

PUBLIC



**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Monday 18 June 2012

Department for Child Protection

Question No. A1: Hon Ken Travers asked –

(1) How much is actually allocated for corporate, learning, policy and working with children in each of those areas (services)?

Answer:

The allocation of corporate support, learning, policy and working with children expenditure across the Department's three service areas on page 700 of the 2012-13 Budget Statements, is detailed in the table below:

	Service One \$'000	Service Two \$'000	Service Three \$'000	Total
Corporate Support	16,909	11,154	7,033	35,096
Learning	1,792	1,182	745	3,719
Policy	2,231	1,583	2,663	6,477
Working With Children	-	10,269	-	10,269
Total	20,932	24,188	10,441	55,562

The \$55.562 million allocated to the above four services is approximately 10 per cent of the total allocation for Service One (Supporting Children and Young People in the Chief Executive Officer's Care), Service Two (Protecting Children and Young People from Abuse and Harm) and Service Three (Supporting Individuals/Families at Risk or in Crisis).

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Monday 18 June 2012

Department for Child Protection

Question No.A2: Hon Sue Ellery asked –

(1) For the year, including the most recent month, please provide the number of HUGS applicants and how many of those made applications more than once in that timeframe?

Answer:

For the period July 2011 to April 2012 there were 14,756 successful applicants with a total grant value of \$5,270,072

It is not possible to provide information on the number of applicants that have presented more than once in a specified timeframe. This information can only be obtained on an individual case by case basis. To provide it for a specified timeframe would require a manual check of every application; the large number of grants would make this impractical.

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Monday 18 June 2012

Department for Child Protection

Question No. A3: Hon Ken Travers asked –

(1) a) How much have you spent on running and managing those homes (Timely Hostess Mews and Kentia Loop) over the last financial year and what is your budget for the future?

Answer:

The 2011-12 operational expenditure as at 31 May 2012 was \$1.137 million for Mariginiup House (Timely Hostess Mews) and \$1.106 million for Wanneroo House (Kentia Loop).

The 2012-13 budget allocation for these houses will be based on current 2011-12 allocation (approximately \$1.05 million per home) with increases for salary pay-rises and some escalation increases.

(1) b) And any repairs or maintenance?

Answer:

The 2011-12 repairs and maintenance expenditure as at 31 May 2012 was \$60,000 for Mariginiup House (Timely Hostess Mews) and \$21,000 for Wanneroo House (Kentia Loop).

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Department for Child Protection

Question No. A4: Hon Ken Travers asked –

(1) In relation to Mariginiup House what dates did Departmental officers go out to the House and meet with residents?

Answer:

The Director Metropolitan Residential Care, Assistant Director Metropolitan, Residential Care and the House Manager met with 10 Neighbours on 1 March 2012.

On 20 March 2012 the Director General and Executive Director Accommodation and Care Services met with local residents regarding the fire.

(2) What letters have residents sent to the Government and when were responses provided to these letters?

Answer:

Residents wrote to the Director General on 18 December 2011, who responded on 29 December 2011.

The Premier received correspondence from residents dated 3 April 2012 and 13 April, and provided a response on 27 June 2012.

My office has not received any letters from the local residents since the residential care home at Timely Hostess Mews has been operational.

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Department for Child Protection

Question No. A5: Hon A Xamon asked –

(1) Is it possible to get a breakdown of how the \$30,000 per child (for unaccompanied humanitarian minors) is usually allocated?

Answer:

The \$30,000 per child represents an average annual cost. Cost requirements vary on a case by case basis depending on the child's age and care needs. Items which make up the total cost include:

- case worker salary and on-costs;
- foster care subsidy, where required;
- case support costs;
- special needs loading;
- interpreter and translating costs; and
- costs for therapy services.

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Monday 18 June 2012

Department for Child Protection

Question No. A6: Hon Philip Gardiner asked –

(1) Provide a job description for a caseworker.

Answer: Attached

(2) Generally what knowledge does a caseworker have about children on their caseloads?

Answer:

- Child Protection Workers aim to establish a relationship of trust with the child so issues about safety and wellbeing, placement considerations, family, school and activities can be discussed.
- When a child is in care Child Protection Workers are required to have contact with them on at least a quarterly basis (these meetings can be informal and often take place outside of the Department's offices). In many instances the contact with children is much more frequent than quarterly, as Child Protection Workers may transport them to contact visits with their family, supervise the visits, accompany the child to specialist appointments and support them in recreational activities.
- In addition to contact with the children, and to effectively work with the children and their family, Child Protection Workers build relationships with parents, grandparents, foster carers, schools and other significant individuals in the children's lives. These relationships provide considerable understanding of the environment and networks of the children on their caseloads.

