

CHILD PROTECTION — COUNTRY RELIEVING TEAM

**1473. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Child Protection:**

- (1) When did the country relieving team commence operations?
- (2) How many people are in the team and what are their designated positions?
- (3) How many times, when, for how long and to which districts has the country relieving team been deployed since it commenced operations?
- (4) Are further deployments planned in the next three months?
- (5) If so, when, where and for how long?

**Hon HELEN MORTON replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The country relief team commenced in October 2012. It has been established to provide additional support to country districts as required to assist with unforeseen fluctuations in workload or other significant matters that may be impacting on the operations of the district.
- (2) The team currently consists of two senior child protection workers and one child protection worker.
- (3) The level of detail requested by the honourable member cannot be provided within the short time frame given. However, for the period from October 2012 to December 2014 the following are the number of weeks at least one member of the relief team spent in each country district: West Kimberley, nine weeks; East Kimberley, 34 weeks; Pilbara, 32 weeks; Murchison, 36 weeks; wheatbelt, 17 weeks; South West, 13 weeks; great southern, 33 weeks; goldfields, 13 weeks; and Peel, 15 weeks.

If the honourable member requires any further information, I request she put the question on notice.

- (4)–(5) The country relief team is deployed as necessary to districts requiring relief.