

CHILDREN IN STATE CARE - ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

1437. Dr E. Constable to the Minister for Community Development

With regard to allegations of abuse of children in the care and protection of the Department of Community Development -

- (1) How many allegations were made in each financial year since 1993-1994?
- (2) How many of the allegations referred to in (1) were made by, or on behalf of, indigenous children?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

The Department for Community Development is not able to provide reliable comparable data for 1993-1994 to 2003-2004, because in 03-04 year it expanded the definition of abuse in care from just abuse by foster carers to include all allegations, irrespective of the person alleged responsible for that abuse. In February 2004 the Department implemented the Duty of Care Register to better capture information in relation to allegations of abuse in care.

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| (1) | 1993-1994: | 34 |
| | 1994-1995: | 19 |
| | 1995-1996: | 33 |
| | 1996-1997: | 34 |
| | 1997-1998: | 45 |
| | 1998-1999: | 45 |
| | 1999-2000: | 59 |
| | 2000-2001: | 67 |
| | 2001-2002: | 69 |
| | 2002-2003: | 67 |
| | 2003-2004: | 110 |
| | 2004-2005: | 139 |
| | 2005-2006: | 138 |
| (2) | 1993-1994: | 22 |
| | 1994-1995: | 5 |
| | 1995-1996: | 8 |
| | 1996-1997: | 7 |
| | 1997-1998: | 21 |
| | 1998-1999: | 25 |
| | 1999-2000: | 21 |
| | 2000-2001: | 20 |
| | 2001-2002: | 28 |
| | 2002-2003: | 27 |
| | 2003-2004: | 39 |
| | 2004-2005: | 54 |
| | 2005-2006: | 54 |