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JOB DESCRIPTION FORM

FORM 092
05/07

SECTION 1 – POSITION IDENTIFICATION

Position number: Generic
Title: Child Protection Worker
Classification: Specified Calling Level 1
Directorate: Country Services / Metropolitan Services
Division: District Office
Section: District Office
Award: Public Service Award 1992
Location of position: Various

SECTION 2 – REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

POSITION TITLE	CLASSIFICATION
District Director	Specified Calling Level 5
<i>Reports to</i> ↑	
Team Leader Child Protection	Specified Calling Level 3
<i>Reports to</i> ↑	
This position	Specified Calling Level 1



POSITIONS UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION:

Title	Classification
Nil	Nil

SECTION 3 – DEPARTMENT VALUES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We value respect We value openness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We value team work We value responsiveness
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SECTION 4 – STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Child Protection Worker works in the areas of child protection, children in care and family support is responsible for:

Responding to concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of children in accordance with provisions of the *Children and Community Service Act 2004*.

Taking legal action to promote the safety and wellbeing of children where necessary.

Providing services to children placed in the care of the CEO.

Engaging and working alongside families to strengthen their capacity to provide care and safety to their members in ways that are:

Sustainable

Will build resilience in children, families and the community and

Ultimately increase social wellbeing.

Assisting identified families and their children with relevant agencies and community resources to ensure appropriate supports are in place.

POSITION TITLE Child Protection Worker	CLASSIFICATION Specified Calling Level 1	POSITION NO Generic	Document Date June 2010
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SECTION 5 – KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

No	Key Responsibility Area and Related Duties
1	<p>Child Protection</p> <p>Responds to reported concerns about a child’s wellbeing by making enquiries under Section 31 of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i> as to whether action is required to safeguard or promote the child’s well being.</p> <p>Conducts and/or leads assessments and investigations on behalf of the Department under Section 32 of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i> to determine what action should be taken, including assessments, to determine parental or carer capacity to protect the child.</p> <p>Takes intervention action under Section 32 of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i> if a child is in need of protection under Section 28 and collects evidence, prepares documents and participates in protection proceedings as required under the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i>, Part 4, Division 2 and 3 and Part 5.</p>
2	<p>Children in Care</p> <p>Complies with provisions of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i>, Part 4, Division 5 in relation to taking children into the care of the CEO.</p> <p>Engages with children and families of children in care to promote and ensure their safety, wellbeing and development.</p> <p>Ensures children in care have an up to date Care Plan as defined by Section 89 of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i> that reflects the current circumstances of the child, promotes their ongoing development and is subject to regular review.</p> <p>To carry out assessments of families and foster families in determining appropriate placement options for children in care which may also include family reunification and Leaving Care arrangements (Part 4, Divisions 5 and 6 of the <i>Children and Community Services Act 2004</i>).</p> <p>To ensure that children in the care of the CEO receive appropriate treatment and support services that address their individual needs including their physical and mental health, ethnicity and culture, education and emotional wellbeing.</p>
3	<p>Family Support</p> <p>Engages all stakeholders in a respectful and honest manner when providing services to families of children in care of the CEO and/or families who are ‘at risk’ or in crisis.</p> <p>Undertakes child and family assessments to provide for support services or arrange treatment for families who come to the attention of the Department.</p> <p>Provides or arranges for services to families that will address child protection issues and strengthen family functioning. This includes referrals to appropriate agencies based on assessed family needs and available resources.</p>
4	<p>Inter-Agency and Community Collaboration</p> <p>Maintains links and shares information with other government and non-government agencies that may have a statutory role or are providing a service to the Department in protecting children and assisting them with their education and health.</p> <p>Liaises with appropriate cultural and indigenous services and communities that provide an identity for the children or family the Department is working with towards a goal of strengthening family</p>

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POSITION TITLE Child Protection Worker	CLASSIFICATION Specified Calling Level 1	POSITION NO Generic	Document Date June 2010
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functioning.

Liaises with the Department's contracted service providers in making appropriate referrals for individual and family support and treatment.

5 Administration

Maintains electronic client records and case management data to Departmental standards.

Participates in meetings, supervision and training as a contributing member of a team.

Assists in the recruitment, supervision and training of other staff as required.

Contributes to Departmental research and evaluation of services as required.

Manages Departmental and Government resources in accordance with Government and Departmental policy.

Complies with the requirements of the Department's Administrative Manual 2009 and the Case Practice Manual.

6 Other Duties

Participates in emergency response management duties as required.

Performs other duties as required.

