

CHILD PROTECTION — SUSPECTED ABUSE CASES

**54. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:**

- (1) For the period, 1 December 2012 to 28 February 2013, what was the number of initial inquiries in relation to suspected child sexual abuse received by district and by category of mandated referrer?
- (2) For the period, 1 December 2012 to 28 February 2013, what was the number of Safety and Wellbeing Assessment with harm assessment, by district and by category of harm:
  - (a) neglect;
  - (b) sexual;
  - (c) physical abuse; and
  - (d) emotional abuse?
- (3) Has WA Police notified the Department of Child Protection that charges had been in respect of any of the Safety and Wellbeing Assessments recorded in the period 1 December 2012 to 28 February 2013?
- (4) If yes to (3), how many individuals were charged and what was the nature of these charges?

**Hon Helen Morton replied:**

- (1) For the period, 1 December 2012 to 28 February 2013, there were 779 initial inquiries for a child where the primary concern was sexual abuse, in the following districts:

Armadale — 63  
Cannington — 57  
Crisis Care — 174  
East Kimberley — 8  
Fremantle — 20  
Goldfields — 21  
Great Southern — 33  
Joondalup — 27  
Midland — 47  
Mirrabooka — 44  
Murchison — 36  
Peel — 24  
Perth — 16  
Pilbara — 13  
Rockingham — 56  
South West — 46  
West Kimberley — 35  
Wheatbelt — 59.

By category of mandated reporter:

Doctor — 115  
Midwife — 3  
Nurse — 57  
Police officer — 291  
Teacher or principal — 98

Non-mandated referrers — 215.

- (2) For the period, 1 December 2012 to 28 February 2013, there were 2,490 safety and wellbeing assessments with harm concerns, in the following districts:

Armadale — 218  
Cannington — 171  
Crisis Care — 150  
East Kimberley — 52  
Fremantle — 106  
Goldfields — 100  
Great Southern — 103  
Joondalup — 149  
Midland — 298  
Mirrabooka — 188

Murchison — 139  
Peel — 114  
Perth — 90  
Pilbara — 80  
Rockingham — 200  
South West — 100  
West Kimberley — 82  
Wheatbelt — 150.

By category of harm:

- (a) Neglect — 888
- (b) Sexual — 705
- (c) Physical — 756
- (d) Emotional/psychological — 1,025.

- (3) These data are not routinely collected in the Department for Child Protection and Family Support's client information system. Questions regarding charges should be referred to the Minister for Police.
- (4) As outlined in (3), these data are not routinely collected.