

CHILDCARE PROVIDERS — REGIONAL GRANTS

957. Hon HELEN BULLOCK to the Minister for Community Services:

I refer to the answer to my question without notice 936, asked yesterday, in which I was advised to direct this question to the Minister for Community Services.

When will the next round of operational grants to regional childcare providers be announced?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question. I give this answer on behalf of the Minister for Community Services.

Since the announcement of the regional community child care development fund in August 2012, three rounds of the operational grants have been completed, with 51 community childcare providers receiving over \$485 000. The fourth round of the grant program closed on 5 October 2012, with 16 applications submitted. The applications are currently being considered and the names of the successful grant recipients will be announced shortly. Applications for operational grants are ongoing and can be submitted at any time. Closing dates for assessments are listed on the Department for Communities website at www.communities.wa.gov.au.