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Your submission for this review:

KU Childrens Services (KU) is one of the largest not-for-profit providers of early childhood education (ECE) and the nations most experienced, with a long-demonstrated history of providing and supporting high quality and inclusive ECE services, including preschool, kindergarten, long day care, family and early intervention programs, and allied health. KU welcomes the review to guide responsible stewardship of the sector, going beyond an analysis of fees and costs to understand contributing factors to quality service provision and maintaining appropriate pedagogies for young children. The review should highlight the increasingly complex and disparate service system and policy instruments that drive operational and market responses and may draw conclusions about service size and economies of scale. Use of public funding for share market listed companies should be examined. Benchmarking should be balanced with an awareness of the increasingly complex needs of children and family composition and the investment that wrap-around support has on service provision and cost. When investigating consumer choice, consider factors leading to availability and the impact of planning and approval processes. Including workforce supply, pay and conditions is vital for a professionally recognised and viable sector. Consider the structural factors that influence quality, such as ratios and qualifications, workforce diversity and ongoing professional learning needs. We agree that cost and risk benefit need to be considered and that suggesting price setting or regulation as part of this review would be undesirable. We support the consideration of other sector inquiries and reports for consolidated insight, and wide consultation with stakeholders to be fully representative. We value the review to support a quality and sustainable ECE sector. We welcome further engagement and to discuss anything raised. Please contact [REDACTED] [REDACTED]