

Tuesday, 20 July 2010

Department for Children Protection

Supplementary Information B1

Hon KEN TRAVERS asked "Do you keep statistics on the demographics for people that are seeking assistance – what postcodes, what age, whether they have dependent children, whether they are working or not working?"



Answer:

For the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 the following tables indicate the total grant applications, approvals by regions, income source, family status and ethnic background.

Table 1: Total Grants

Total Grants Approved	Total Amount
6701	\$2.268 million

Table 2: HUGS Approvals By Region

Region	Number of Grants Approved
Gascoyne	59
Goldfields/Esperance	141
Great Southern	268
Kimberley	223
Metropolitan	4401
Midwest	193
Peel	484
Pilbara	211
Southwest	528
Wheatbelt	193
Total	6701

Table 3: Income Source

Income Source	Number of Grants Paid	% of Total Grants Paid
Government Payments	5655	84.39%
Employed	853	12.73%
Self Employed	104	1.55%
Other	89	1.33%
TOTAL	6701	100%

Table 4: Family Status

Family Status	Number of Grants Paid	% of Total Grants Paid
Single	1651	24.64%
Family	507	7.57%
Family with dependent children	1535	22.90%
Single with dependent children	3008	44.89%
TOTAL	6701	100%

RUF

Table 5: Ethnic Background

Ethnicity	Number of Grants Paid	% of Total Grants Paid
Indigenous	1806	26.95%
CALD	405	6.04%
English Speaking	4490	67.01%
Total	6701	100%

RMS.

Supplementary Information for Ongoing Budget Estimates Hearings 2010-11

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Supplementary Information B2

Hon KEN TRAVERS discussing children currently in the care of the CEO, asked "do you have an idea of the different types of protection orders they come under; whether they are interim or time limited until they are 18 or enduring parental responsibilities? Are you able to break it down into the different categories of orders under which they are in your care?"

[Please note: refers to data for period ending 30 December 2009. Mr Travers added "if we can add into that also what proportion of children are three years of age and under. And what proportion are Indigenous. Also, if you have any idea of different trends within each of those categories as to the percentage increases, or the trends in each of those categories, I would appreciate that.]

Answer:

The current number of children in the CEO's care at the Estimated and Financial Operations Subcommittee hearing 20 July 2010 was estimated to be 3,330.

A new client information system, Assist, was deployed on 8 March 2010. Due to issues associated with the transition to the new system, the associated data warehouse is not yet delivered and tested to the point where it can be certified as reliable for extraction of data, in particular for the provision of data to auditing standards.

As a result, the information breakdown requested by Hon Ken Travers MLC has been undertaken using data as at 28 February 2010. At that point in time the number of children in the CEO's care was 3,276.

Legal Status at 28 February 2010	Children
Until 18	1,446
Time limited	1,266
Provisional protection and care	453
Placement service	31
Unaccompanied humanitarian minor	21
Supervision*	17
Application for protection order	15
Prospective adoption	11
Pre-adoption parent/guardian	5
Negotiated placement agreement	5
Transitional consented placement	4
Enduring parental responsibility*	2
Total	3,276

*Children on enduring parental responsibility or supervision orders are not ordinarily deemed to be in the CEO's care. On occasion, some children on these orders may be brought into care briefly for purposes such as to provide respite to caregivers. In some cases these children may have been returned home subsequent to being placed on these orders but their period of care end date has not yet been ended in the database.

A total of 744 children or 23 percent were aged three years or under on 28 February 2010.

A total of 1,466 or 45 percent of children in the CEO's care on 28 February 2010 were Indigenous.

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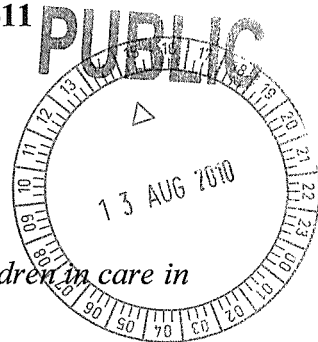
Department for Children Protection

Supplementary Information B3

Hon KEN TRAVERS asked "Do we know how many deaths there were of children in care in the last financial year?"

Answer:

There were no (0) deaths of children in the CEO's care in the last financial year.



KTS.

