. The Department will advise stakeholders of the funding arrangements through service agreement negotiations.

Minister's Office File Ref.	
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Background

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9. The Queensland Government has signed the new National Partnership Agreement for Universal Access to Early Childhood Education. The new agreement provides funding certainty only until the end of 2014.
10. The service provider tender for 12 new services on state schools closed in April 2013 and applications were received for only seven locations. The EOI process for six locations closed in April 2013 and applications were received for only four locations.

Right to information

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- **Approve** that further assessment be undertaken of service delivery options for seven locations, shown as red in **Attachment 1**.
- **Note** that the Department will negotiate with stakeholder organisations to select a suitable service provider in locations shown as amber in **Attachment 1**.

NOTED**APPROVED/NOT APPROVED
ENDORSED/NOTED**

TIM RAWLINGS
 Senior Policy Advisor
 Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

☐ Copy to Assistant Minister**Minister's comments**

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Action Officer:
 David Shearer
 Director
 Office for Early Childhood
 Education and Care

Tel: 323 90530

Endorsed by:
 Executive Director
 Kathryn Woods
 Program Management,
 Funding and Performance

Tel: 323 79645
 Mob: contrary to the public interest
 Date: 09/07/2013

Endorsed by:
 Deputy Director-General
 Annette Whitehead
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Tel: 324 73365
 Mob: contrary to the public interest
 Date: 11/07/2013

Endorsed by:
 Director-General n
 Dr. Jim Watterston

Tel: 323 71070
 Mob:
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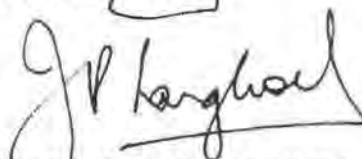
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TIM RAWLINGS
 Senior Policy Advisor
 Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
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17/7/13

☐ Copy to Assistant Minister

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JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
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19/7/13

Minister's comments

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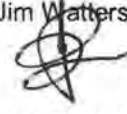
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 Director-General n
 Dr. Jim Watterston

Tel: 323 71070
 Mob: 
 Date: 16/7/13

Minister's Office File Ref:	
Department File Ref:	13/226325

Briefing Note

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Approval

Action required by: 17/07/2013

Urgent – Tight construction timeframes for delivery of kindergarten infrastructure on state schools for 2014 school year

SUBJECT: NEW KINDERGARTENS PLANNED TO OPEN IN 2014**Summary of key objectives**

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FIONA CRAWFORD
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Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and
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JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
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☐ Copy to Assistant Minister**Minister's comments**

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ATTACHMENT 1: Extra kindergarten services for 2014

Kindergarten locations for 2014 previously approved by the Minister (announced in January 2013).

The Department's kindergarten planning methodology identifies planning areas where the estimated population of kindy-age children is greater than the estimated capacity of existing ECEC services to provide a kindergarten program. The planning areas are based on statutory regional planning areas and identify principal and major activity centres.

Table overleaf provides current information for each location, categorised as follows:

1. Where a location has a low waiting list, vacancies or insufficient enrolment interest and may not have attracted a tenderer (RED)
2. Where a location has minimal vacancies, sufficient enrolment interest and with no tenderer (AMBER)
3. Where a location has at least one tenderer, minimal vacancies and sufficient enrolment interest (GREEN)

Locations identified as green and amber represent 660 extra kindy places.

Note 1: Sufficient enrolment interest is defined as at least half the built capacity of the new service *(e.g. 22 children for a 44 place service). Families can express an interest by registering with the department's Kindy Hotline. Note consistent enrolment interest data is only available for the state school sites.

Note 2: Vacancies are estimated based on data from 2012 DETE ECEC census, 2013 CGB semester 1 forecast enrolments and estimates of kindy capacity used in DETE's kindy planning data.

Data Sources –2013 enrolments (where information was available and included telephoning services to confirm enrolment data), Kindergarten ISB Planning Data, CGB semester 1 enrolment forecast data ; 2012 DETE ECEC census data.

