

TUDOR LODGE, NUMBER OF CHILDREN RESIDENT

86. Ms WARNOCK to the Minister for Family and Children's Services:
- (1) How many children are currently resident at Tudor Lodge?
 - (2) What was the average number of children resident at Tudor Lodge in -
 - (a) 1997;
 - (b) 1998; and
 - (c) 1999?
 - (3) What was the maximum number of children resident at any one time at Tudor Lodge in -
 - (a) 1997;
 - (b) 1998; and
 - (c) 1999?
 - (4) How many children is Tudor Lodge designed to accommodate?
 - (5) For what reasons would Tudor Lodge hold more children than it was designed to accommodate?
 - (6) For what reasons are the children currently staying at Tudor Lodge located at this facility?
 - (7) For how long will the children currently at Tudor Lodge be staying at this facility?
 - (8) Does Tudor Lodge currently utilise a social skills program for the children in residence?
 - (9) If not, why not?
 - (10) How many -
 - (a) full time staff;
 - (b) part time staff,are employed at Tudor Lodge?
 - (11) What are the qualifications for each of the full time and part time staff employed at Tudor Lodge?
 - (12) What will be the criteria for children to be accommodated at Tudor Lodge once the proposed redevelopment is complete?
 - (13) Will the proposed redevelopment increase the residential capacity of Tudor Lodge?
 - (14) What recreational facilities are currently available to the children resident at Tudor Lodge?
 - (15) Will the proposed redevelopment provide for additional recreational facilities for the children in residence?
 - (16) What disciplinary mechanisms are currently available to the staff of Tudor Lodge?
 - (17) How many allegations of criminal behaviour made to police against residents of Tudor Lodge in 1999 have resulted in questioning of Tudor Lodge staff regarding the specific allegations?
 - (18) How many of the allegations referred to in (17) were found to be -
 - (a) unsubstantiated; and
 - (b) substantiated?
 - (19) What action was taken by staff for each of the instances where allegations of criminal behaviour were substantiated?
 - (20) What duty of care do staff from Tudor Lodge have with respect to the children in residence?
 - (21) What duty of care do staff from Tudor Lodge have with respect to the residents living in close proximity to the lodge?
 - (22) Who is responsible for ensuring that the children resident at Tudor Lodge do not indulge in anti-social behaviour?
 - (23) Does Tudor Lodge currently utilise a curfew for children staying at Tudor Lodge?
 - (24) If not, why not?

- (25) Will Tudor Lodge utilise a curfew for children staying at Tudor Lodge once the proposed redevelopment has been completed?
- (26) If not, why not?
- (27) If there are plans to introduce a curfew in the future at Tudor Lodge, will a curfew be introduced immediately?
- (28) Has the Family and Children's Services received advice from any Government Department, agency or statutory authority as to the suitability of the current location of Tudor Lodge?
- (29) If yes to (28) -
 - (a) from where was the advice received; and
 - (b) what was the nature of the advice?
- (30) Has the Family and Children's Services received advice from any Government department, agency or statutory authority as to possible alternative sites for the Tudor Lodge facility?
- (31) If yes to (30) -
 - (a) from where was the advice received; and
 - (b) what was the nature of the advice?

Mrs van de KLASHORST replied:

- (1) As Tudor Lodge is an Emergency Accommodation Service (EAS) the day to day population fluctuates. The maximum number is eight.
- (2) For each of the three years the average occupancy was approximately 5.5.
- (3) 8 for each year.
- (4) 8.
- (5) This would only occur if an emergency placement was requested in the early hours of the morning, but that would be an exception.
- (6) Emergency short term accommodation.
- (7) EAS operates within a five day plan for most residents.
- (8) Most residents stay less than two nights at Emergency Accommodation Service. A plan for each child is required for residents which includes activity plans. Staff engage with the young person, actively support them and attempt to work with them to re-engage positively with their families.
- (9) Not applicable.
- (10) 14 full time and 1 part time staff. The breakdown is 12.5 staff on roster 24 hours a day - 3 x shifts a day - 7 days a week, plus 1 x social worker and 1 x Team Leader who manages the unit.
- (11) The Team Leader and Social Worker have academic qualifications in relevant disciplines. The Direct Care Workers have residential care qualifications.
- (12) An assessment through the Kath French Centre to determine suitability to be part of the Equip Program.
- (13) No.
- (14) A mixture of activities are provided which include pool and table tennis at Tudor Lodge and external activities, eg fishing. Residents also have access to community based recreation activities.
- (15) Yes.
- (16) The system works on trying to develop positive relationships with the residents, however if necessary the staff use similar mechanisms as most parents, admonishment and loss of privileges. If a resident commits a serious offence such as assault, the Police are called immediately.
- (17)-(18) The records of Police attendance to Tudor Lodge do not show separately each attendance for an alleged criminal behaviour. Reasons for Police attendance include: returning residents, taking witness

- statements, follow up in relation to on-going police action, bail breaches, good will visits, and admitting homeless young people.
- (19) The Children's Court decide on any contingency for a substantiated allegation of criminal behaviour by a young person. The Department's role is to provide support and direction for the young person where appropriate after the Juvenile Justice issues have been resolved.
- (20) The Department and the staff have a responsibility to ensure that the residents are well cared for, have access to a range of support services and are protected from danger while in the Unit. This requires individual case plans in conjunction with a range of parties and the young person, their family, Case Manager, Ministry of Justice, Health Department, Education Department etc and Tudor Lodge staff. Implementation of the case plan ultimately requires the cooperation and commitment of the young person. Should the young person choose not to cooperate then, unless they are on bail conditions which could then be breached with police intervention, staff make every effort to engage with the young person and encourage them to cooperate. Departmental staff do not have the legal authority to detain or hold a young person in custody. Similarly staff cannot physically intervene to stop a young person who has decided to leave Tudor Lodge.
- (21) The staff are trained to engage or re-engage with any hostel resident behaving in an unacceptable manner and make every effort to ensure the residents living in close proximity are not disturbed. The Police are called for assistance when necessary.
- (22) Refer answer to (20), (21) above.
- (23)-(27) Residents of Tudor Lodge are advised of curfew times. However, apart from actually engaging with each young person in an attempt to guide their behaviour Family and Children's staff have no legal jurisdiction to impose a curfew over a young person in their care.
- (28) Yes.
- (29) (a) Town of Vincent.
(b) Town of Vincent has advised the department that it does not support refurbishment of Tudor Lodge.
- (30) Yes
- (31) (a) Town of Vincent and Department of Land Administration (DOLA)
(b) The Town of Vincent recommended an industrial site within the City of Stirling and DOLA a site adjacent to the Mitchell Freeway in close proximity to a high density residential area.