

CHILDREN IN CARE - ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE - NUMBER AND TYPES OF ABUSE

1512. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

I refer to the 2006 Estimates Committee at page E497 of Hansard and the answer to Question on Notice No. 1435, and ask –

- (1) Why was the number of allegations of abuse of children in care stated as 159 in the Estimates Committee and 138 in the answer to Question on Notice No. 1435 for 2005-2006?
- (2) What is the correct number of allegations?
- (3) With reference to (2) how many of the allegations referred to –
  - (a) sexual abuse;
  - (b) physical abuse;
  - (c) emotional abuse;
  - (d) neglect; and
  - (e) other?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

1. The figure of 159 referred to notifications recorded on the Duty of Care Register during the 2005-06 financial year, from 1 July 2005 to 25 May 2006. This figure was extracted in May 2006. Not all of these notifications recorded were for allegations received during the financial year. Some notifications relate to allegations received in previous financial years.  
  
The figure of 138 is the number of allegations received by the Department during 2005-06, as at 16 August 2006.
2. 138 as at 16 August 2006.
3.
  - (a) 62
  - (b) 52
  - (c) 15
  - (d) 9
  - (e) 0