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
Blackwater	Blackwater North State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tenders for service provider 40 children on waiting list for new service One 44 place QKFS kindergarten with nil vacancy One 16 place QKFS LDC service with nil vacancies One 17 place LHC service with nil vacancies however this service is not QKFS approved Total 77 kindy places - nil vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 122 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 45 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 479 Number of Preps: 69 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: 8%
Marian	Extension of C&K Kindy at Marian State School – extra 22 places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&K will operate the service Two 44 place QKFS kindergarten services - nil vacancies Total places – 88 Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 116 Shortfall in kindergarten places - 28 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 553 Number of Preps: 79 = Indigenous enrolments: 6%
Glenden	Glenden State School 22 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tenders for service provider 25 children on waiting list for new service One 22 place QKFS LDC service with no vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 58 (includes Nebo) Many families working for mining companies live locally due to accommodation costs in nearby larger centres Prep enrolments (2013) are 43 Option for multi-age service Shortfall in kindergarten places – 36 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-12 Total Enrolment: 317 Number of Preps: 43 = Indigenous enrolments: 7%
Rockhampton North	Lakes Creek State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tenders for service provider Two children on waiting list for service In local area around Lakes Creek - Four QKFS approved kindergartens with 176 kindy places - 5.2% vacancy, Seven QKFS LDC service and five non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 277 - 1% vacancy; One 14 place LHC service with no vacancies however this service is not QKFS approved; Total 467 kindy places -total vacancies 2.58% Need appears to be met in Lakes Creek area. Projected 4 year old pop'n for 2014 – 447 Rockhampton North planning area has estimated population of 753 – this is a large planning area with a service gap of 58 places 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 144 Number of Preps: 16 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: 25% 29% children – Vietnamese is main language at home

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
Gracemere (West Rockhampton)	Waraburra State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tenders for service provider 40 children on waiting list for new service Two QKFS approved kindergartens with 88 kindy places - 3.4% vacancy Three QKFS LDC service with a kindy capacity of 103 with nil vacancies Total 191 kindy places -total vacancies 1.5% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 259 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 68 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 484 Number of Preps: 63 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: 23%
Inala	Serviceton South State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tenders for service provider One child on waiting list for new service In Inala area – there are four QKFS approved kindergartens with 196 kindy places – 26% vacancies; five QKFS LDC services and two non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 194 – nil vacancies; Total 390 kindy places -total vacancies 13% In Inala area projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 367 – need appears to be met Forest Lake planning area which includes Inala has population of 1240 and service gap of 168 Large indigenous and disadvantaged community 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 338 Number of Preps: 44 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: 5%
Collingwood Park	Collingwood Park State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One tender for service provider 17 children on waiting list for new service Three QKFS approved kindergartens with 128 kindy places, services were contacted and reported– nil vacancies Four QKFS LDC services and six non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 241 – 2.1% vacancy Total 369 kindy places - total vacancies 1.3% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 658 Disadvantaged community Shortfall in kindergarten places – 289 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 662 Number of Preps: 93 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: 6%
Wynnum	Wynnum State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tenders for service provider Seven children on waiting list for new service In Wynnum area - Four QKFS approved kindergartens with 264 kindy places – 4.5% vacancy; Nine QKFS LDC services and three non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 367 – 7.4% vacancy; Total 631 kindy places - total vacancies 6.2% In Wynnum area projected pop'n 4 year olds 2014 – 533 and need appears to be met In Wynnum Central planning area (broader) population is 1007 and estimated service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 733 Number of Preps: 152 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: 7%

