

FOSTER CARE — REPORTS OF ABUSE BY RELATIVES

3072. Dr E. Constable to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection

- (1) How many children in foster care reported abuse by a relative during time spent in a relative care placement in each of the following years:
 - (a) 2004;
 - (b) 2005;
 - (c) 2006; and
 - (d) 2007?
- (2) How many of the reports of abuse by a relative were substantiated in each year in (1) (include figures for each year)?
- (3) Of the substantiated reports of abuse by a relative in each year in (2), how many incidents of abuse involved:
 - (a) physical abuse;
 - (b) emotional abuse;
 - (c) sexual abuse;
 - (d) neglect; and/or
 - (e) a combination of (a) to (d)?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (1) (a)-(d) The person believed responsible for maltreatment is not recorded in the Department for Child Protection's client database at the time of the allegation. It is only recorded if an incident becomes substantiated. Information about the person accused of the abuse could only be attained through a case-by-case analysis requiring substantial resources.
- (2) The number of substantiated incidents where the person believed responsible for the maltreatment is a relative foster care is as follows. Due to the complexity of cases, some investigations are still being undertaken. Therefore figures may increase over time as these cases are completed.
 - 2004 = 9
 - 2005 = 12
 - 2006 = 5
 - 2007 = 0
- (3)
 - (a)
 - 2004 = 6
 - 2005 = 1
 - 2006 = 1
 - 2007 = 0
 - (b)
 - 2004 = 0
 - 2005 = 4
 - 2006 = 2
 - 2007 = 0
 - (c)
 - 2004 = 2
 - 2005 = 1
 - 2006 = 1
 - 2007 = 0
 - (d)
 - 2004 = 1
 - 2005 = 6
 - 2006 = 1
 - 2007 = 0
 - (e) Not applicable. Only a single, most substantial, category of abuse or neglect is recorded on the departmental data base. Individual case files do record all relevant details.