SPECIFIED CALLING

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POSITION TITLE Child Protection Worker	CLASSIFICATION Specified Calling Level 1	POSITION NO Generic	Document Date June 2010
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SECTION 6 – SELECTION CRITERIA

ESSENTIAL

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| 1. Knowledge of the issues in the protection and care of children and young people. |
| 2. Ability to engage, empower and build strong working relationships with a diverse range of clients (particularly including Aboriginal clients), stakeholders, partners and colleagues. |
| 3. Ability to manage multiple and conflicting priorities. |
| 4. Demonstrated assessment and analytical skills, as well as strong communication skills (written, verbal and non-verbal). |
| 5. A tertiary qualification in social work, psychology or a relevant human service area. |

SECTION 7 – ESSENTIAL PRE-EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

The occupant of this position will require the following prior to appointment:

Current 'C or A' class driver's licence

Departmental Check

Criminal Record Check.

Working with Children Check

SECTION 8 – CERTIFICATION

The details contained in this document are an accurate statement of the duties, responsibilities and other requirements of the position.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE (L1-5) / DIRECTOR GENERAL (L6 and above)

NAME:

NAME:

SIGNATURE:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

DATE:

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Department for Child Protection

Question No. A7: Hon P Gardiner asked –

(1) What are the outcomes for the children managed by caseworkers – where they end up, what is the success rate? What constitutes children transitioning out of care successfully?

Answer:

Although the Department reports on how well it supports children and young people in care through its key performance indicators, aggregated data on outcomes for children after they have left care is not currently available.

Given that the Department aims to reunite children and young people with their families, when it is safe to do so, the proportion of children who returned to their family on leaving care is one indicative measure of success.

Table 1: Proportion of occasions where a child returned to their family after leaving care in 2010-11

	Occasions	% of total
Child did not return to family	204	29.6%
Child returned to family	486	70.4%
Total	690	100.0%

Note 27 children experienced another period of care subsequent to 30 June 2011.

Another indicative measure of success is the proportion of young people in care who continue with further education. In 2012, 27 young people received awards and financial assistance in recognition of their enrolment to study at university or TAFE or in taking up an apprenticeship or traineeship.

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ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
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Department for Child Protection

Question No. A8: Hon L Behjat asked –

(1) What emergencies/disasters did the Department manage in 2010-11?

Answer:

In the 2010–11 financial year the Department were activated for 26 emergencies/disasters.

(2) What emergencies/disasters did the Department manage in 2011-12?

Answer:

In the 2011-12 financial year the Department was activated for 22 emergencies/disasters. Previous information to the Estimates Committee had this figure at 20 activations as at 31 May 2012, and there have been 2 further activations since then.

(3) What was the increase between 2010-11 and 2011-12 years?

Answer:

There has been a decrease of 4. A list of the activations for 2010-11 and 2011-12 is attached.

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**DCP Emergency Services
Activations – 2010/2011**

Date	Activation
July 2010	Scarborough Storm
October 2010	Nannup Fire
November 2010	Red Hill Fire
November 2010	Nannup Fire November
December 2010	Karnup Bushfire
December 2010	Gooseberry Hill Bushfire
December 2010	Gascoyne Flooding
December 2010	Christmas Island Asylum Marine Dis
December 2010	Pilbara Cyclone
January 2011	Lake Clifton Fires
January 2011	Queensland Floods
January 2011	Parmelia Bushfire
January 2011	Cyclone Bianca
January 2011	Wheatbelt Storms
February 2011	City of Swan
February 2011	City of Armadale
February 2011	Warburton Floods
February 2011	Nungarin Floods
February 2011	Laverton Floods
February 2011	Gascoyne Flooding 2
February 2011	Newman Floods
February 2011	Cyclone Carlos
March 2011	Punmu Evacuation
March 2011	Ngallangunda Floods
March 2011	Kimberley Floods
April 2011	Coolbellup Evacuation

TOTAL ACTIVATIONS – 26



DCP Emergency Services

Activations 2011-12

Date:	Activation:
July 11	Waroona Storms
August 11	Collie Storms
September 11	Maddington Storms
October 11	Gosnells Gas Leak
November 11	Augusta-Margaret River Bushfire
November 11	Milyeannup Fires
November 11	Southern Wheatbelt Storm
January 12	Cloverdale Fires
January 12	Wheatbelt Tornado
January 12	Pilbara flooding/TC Heidi
January 12	Carnarvon Bushfires
January 12	Malaga Toxic Fire
January 12	Burringurah Flood
January 12	Cyclone Iggy
January 12	Bindoon Fires
January 12	South West Fires
February 12	Northcliffe Fires
March 12	Nannup Fires
March 12	Cyclone Lua
March 12	Kalumburu Floods
June 12	Perth/SW Storms
June 12	Mosman Park Unit Fire