

24 August 2020

The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning
Parliament of New South Wales
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister Mitchell,

**Re: Request to NSW Government to financially offset more costly
NSW-based regulations compared to all Australian states**

Since we first met, you would have been aware of our [many concerns](#) that there continues to exist regulations that bear a significant impost to NSW-based early childhood education and care services. This ultimately translates to higher operational costs and therefore higher fees for parents and the Federal Government's Child Care Subsidy Scheme.

The NSW Productivity Commissioner, Peter Achterstraat AM, has highlighted through his [Green Paper](#) one example that negatively affects NSW-based childcare centres and their parents, where the cost disparity can be between 167% to 333% when compared against other states' regulatory requirements for degree-qualified early childhood teachers.

| Centre-based services | ECTs in NSW | ECTs in other states | DIFFERENCE |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| < 25 children | 0.2 FTE (Reg130) | 0.2 FTE (Reg130) | 0% |
| 25-29 children | 0.6 FTE (Reg272) | 0.6 FTE (Reg132) | 0% |
| 30-39 children | 1.0 FTE (Reg272) | 0.6 FTE (Reg132) | 167% |
| 40-59 children | 2.0 FTE (Reg272) | 0.6 FTE (Reg132) | 333% |
| 60-79 children | 3.0 FTE (Reg272) | 1.5 FTE (Reg133) | 200% |
| 80 children | 4.0 FTE (Reg272) | 2.0 FTE (Reg134) | 200% |
| 80+ children | 4.0 FTE (Reg272) | 2.0 FTE (Reg134) | 200% |

Especially because of COVID-19, we ask the NSW Government to financially offset these more costly NSW-regulations in order to protect existing employees' employment and to help parents with fee-affordability.

We continue to be available to you and the NSW Government to discuss and develop solutions that would benefit all services, parents, New South Wales and ultimately our nation.

We look forward to your consideration and response.

Yours sincerely,



Chiang Lim
CEO

cc The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, NSW Premier
The Hon Kevin Conolly MP, NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Education
The Hon Dan Tehan MP, Federal Minister for Education
The Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education
Ms Jodie Harrison MP, NSW Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education