

12.2: As a centre owner, there has been many changes over the years to CCB and CCR the way it is processed and handled by services. I believe that the system we have now works well, the rebate provides opportunities for all families and children, and the flexibility of payment options for parents is good. Even though it is sometimes more work for service operators. I believe that child care benefit should be higher for children in different age groups. Such as 0-2's as a service provider we have to charge a lot more to provide this service for families, based on ratios, and these are still changing (2-3 years) so prices will still be going up, however they get the same rebate as everyone else. I believe that children who are in care 5 days a week should be considered for additional rebate as the capped \$7500 does not cover out of pocket expenses for families who use full time child care.

12.4: I think that each provider should continue to cost their business expenses and set the daily fee accordingly, and costing the daily fee for all children's services is not feasible. As a centre who provides continuity of care, has an exceeding rating and ensures that staff ratios are maintained at all times. This comes at a cost

Centers can not just run with the minimal amount of staff based on child to staff ratios. Educators work an average 8-9 hour shifts and centre's are open 11-12 hours per day. Children are using longer and longer hours of care which in turn requires you to roster on more staff, furthermore costing more money each year in annual salaries. Private operates who like myself have invested a lot of money to build a purpose built centre in an area of need, sets its fees accordingly, based on expenses and services provided within the centre. I would not like to be compared to other services who do not offer the same facilities and care we offer to our families.

8.3: As a service operator, I understand the need for flexibility however don't believe that this will provide quality care for children. Especially services operating 24 hours. The costs involved in operating longer hours will push the price of care up, and allow services to charge more per hour because the child care benefit is applied of the hours the service operates.

e.g A service operates 11 hrs (CCB eligibility is for 11 hrs)

A service operates for 24 hrs (CCb eligibility is for 24 hours) Daily out of pocket expense for parent goes down, even though they are not utilising 24 hours of care

So I'm not sure how this is a cost effective model for ccb

8.4 I believe that occasional care facilities should be regulated the same way long day care is. Ratios, national quality standards etc. Why are we putting children into care environments that are not regulated and even consideration to remove the cap, without

any further regulatory requirements. I think that poses un safe environments for children and its not something I agree with at all.

8.5: I question how nannies are able to meet the national quality standards. As a service operator, I'm finding it difficult to comprehend how a nanny fulfills this requirement. I'm very understanding that families require care for their children, but I question whether having them fall under the same benefit system is healthy system, rather seems a lazy approach. families who wish to use a nanny service should qualify for some funding however should be required to meet a certain criteria. I don't see why the government would want to provide subsidies for nannies providing services in the home such as cooking, cleaning, ironing) What about the development for children under the age of 5. I also believe that if this funding is passed over to nannies then it needs to be regulated organizations providing the services for a nanny out to families.

7.9 I believe that all systems should fall under the same umbrella, so that we can be proud of a set of standards that we all fall under and are proud of. Preschools are not different to long day care/childcare. There is no reason why they shouldn't fall under the NQS

7.2 Managing qualifications of staff in a service, needs to remain flexible, as educators move from room to room, have different skills and qualifications. Early Childhood Teachers study a large component in 0-2 development so this would be wasted if no ECEC was required, however this would ease the stress on ECEC teachers in long day cares services, especially if consideration was taken for the number of over 36 month children enrolled per day.

7.3 YES. A national Ratio system for all jurisdictions

7.6 Yes NSW should adopt this!!

Yes, I believe that removing the excellent rating would be a good idea, I believe the significant improvement required, working toward, Meeting and exceeding have been accepted by families, educators and services and should remain. It has taken services along time to adapt and its still only early days, I believe that the system is a good one and to change it again would provide a lot of stress into early childhood industry.

7.12 I believe that council and the building code provide a good foundation for building of new services. The NQS and regulations provide good guidelines too however I believe that council and the building code should also set high quality standards for the purpose of high quality care services being built.

I believe that each council should have a say in what goes into their community, Lots of centers in one area, leads to high vacancy rates, poor quality care in centers and poor planning.