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
		gap is 79 places.		
Fernvale	Fernvale State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tenders for service provider 55 children on waiting list for new service Two QKFS approved kindergartens with 88 kindy places - nil vacancies Two non QKFS LDC services with a kindy capacity of 35 – nil vacancies Total 123 kindy places -nil vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 141 Regional feedback – growth area 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 567 Number of Preps: 83 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: 4.5%
Buderim	Brightwater State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One tender for service provider 43 children on waiting list for new service Two QKFS kindergartens, 88 places - 9% vacancy 11 QKFS LDC services, 440 kindy places - 3.4% vacancy Total 528 kindy places - total vacancies 4.3% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 545 (992 in broader planning area) Regional feedback – growth area 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 405 Number of Preps: 91 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: <1%
Narangba	Extension of C&K Kindy at Jinibara State School - 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&K will operate the service One 44 place QKFS kindergarten service - nil vacancy / 5 LDC services - Total places – 164 – nil vacancies Total 208 kindy places - nil vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 322 (Narangba) Shortfall in kindergarten places – 114 Early Years precinct recently opened at the school 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 728 Number of Preps: 98 ↑ Indigenous enrolments: 3%
Mango Hill	Mango Hill State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tenders for service provider 90 children on waiting list for new service One QKFS approved kindergarten with 88 kindy places - nil vacancy 11 QKFS LDC services and four non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 583 – 7.3% vacancies Total 671 kindy places -total vacancies 6.3% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 791 Shortfall in kindergarten places - 127 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 383 Number of Preps: 70 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: <1%
Murrumba Downs	Undurba State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No tenders for service provider 71 children on waiting list for new service No QKFS approved kindergarten providers 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 924 Number of Preps: 151 =

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six QKFS LDC services and one non QKFS service with a kindy capacity of 331 – 3% vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 538 Shortfall in kindergarten places - 207 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous enrolments: 3%
Gordonvale	Gordonvale State School 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two tenders for service provider Four children on waiting list One 44 place QKFS kindergarten with nil vacancies Two QKFS LDC services, 54 kindy places, 30% vacancy Total 98 kindy places - total vacancies - 16.3% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 145 Large indigenous population (low participation in ECEC) Shortfall in kindergarten places – 47 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-7 Total Enrolment: 611 Number of Preps: 69 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: 32%
Calen	Calen State College - 22 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender is yet to be advertised No existing ECEC service in local area Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 11 (Calen) and 57 in broader planning area (excluding Seaforth) Option for multi-age service 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-12 Total Enrolment: 201 Number of Preps: 9 ↓ Indigenous enrolments: 6%
Forest Lake	Expression of Interest Process 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No EOI application received Three QKFS approved kindergartens with 220 kindy places – 17.6% vacancy Eight QKFS LDC service and one non QKFS service with a kindy capacity of 293 – 4.3% vacancy Total 513 kindy places -total vacancies 9.7% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 701 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 188 		
Redbank Plains	Expression of Interest Process 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One EOI application received from Non-State School No QKFS approved Kindergartens Four QKFS LDC services and four non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 197 – nil vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 397 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 200 		
Redland Bay	Expression of Interest Process 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No EOI application received One 44 place QKFS kindergarten with nil vacancy Three QKFS LDC services and three non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 192 – 		

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20.8% vacancy Total 236 kindy places - total vacancies 16.9% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 298 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 62 		
Dalby	Expression of Interest Process 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One EOI application received from a Non-State School Three QKFS approved kindergartens with 71 kindy places – nil vacancies Two QKFS LDC services and two non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 145 –0.7% vacancies Total 216 kindy places - total vacancies 0.4% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 261 Shortfall in kindergarten places – 45 		
Gatton	Expression of Interest Process 22 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three EOI applications received (1 Non-State School 2 NGOs) One 40 place QKFS kindergarten with nil vacancies (25 on waiting list) Two QKFS LDC services and one non QKFS service with a kindy capacity of 100 – 10% vacancies Total 140 kindy places - total vacancies 7% Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 244 (broader Gatton planning area) – localised population is 112 Need was identified on broader planning area basis 		
Calliope	Expression of Interest Process 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One EOI application received from a local ECEC service One 44 place QKFS kindergarten with nil vacancy. One QKFS LDC service with a kindy capacity of 20 – nil vacancy Total 64 kindy places - nil vacancies Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 128 (broader planning area) - localised population is 77 Need was identified on broader planning area basis 		
Tara	Negotiation with QCEC 22 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QCEC declined offer due to concerns over viability of a new service in the town One 20 place QKFS kindergarten with 10% vacancy Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 52 (broader planning area) Shortfall in kindergarten places – 32 		
North Lakes	Negotiation with QCEC - St Benedict's School, Mango Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QCEC agreed to establish new service co-located with the school One QKFS approved kindergarten with 88 kindy places – nil vacancy 11 QKFS LDC services and four non QKFS services with a kindy capacity of 583 –7.3% 		

