

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, TEMPORARY STAFF

448. Hon LJILJANNA RAVLICH to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Family and Children's Services:

For each department and agency under the Minister for Family and Children's Services' direction -

- (1) How many temporary staff have been engaged through an employment agency since January 1 1999?
- (2) For each engagement, what was the -
 - (a) level of the position;
 - (b) name of the employment agency;
 - (c) duration of the engagement; and
 - (d) reason why the position was not filled from within the public sector?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

Family and Children's Services

- (1)-(2) Family and Children's Services engage temporary staff in the metropolitan area through the Department of Contract and Management Services common use contract for the supply of temporary personnel for Metropolitan Western Australian Government Agencies contract No RFT 53/97. Managers may engage temporary staff at any office around the State in accordance with operational requirements. This is managed at the local level and is not recorded centrally.

Temporary staff are normally engaged for short term relief situations where service cannot be provided by existing staff members. The period of relief ranges from one day to several weeks, depending on requirements. This is usually at a salary range equivalent to level 1.

Family and Children's Policy Office

- (1) 12
- (2)
 - (a) All appointments were to the equivalent of level 1
 - (b)
 1. Select Appointments
 2. Adecco Centacom
 - 3-12. Lefroy Employment Group
 - (c)
 1. 17 days
 2. 3 months
 3. 3 months
 4. 4 months
 5. 1 day
 6. 1 day
 7. 1 day
 8. 1 day
 9. 1 day
 10. 5 days
 11. 5 days
 12. 2 months
 - (d) Two reasons:
 - (i) The Family and Children's Policy Office was established on June 8, 1999. The early development of the office and its structure necessitated a degree of flexible administrative support throughout the process of securing permanent appointments to all positions. Employment agencies provided the necessary flexibility in terms of commencing and terminating contracts "on demand" as the permanent work force grew. This process was completed in May hence the employment agencies are no longer required for this reason.
 - (ii) The office is only small and, as such, there are advantages in outsourcing the reception relief at times of urgent and unexpected need.