

**MEDIA RELEASE
2 February 2015**

Parents were expecting to learn more about “Families Package” in speech today

Parents had expected more detail from the Prime Minister’s National Press Club speech today regarding the Federal Government’s “Families Package” focused on childcare.

Parenthood Executive Director, Jo Briskey said that parents had been waiting to hear more about how the Abbott Government plans to use funding from the now scrapped Paid Parental Leave (PPL) scheme to focus on delivering more affordable and accessible quality childcare.

“Whilst we applaud the Prime Minister’s recognition that the focus needs to be on childcare, we had hoped that he would have used his speech today to give parents some greater piece of mind on how his Government is planning to address the accessibility of affordable high quality early learning and care.” Ms Briskey said.

“The Prime Minister confirmed that he had been reminded by mums and dads that the focus needs to be on childcare – this is a huge win for The Parenthood.”

“But we continue to wait for what that focus means for parents and in particular, for the quality of early learning and care our children receive.”

“Mums and dads want to go back to work confident in the knowledge that their children are receiving the best possible early education and care”

“And we are looking to the Government to better support us in being able to access this quality for our children –this is what we were hoping to hear more about in the Prime Minister’s speech today.”

“But we look forward to participating in the Government’s consultation and hope to see their Families Package and the Productivity Commission’s final report soon.”

ENDS

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