Location	Site for kindergarten	Facts	Risk	School information
	- 44 place service	vacancies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total 671 kindy places - total vacancies 6.3% • Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 798 • Shortfall in kindergarten places – 127 		
Murrumba Downs	Negotiation with ISQ/QLECS - Living Faith Lutheran School - 44 place service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department negotiating with QLECS • School agrees subject to opening service Term 1 2015 and operating as a long day kindy service • No QKFS approved kindergartens • Five QKFS LDC services and one non QKFS service with a kindy capacity of 331 – 3% vacancies • Projected population 4 year olds 2014 – 538 • Shortfall in kindergarten places - 207 		
Aurukun	Aurukun Campus of Cape York	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department to extend existing service which provides pre-Prep for local Indigenous families 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Prep-7 • Total Enrolment: 239 • Number of Pre-Preps: 39 ↑ • Indigenous: almost 100%

Briefing Note

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Noting

Action required by: ASAP

Critical – The Minister's Office has planned a briefing with Members of Parliament on Wednesday 7 August 2013 regarding revised plans for new kindergarten infrastructure

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND BRIEFING FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT CONCERNING KINDERGARTEN INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

Summary of key objectives

- To provide information for Members of Parliament regarding revised plans for establishing extra kindergarten places in specific locations, as previously announced by the Minister for Education, Training and Employment.
- To write to organisations who applied through the service provider tender and expression of interest process, to advise on revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure in light of new information.

Key issues

1. The Department of Education, Training and Employment (the Department) is proceeding to establish extra kindergarten infrastructure in 18 of the 25 locations announced in January 2013 to open from 2014.
2. Establishment of extra kindergarten infrastructure in seven locations (Tara, Redland Bay, Forest Lake, Gordonvale, Wynnum, Rockhampton North and Inala) will be deferred pending an assessment of service delivery models to best meet the needs of the local community.
3. The key factors that led to the need for re-assessment include:
 - very low levels of interest from local families in enrolling their child/ren in the kindergarten programs in the locations announced;
 - high vacancy rates in existing early childhood education services. Many services (long day care and/or kindergarten services) running approved kindergarten programs reporting unfilled places;
 - lack of interest from organisations to operate the new services on state schools (through a service provider tender); and
 - lack of interest from non-government early childhood education and care providers and non-state schools to apply for capital funding to create or expand existing capacity.
4. The Department will undertake further detailed assessment of each location and develop options to ensure maximum service utilisation by families. This may involve linking service offerings with other support services, particularly in areas of disadvantage or where families are not currently engaging with early childhood education and care programs.
5. The Department is working towards having proposed solutions operational for the 2015 school year. However, the exact timing will depend on construction timeframes and success of negotiations with non-government service providers in each location.
6. The Minister's Office has advised that they will provide a briefing to Members of Parliament on Wednesday, 7 August 2013. A list of State Members is at **Attachment 1**.

7. A list of the locations and relevant details is outlined at **Attachment 2**.
8. Letters to the Members for Inala and Mulgrave (non-government members) and applicants for the service provider tender and expressions of interest for the seven locations are at **Attachment 3**.

Background

9. On 22 July 2013, the Minister approved the progress of additional kindergarten services in 18 locations and for the Department to undertake further assessment of service delivery options for seven locations (Ref: 13/226325).
10. Twelve of the 18 locations proceeding are to be established on state school sites. For half of the state school locations, a service provider will need to be appointed as no applications were received during the service provider tender process. A process has been developed to seek a service provider for these locations.

