

DIVISION 57: CHILD PROTECTION —

[Supplementary Information No A19.]

Question: Mr A.P. O'Gorman asked for information on children in care who have had an education assessment and a health assessment in each of the regions.

Answer: Following the recommendations of the Ford Review, the Department is working collaboratively with the Department of Health and Department of Education to improve health and educational outcomes for children in the CEO's care.

Health assessments for children in care

A pilot of the health care planning initiative was conducted over a six month period from 28 April to 31 October 2009 in the districts of Fremantle, Great Southern, Midland and Pilbara. The four pilot districts have continued to implement the health care planning framework to develop health plans for children in care. A phased, State-wide implementation plan will commence in July 2010.

The parameters of the pilot project limited the number of children who could be included within the pilot to those residing in the pilot region and attending a State government school or a non-government school with community health services. Of the 132 children in care who were referred for a nurse assessment, 99 children (75 per cent) received a nurse assessment.

Education plans for children in care

The Department formalised agreements with the Department of Education, the Catholic Education Office of Western Australia, the Department of Education Services, and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia in July 2009 to promote the educational participation and performance of children in care.

The agreements require the development of individual Documented Education Plans for children in the care of the Chief Executive Officer who are of compulsory school age. Under the agreements, children will receive the support services necessary to meet their needs and to ensure their school readiness to enable them to participate in education and further learning.

Education plans are also part of the care planning process for children in care. Case workers initiate the education planning process immediately for children who are likely to be in the Chief Executive Officer's care for more than six weeks.

Case workers notify the school when a child comes into care or enrolls in a new school by sending an Education Notification and Assessment for Children in Care form. The school is then able to identify the child as being at 'educational risk' and organises a case conference during the school term.

If a child already has a Documented Education Plan, the school case conference would only be convened if the school believed it necessary or the child's existing plan had not been reviewed in the previous 12 month period.

These meetings occur in the schools with input from a range of professionals (including school staff, district student services staff, school psychologists, child protection case workers, psychologists, education officers, residential care workers etc) and carers, where appropriate.

As education assessments are in the early stages of implementation, a sample of children in care in the Fremantle, Great Southern and Midland districts shows that approximately 46 per cent of children in care have a Documented Education Plan completed or a plan in progress. This is not to say the remaining children in care have no education plan in place, however, they are not in the prescribed form at this stage.

[Supplementary Information No A20.]

Question: Ms L.L. Baker asked for information on metropolitan intensive support homes - tiering, value of tiering, suburb location of houses and cost of housing.

Answer: - Please refer to the below table for figures.

Tier 2 Houses			
	Estimated Annual Budget (\$m) *	Purchase price (including fit out)	Suburb
Bentley	1.017	Already owned by DCP	Waterford
Gooseberry Hill	1.035	687,000	Gooseberry Hill

Extract from Hansard
[ASSEMBLY - Thursday, 3 June 2010]
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Mr Tony O'Gorman; Ms Lisa Baker; Mr Martin Whitely

Maddington	1.017	820,000	Maddington
Mariginiup	1.035	1,255,000	Mariginiup
Parkerville	1.035	785,000	Parkerville
Stoneville	1.035	726,500	Stoneville
Swan View	1.035	770,000	Swan View
Wanneroo	1.035	1,030,000	Wanneroo
Wellard	1.017	780,000	Wellard
Doubleview	1.035	Already owned by DCP	Doubleview
Darlington	1.035	Already owned by DCP	Darlington
Bamburra	1.035	Already owned by DCP	Yokine
Casuarina	1.017	930,000	Casuarina
Average price of purchases to date		864,833	
*estimated full year budget. Not all homes have operated, or will operate, for a full year			

Tier 1 Houses			
	2009-10 Budget (\$) *	Purchase price (including fit out)	Suburb
Bassendean	340,000	700,000	Bassendean
Beechboro	340,000	620,000	Beechboro
Belmont	340,000	625,000	Belmont
Broome (commences July 2010)		794,000	Broome
Clarkson	340,000	498,000	Clarkson
Collie		820,000	Collie
Morley	340,000		Morley
Mount Nasura (commences 1 July)	340,000	865,000	Mount Nasura
Ardross	340,000		Ardross
Thornlie	340,000	489,000	Thornlie
Marangaroo	340,000	555,000	Marangaroo
Meadow Springs (commences 1 July)		540,000	Meadow Springs
Halls Head (commences 1 July)**		610,000	Halls Head
Spearwood	340,000	590,000	Spearwood
Morley (commences 1 July)**		605,000	Morley
Average price of purchases to date		639,307	
*Tier 1 budget includes subsidies for children in care.			
**These 2 houses are due to settle 11 June 2010			

[Supplementary Information No A21.]

Question: Ms L.L. Baker asked for information on funding of non-government organisations through this budget in terms of the total cost of service to non-government organisations.

Answer: - Funding to non-government organisations will increase by approximately \$16.58 million in 2010-11. This includes \$6.5 million for services supporting children and young people in care, \$7.3 million for services supporting families and individuals at risk or in crisis, and \$2.7 million for indexation.

[Supplementary Information No A22.]

Question: Mr M.P. Whitely asked how many beds were there in September 2008 for homeless people; how many beds are there now for homeless people; and how many beds will there be in the out years for homeless people?

Answer: In 2008, through the joint Commonwealth/State National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA), specialist homelessness supported accommodation services had a capacity of 626 beds for single people and accommodation for 266 families.

In September 2008 a new domestic violence supported accommodation service for three young women, including young mothers was opened in an interim facility in Midland. A purpose built facility currently under construction and expected to be completed in December 2010 will expand the capacity up to six young women with accompanying children.

In October 2009 an additional 12 beds were opened for young women leaving child protection services to ensure they were not homeless.

In March 2010 the Mental Health Commission opened a 16 bed supported accommodation service for homeless young people with mental illness in Fremantle.

Future Plans:

With support funding through the joint Commonwealth/State National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) the following additional beds for homeless people are planned:

- An additional 54 long term beds for single homeless men at the Lime Street facility to be built for St Bartholomew's House;
- A proposed redevelopment of the Salvation Army Lentara Men's Hostel will see an estimated 30 additional beds available for single homeless men;
- Also in the planning stages, 80-100 beds are expected to be made available for young people including 35 beds for homeless young people in the proposed Foyer Youth service.

Foundation Housing is gradually refurbishing the former Ocean View Lodge boarding house in Fremantle. When complete it will be able to provide 180 rooms for single adults. Support funding through the NPAH, will enable Foundation Housing to provide support to the residents to maintain stable accommodation, and avoid homelessness.

In addition, the Mental Health Commission will soon open a new 34 bed supported accommodation service for homeless single adults with mental illness at new purpose built facility located in Moore Street East Perth, which is nearing completion.