

DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS
AWAITING ASSESSMENT

1501. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

- (1) In 2006, how many prospective adoptive parents were unable to send their files to China because they were still waiting to be assessed as applicants by the Department of Community Development?
- (2) In 2006, how many prospective adoptive parents became ineligible to adopt because of age criteria while waiting to be assessed as applicants by the Department of Community Development?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (1) Files for thirty five applicant households to adopt a Chinese baby are waiting to be assessed. The number of children adopted from China in recent years to WA has been:

Year	Number of adoption orders for China adoptions
2002/03	4
2003/04	10
2004/05	14
2005/06	15

It is important to note that where a home study file has been in China for more than 12 months and a child has not yet been offered, China requires that the applicants' files are updated with new medical and police clearances and confirmation that nothing significant has altered in the applicant household's circumstances. This enables the authorities in China to be confident that the applicant's assessment remains current.

- (2) No prospective adoptive parents became ineligible to adopt in 2006 because of age criteria while waiting to be assessed.