Right to information

11. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Minister:

- **note** the background information for Members of Parliament on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure.
- **sign** correspondence to the Members of Parliament for Inala and Mulgrave and also to applicants of the service provider tender and expression of interest process with advice on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure (**Attachment 3**).

NOTED

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED

TIM RAWLINGS
 Senior Policy Advisor
 Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

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/ /

☐ Copy to Assistant Minister

Minister's comments

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Action Officer:
 David Shearer
 Director
 Office for Early Childhood
 Education and Care
 Tel: 323 90530

Endorsed by:
 Executive Director
 Kathryn Woods
 Program Management,
 Funding and Performance
 Tel: 323 79645
 Mob: contrary to the public interest
 Date: 05/08/2013

Endorsed by:
 Deputy Director-General
 Annette Whitehead
 Policy and Programs
 Tel: 324 73365
 Mob: contrary to the public interest
 Date: 06/08/2013

Endorsed by:
 Director-General n
 Dr Jim Watterston
 Tel: 323 71070
 Mob:
 Date: / /



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

Mrs Belinda Jarvinen
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Dear Mrs Jarvinen

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Gordonvale State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

Mrs Suzanne Bedgood
Gordonvale Community Kindergarten
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Dear Mrs Bedgood

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Gordonvale State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

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Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

Ms Anne Hollands
The Benevolent Society
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Dear Ms Hollands *Anne,*

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Gordonvale State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

Mrs Toni Cook
Swallow Street Child Care Association Inc
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INALA QLD 4077

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Dear Mrs Cook

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Serviceton South State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

07 SEP 2013

Mr Darren Frame
Silky Oaks Children's Haven
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Facsimile +61 7 3211 8011
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Dear Mr Frame

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Wynnum State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

07 SEP 2013

Ms Marie Howard
Mission Australia
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Dear Ms Howard

Marie,

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Wynnum State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

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Dear Ms Howard

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at Serviceton South State School.

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
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02 SEP 2013

Mr Curtis Pitt
Member for Mulgrave
PO Box 314
GORDONVALE QLD 4865

Dear Mr Pitt

I am writing to provide you with an update on the planning to establish extra kindergarten places in your electorate.

You may recall that the Queensland Government announced earlier this year that it would establish extra kindergarten places in Gordonvale by building a new kindergarten service at Gordonvale State School.

I am advised that the long day care kindergarten program providers in Gordonvale have significant vacancies and there has been little expression of interest from local families to enrol in the new service at the state school.

The Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

Before progressing with the establishment of extra kindergarten places in Gordonvale, I have asked my Department to undertake further assessment to identify an appropriate service model to ensure the needs of the community are met including options to encourage greater take-up of existing services.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Fiona Crawford on telephone 3237 1000.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318



Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

02 SEP 2013

Ms Anastacia Palaszczuk
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Dear Ms Palaszczuk

I am writing to provide you with an update on the planning to establish extra kindergarten places in your electorate and surrounding areas.

You may recall that the Queensland Government announced earlier this year that it would establish extra kindergarten places in the Inala and Forest Lake area by building a new kindergarten service at Serviceton South State School and inviting local non-government early childhood education providers and non-state schools to apply for funding through an expression of interest process.

I am advised that a number of kindergarten program providers in this area have vacancies and there has been little expression of interest from local families to enrol in the new service at the state school.

The Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

Before progressing with the establishment of extra kindergarten places in the Forest Lake and Inala area, I have asked my Department to undertake further assessment to identify an appropriate service model to ensure the needs of the community are met including options to encourage greater take-up of existing services.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Fiona Crawford on telephone 3237 1000.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318

Briefing Note

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Noting

Action required by: ASAP

Critical – The Minister's Office has planned a briefing with Members of Parliament on Wednesday 7 August 2013 regarding revised plans for new kindergarten infrastructure

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND BRIEFING FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT CONCERNING KINDERGARTEN INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

Summary of key objectives

- To provide information for Members of Parliament regarding revised plans for establishing extra kindergarten places in specific locations, as previously announced by the Minister for Education, Training and Employment.
- To write to organisations who applied through the service provider tender and expression of interest process, to advise on revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure in light of new information.

