



Minister for Mental Health; Disability Services; Child Protection

Our Ref: 43-18123

Hon Ken Travers MLC
Chair
Standing Committee
on Estimates and Financial Operations
Parliament House

Dear Mr Travers

**Questions Prior to Hearing 2014-15 Agency Annual Report Hearings
Mental Health Commission
Department for Child Protection and Family Support
Disability Services Commission.**

I refer to your letters dated 20 October 2015 and 30 October 2015 regarding questions with responses due one month prior to the 2014-15 Annual Report hearings. I have some concerns about the number, type and timeframe of questions asked.

As I understand it, the purpose of these hearings is for Members to seek clarification on information pertaining to the 2014-15 Agency Annual Reports. Any information not pertaining to the Annual Reports should be requested through the appropriate channels.

I draw your attention to the number of questions asked across my three portfolios this year in comparison to last year. In 2014 I received a total of 13 questions and this year I have received 100 multiple part questions. This is unreasonable, particularly given the timeframe in which the agencies have to provide the responses and in comparison to the number of questions received by other Ministers.

Members asking questions should indicate the Annual Report page number and relevant statement/data to which the question relates before asking the question and should only ask questions relating to the 2014-15 Annual Reports.

Consequently, I have only provided responses to questions meeting these requirements and ask that questions specific to the 2014-15 Annual Reports please be resubmitted in the appropriate format.

Yours sincerely

- 9 NOV 2015

Helen Morton MLC
MINISTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH; DISABILITY SERVICES; CHILD PROTECTION

Cc: Mark Warner, Committee Clerk, Estimates and Financial Operations Committee, Parliament House