

RESPONSIBLE PARENTING AGREEMENTS —
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVE SERVICES APPLICATIONS

405. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to the provisions in the Parental Support and Responsibility Act 2008 under which an application for a responsible parenting agreement may be made by the CEO of the Department of Corrective Services.

- (1) Why were no applications for agreements made by the department in the last two years?
- (2) Has the Minister for Corrective Services or the Department of Corrective Services discussed with the Minister for Child Protection or the Department for Child Protection and Family Support the need for other mechanisms to facilitate the use of agreements by the Department of Corrective Services?
- (3) If yes to (2), what are these other mechanisms?
- (4) If no to (2), is the minister considering other options for increasing the relevance of responsible parenting agreements as a way of helping families needing parenting support?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

On behalf of the Minister for Corrective Services, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The Department of Corrective Services has formed strong working relationships with the Department for Child Protection and Family Support, including co-locating child protection parent support workers with Youth Justice Services in several offices. These staff are able to take out responsible parenting agreements.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) The Department of Corrective Services contributed to the Department for Child Protection and Family Support's review of the Parental Support and Responsibility Act 2008. This review will improve the way in which responsible parenting agreements are undertaken and strengthen the collaborative case management and working relationships between the Department of Corrective Services and the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.
- (4) Not applicable.