Key issues

1. The Department of Education, Training and Employment (the Department) is proceeding to establish extra kindergarten infrastructure in 18 of the 25 locations announced in January 2013 to open from 2014.
2. Establishment of extra kindergarten infrastructure in seven locations (Tara, Redland Bay, Forest Lake, Gordonvale, Wynnum, Rockhampton North and Inala) will be deferred pending an assessment of service delivery models to best meet the needs of the local community.
3. The key factors that led to the need for re-assessment include:
 - very low levels of interest from local families in enrolling their child/ren in the kindergarten programs in the locations announced;
 - high vacancy rates in existing early childhood education services. Many services (long day care and/or kindergarten services) running approved kindergarten programs reporting unfilled places;
 - lack of interest from organisations to operate the new services on state schools (through a service provider tender); and
 - lack of interest from non-government early childhood education and care providers and non-state schools to apply for capital funding to create or expand existing capacity.
4. The Department will undertake further detailed assessment of each location and develop options to ensure maximum service utilisation by families. This may involve linking service offerings with other support services, particularly in areas of disadvantage or where families are not currently engaging with early childhood education and care programs.
5. The Department is working towards having proposed solutions operational for the 2015 school year. However, the exact timing will depend on construction timeframes and success of negotiations with non-government service providers in each location.
6. The Minister's Office has advised that they will provide a briefing to Members of Parliament on Wednesday, 7 August 2013. A list of State Members is at **Attachment 1**.

7. A list of the locations and relevant details is outlined at **Attachment 2**.
8. Letters to the Members for Inala and Mulgrave (non-government members) and applicants for the service provider tender and expressions of interest for the seven locations are at **Attachment 3**.

Background

9. On 22 July 2013, the Minister approved the progress of additional kindergarten services in 18 locations and for the Department to undertake further assessment of service delivery options for seven locations (Ref: 13/226325).
10. Twelve of the 18 locations proceeding are to be established on state school sites. For half of the state school locations, a service provider will need to be appointed as no applications were received during the service provider tender process. A process has been developed to seek a service provider for these locations.

Right to information

11. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Minister:

- **note** the background information for Members of Parliament on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure.
- **sign** correspondence to the Members of Parliament for Inala and Mulgrave and also to applicants of the service provider tender and expression of interest process with advice on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure (**Attachment 3**).

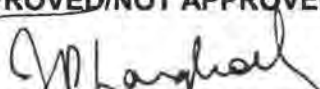
NOTED



TIM RAWLINGS — Fiona Crawford
Senior Policy Advisor CoS.
 Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

19/8/13

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED



JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
 Minister for Education, Training and
 Employment

28/8/13

☐ Copy to Assistant Minister

Minister's comments

Action Officer:
 David Shearer
 Director
 Office for Early Childhood
 Education and Care
 Tel: 323 90530

Endorsed by:
 Executive Director
 Kathryn Woods
 Program Management,
 Funding and Performance
 Tel: 323 79645
 Mob: ☐ contrary to the public interest
 Date: 05/08/2013

Endorsed by:
 Deputy Director-General
 Annette Whitehead
 Policy and Programs
 Tel: 324 73365
 Mob: ☐ contrary to the public interest
 Date: 06/08/2013

Endorsed by:
 Director-General n
 Dr Jim Watterston
 Tel: 323 71070
 Mob: ☐ contrary to the public interest
 Date: 6/8/13

Briefing Note

The Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Action required: For Action

Action required by: 7 August 2013

Critical – The Minister's Office has planned a briefing with Members of Parliament on Thursday 8 August 2013 regarding revised plans for new kindergarten infrastructure

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND BRIEFING FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT CONCERNING KINDERGARTEN INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVE

Summary of key objectives

1. To provide information for Members of Parliament regarding revised plans for establishing extra kindergarten places in specific locations, as previously announced by the Minister for Education, Training and Employment.
2. To write to organisations who applied through the service provider tender and expression of interest process, to advise on revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure in light of new information.

