

In regard to the Workforce findings, would the Productivity Commission please convert the workforce findings into concrete recommendations.

'Teachers are teachers' and they have the same qualifications regardless of where they work in Australia and what position they hold whether in a school based environment, in a Preschool or in a Long Day care environment. Staff working for a Community based Preschool or Long Day Care service in particular are working negligible hours with huge responsibility placed upon them. Pay rates need to reflect this in addition to the support provided to volunteer management committees and the time required to fulfil all obligations expected of early childhood staff. Why are NSW early childhood educators treated differently to their primary school and high school counterparts? Why have other states moved toward more equitable pay and NSW has not?

Wages for all child care staff needs to be increased to reflect and acknowledge the important work they do in regard to the 'grass roots' of society and in supporting families.

I support recommendation 3.5 where voluntary committees should receive professional management support and where all staff have the same monetary opportunities to attend professional development. Why should a Preschool staff member pay double the amount of fees associated with In-service in comparison to a staff member from a Long day care centre?

Thank you for your consideration.

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