

NORTHBRIDGE CURFEW - STATUS OF CHILDREN REMOVED FROM AREA BY POLICE

2161. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection

- (1) How many of the children removed from Northbridge via the curfew in the following years were wards of the State -
 - (a) 2004-2005;
 - (b) 2005-2006; and
 - (c) 2006/2007 (year to date)?
- (2) How many of those wards of the State, that were removed via the curfew, were absent without leave from their foster or hostel care?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (1) The number of children removed from Northbridge via the curfew who were wards of the State during those years is:
 - (a) 2004-2005: 27 children
 - (b) 2005-2006: 17 children
 - (c) 2006-2007: 26 children (as of 13 April 2007)
- (2) This data (that is, whether children who were Wards were absent without leave from their foster or hostel placement on the specific day that they were removed from Northbridge) is not recorded on the Department for Community Development's client information system. Data is not recorded about specific events such as the day a child is absent from their placement. A search of individual client files for this information would divert staff from their vital work protecting children.