Supplementary Information for Ongoing Budget Estimates Hearings 2010-11

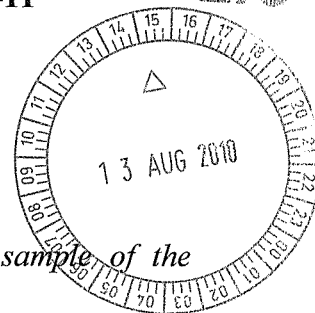
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Supplementary Information B4

The CHAIR: Supplementary Information B4 will be staff turnover in a sample of the Department for Child Protection Regions.



Answer:

In the **2008-09 financial year**, the West Kimberley, East Kimberley and Murchison Districts had an overall vacancy rate of 39%.

- The **West Kimberley District** had a vacancy rate of 41%.
- The **East Kimberley District** had a vacancy rate of 48%.
- The **Murchison District** had a vacancy rate of 27%

In the **2009-10 financial year**, the West Kimberley, East Kimberley and Murchison Districts had an overall vacancy rate of 25%. This represents a decrease of 14% from the 2008-09 financial year.

- The **West Kimberley District** had a vacancy rate of 22%, a decrease of 19% on the previous year.
- The **East Kimberley District** had a vacancy rate of 31%, a decrease of 17% from the 2008-09 financial year.
- The **Murchison District** had a vacancy rate of 21%, a decrease of 6% from the 2008-09 financial year.

Most notable of the reductions is the decrease in the vacancy rates in the following positions:

Field Worker

- o West Kimberley - 5% vacancy rate in 09/10 compared to 27% in 2008-09
- o East Kimberley - 21% vacancy rate in 09/10, compared to 36% in 2008-09
- o Murchison - 18% vacancy rate in 09/10, compared to 23% in 2008-09

Senior Field Worker

- o East Kimberley - 17% vacancy rate in 2009-10 compared to 80% in 2008-09

While vacancy rates of 31%, 21% and 22% are still above the Department average, they represent an overall improvement in recruitment and retention in the three nominated districts in the 2009-10 financial year. There have been significant improvements in the retention of Specified Calling and service delivery staff, with many positions experiencing low vacancy rates in the 2009-10 financial year.

Improvements in vacancy rates can be attributed to effective local recruitment, innovative promotion and recruitment campaigns, the use of supported flexible recruitment options (such as the use of recruitment agencies and the direct appointment process).

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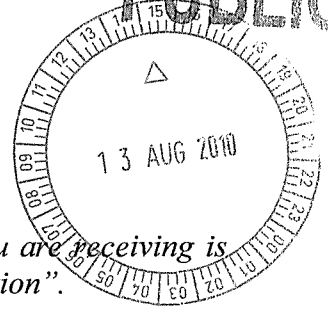
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Department for Children Protection

Supplementary Information B5

Hon KEN TRAVERS asked "of what the total Commonwealth money you are receiving is and how that relates to your total cost of services versus the total appropriation".



Answer:

The increase of \$43.5 million in the total cost of services for the Department for Child Protection between the 2009-10 financial year and the 2010-11 financial year is due to an increase in income from the State Government of \$37.7 million and an increase in other revenue of \$6.8 million, of which \$6.7 million relates to increased revenue from the Commonwealth. This increase is partly offset by a reduction of \$1.063 million between years due to the 2009-10 containing the approval to utilise funds in the 2009-10 year, which were carried forward from the prior year.

The table below shows the movements between the years.

	2009-10 \$'000	2010-11 \$'000	Difference \$'000
Total cost of services	398,551	442,060	43,509
The total cost of services comprises the following:			
Income from the State Government			
- Appropriation from the State Government	345,119	394,285	49,166
- Royalties for Regions fund	-	2,778	2,778
- Resources received free of charge (non-cash)	890	890	-
- Administered appropriation (Dept of Treasury and Finance)	14,200	-	14,200
Sub total - income from the State Government	360,209	397,953	37,744
Revenue			
- Commonwealth funding	30,752	37,472	6,720
- Sale of goods and services	3,499	3,669	170
- Other general revenue	1,983	1,921	- 62
Sub total - revenue	36,234	43,062	6,828
Adjustment for the carry forward of unspent funds	1,063	-	1,063
Total	397,506	441,015	43,509

RMF