Key issues

1. The Department of Education, Training and Employment (the Department) is proceeding to establish extra kindergarten infrastructure in 18 of the 25 locations announced in January 2013 to open from 2014.
2. Establishment of extra kindergarten infrastructure in seven locations (Tara, Redland Bay, Forest Lake, Gordonvale, Wynnum, Rockhampton North and Inala) will be deferred pending an assessment of service delivery models to best meet the needs of the local community.
3. The key factors that led to the need for re-assessment include:
 - very low levels of interest from local families in enrolling their child/ren in the kindergarten programs in the locations announced;
 - high vacancy rates in existing early childhood education services. Many services (long day care and/or kindergarten services) running approved kindergarten programs reporting unfilled places;
 - lack of interest from organisations to operate the new services on state schools (through a service provider tender); and
 - lack of interest from non-government early childhood education and care providers and non-state schools to apply for capital funding to create or expand existing capacity.
4. The Department will undertake further detailed assessment of each location and develop options to ensure maximum service utilisation by families. This may involve linking service offerings with other support services, particularly in areas of disadvantage or where families are not currently engaging with early childhood education and care programs.
5. The Department is working towards having proposed solutions operational for the 2015 school year. However, the exact timing will depend on construction timeframes and success of negotiations with non-government service providers in each location.
6. The Minister's Office has advised that they will provide a briefing to Members of Parliament on Thursday 8 August 2013. A list of State Members is at **Attachment 1**.

7. A list of the locations and relevant details is outlined at **Attachment 2**.
8. Letters to the Members for Inala and Mulgrave (non-government members) and applicants for the service provider tender and expressions of interest for the seven locations are at **Attachment 3**.

Background

9. On 22 July 2013, the Minister approved the progress of additional kindergarten services in 18 locations and for the Department to undertake further assessment of service delivery options for seven locations (Ref: 13/226325).
10. Twelve of the eighteen locations proceeding are to be established on state school sites. For half of the state school locations, a service provider will need to be appointed as no applications were received during the service provider tender process. A process has been developed to seek a service provider for these locations.

Right to information

11. I am of the view that the contents or attachments contained in this brief **are not suitable** for publication.

Recommendation

That the Minister:

- **note** the background information for Members of Parliament on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure.
- **sign** correspondence to the Members of Parliament for Inala and Mulgrave and also to applicants of the service provider tender and expression of interest process with advice on the revised plans for kindergarten infrastructure (**Attachment 3**).

NOTED

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED

TIM RAWLINGS
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of the Hon John-Paul Langbroek MP
Minister for Education, Training and
Employment

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and
Employment

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/ /

☐ Copy to Assistant Minister

Minister's comments

Action Officer:
David Shearer
Director
Office for Early Childhood
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Tel: 323 90530

Endorsed by:
Executive Director
Kathryn Woods
Program Management,
Funding and Performance
Tel: 323 79645
Mob: contrary to the public inter
Date: 05/08/2013

Endorsed by:
Deputy Director-General
Annette Whitehead
Policy and Programs
Tel: 324 73365
Mob: contrary to the public inter
Date: 9 AUG 2013

Endorsed by:
Director-General n
Dr Jim Watterston
Tel: 323 71070
Mob:
Date: / /



«Name»
«Organisation»
«Address»
«Town» QLD «Postcode»

Dear «Name»

Thank you for applying for the Department of Education, Training and Employment's Kindergarten Service Provider Tender at «State_School».

I am writing to advise that I have asked my Department to undertake further detailed assessment of service delivery models for the provision of extra kindergarten places in this community before proceeding to establish extra kindergarten capacity. Please note that further progress of the tender process will be determined when this assessment is complete.

Since the announcement was made in January 2013, new information has come to light including updated vacancy rates at existing early childhood education and care providers in the community and/or low levels of interest from local families to enrol.

