

8th July 2019

To whom it may concern,

**Re: Expenditure on children in the Northern Territory:
Productivity Commission Submission**

I am wanting to express my thought about the importance of continued support and funding for the remote service in the Northern Territory known as KICS (Katherine Isolated Children's Services).

My family and I have been living in the Territory for the last 5 years on a remote cattle station in the Roper River region. Being a mother of 4 young children, and being so remote you can feel awfully alone and isolated. When I was introduced to KICS I had no idea what to expect, but how thankful I am for them.

Not only is KICS beneficial for the children, providing stimulating play based learning and social interaction, I found them a great source of information and support for myself and no doubt other adults involved. Whenever a playgroup comes to us I invite as many other families around the area, and now after meeting more people I travel up to 3 hours to go and join in a KICS playgroup.

It would be a terrible shame to loose this invaluable service and I urge the government to continue the funding for them. Living on the land in such remote areas, but having access to such a brilliant service helps that little bit more with each visit from KICS.

Thankyou

Lauren Hoar