

WORKING WITH CHILDREN SCREENING CHECKS

1748. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Community Development

In relation to the Working with Children screening checks, I ask -

- (1) How many applications have been received since 1 January 2006?
- (2) How many screenings have been completed?
- (3) How many people have been issued with a negative notice?
- (4) What were the reasons for each of the negative notices?
- (5) Were any of the people who received a negative notice listed on the Australian National Child Offender Register or any other register?
- (6) For those people issued with a negative notice, what positions were they working in where they had contact with children?
- (7) Are any of these people currently working with children?
- (8) How many have been issued with interim negative notices?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

- (1) On 19/02/2007 the Working with Children Screening Unit had received approximately 30,600 (rounded figures) applications for WWC Checks since 01/01/2006
- (2) Of the above over 28 500 screenings had been completed with the balance in process .
- (3) Twelve finalised Negative Notices have been issued.
- (4) Ten of the Negative Notices were for scheduled offences (9 sexual and one violence) - including convictions, pending and non-conviction charges. Two were non-scheduled convictions assessed to be of relevance to child-related work.
- (5) One of the twelve persons with Negative Notices is currently registered on ANCOR.
- (6) 2 self employed
6 employees
4 volunteers
- (7) Persons with Negative Notices and Interim Negative Notices are prohibited from child-related work and there is a penalty of up to five years and \$60 000 for breaching this. Employers are advised if a person has a Negative or Interim Negative Notice and that they are also prohibited from employing such persons in a paid or voluntary capacity.
- (8) Five Interim Negative Notices have been issued