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

My Department will consult with relevant local stakeholders, including your organisation, in developing an appropriate service model that will meet the needs of the community. An officer from the Department will be in contact with you regarding arrangements.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact Kathryn Woods, Executive Director Program Management, Funding and Performance by email at kathryn.woods@dete.qld.gov.au or on telephone 323 79645.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318

Mr Curtis Pitt
Member for Mulgrave
PO Box 314
GORDONVALE QLD 4865

Dear Mr Pitt

I am writing to provide you with an update on the planning to establish extra kindergarten places in your electorate.

You may recall that the Queensland Government announced earlier this year that it would establish extra kindergarten places in Gordonvale by building a new kindergarten service at Gordonvale State School.

I am advised that the long day care kindergarten program providers in Gordonvale have significant vacancies and there has been little expression of interest from local families to enrol in the new service at the state school.

The Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

Before progressing with the establishment of extra kindergarten places in Gordonvale, I have asked my Department to undertake further assessment to identify an appropriate service model to ensure the needs of the community are met including options to encourage greater take-up of existing services.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Fiona Crawford on telephone 3237 1000.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318

Ms Anastacia Palaszczuk
Member for Inala
PO Box 75
INALA QLD 4077

Dear Ms Palaszczuk

I am writing to provide you with an update on the planning to establish extra kindergarten places in your electorate and surrounding areas.

You may recall that the Queensland Government announced earlier this year that it would establish extra kindergarten places in the Inala and Forest Lake area by building a new kindergarten service at Serviceton South State School and inviting local non-government early childhood education providers and non-state schools to apply for funding through an expression of interest process.

I am advised that a number of kindergarten program providers in this area have vacancies and there has been little expression of interest from local families to enrol in the new service at the state school.

The Government is committed to ensuring all families can access a kindergarten program to ensure their children are best prepared for the first year of full-time school. Establishing extra kindergarten services is just one of the ways the Queensland Government is delivering universal access to kindergarten.

Before progressing with the establishment of extra kindergarten places in the Forest Lake and Inala area, I have asked my Department to undertake further assessment to identify an appropriate service model to ensure the needs of the community are met including options to encourage greater take-up of existing services.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, I invite you to contact my Chief of Staff, Ms Fiona Crawford on telephone 3237 1000.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education, Training and Employment

Ref: 13/261318

Location	Site for kindergarten	Low Wait list	Tenders	Vacancies	Notes
Rockhampton North	Lakes Creek State School 44 place service	✓	No	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little interest from local families (2) to enrol • No tenders to operate service • Vacancy rate total in area is 2.5%
Inala	Serviceton South State School 44 place service	✓	Yes	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing services with approved kindergarten programs (vacancy rate total in area is 13%) • Little interest from local families (1) to enrol
Wynnum	Wynnum State School 44 place service	✓	Yes	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing services with approved kindergarten programs (vacancy rate total in area is 6.2%) • Little interest from local families (7) to enrol
Gordonvale	Gordonvale State School 44 place service	✓	Yes	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing long day care services with approved kindergarten programs (vacancy rate total in area is 16.3%); no vacancies at kindergarten service • Little interest from local families (4) to enrol
Forest Lake / Inala	Expression of Interest for NGO provision 44 place service		No	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing services with approved kindergarten programs (average 9.7%) • No tenders received to establish service
Redland Bay	Expression of Interest for NGO provision 44 place service		No	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing services with approved kindergarten programs (average 16.9%) • No tenders received to establish service
Tara	Direct negotiation with Queensland Catholic Education 22 place service		N/A	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High vacancy rates in existing services with approved kindergarten programs (average 10%) • Catholic Education declined offer to establish new service

Kindy Location	Electorate	State Member
Serviceton South State School	Inala	Annastacia Palaszczuk
Wynnum State School	Lytton	Neil Symes
Gordonvale State School	Mulgrave	Curtis Pitt
Lakes Creek State School	Keppell	Bruce Young
Forest Lake/Inala	Algester	Anthony Shorten
	Inala	Annastacia Palaszczuk
Redland Bay	Redlands	Peter Dowling
Tara	Warrego	Howard Hobbs