The Hon Kate WASHINGTON MP

FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES, AND DISABILITY INCLUSION

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
1	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	Please indicate how many monthly FACS District Director meetings has the Minister attended since being sworn in? (a) Please provide the relevant dates.	I am advised: I attended the Operations Governance Committee on Wednesday, 1 November 2023. I have met with Executive District Directors on dozens of occasions since I was sworn in, including visits to frontline workers, meetings with Non-Government Organisations, and in response to individual constituent enquiries.
2	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	2. How many ministerial staff have attended these meetings with the Minister?	I am advised: Ministerial staff attended the Operations Governance Committee meeting on Wednesday, 1 November 2023.
3	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	3. How many CSC meetings has the Minister attended since being sworn in? (a) Please provide the dates and locations? (b) Please provide the total cost of the meetings, including the provision of meals, beverages and accommodation, with respect to the Minister and her ministerial staff? (c) Please indicate how many ministerial staff attended each CSC meeting?	I am advised: a) – c) Since I was sworn in, I have visited Community Services Centres, District Offices, and other DCJ staff units in Ballina, Blacktown, Bradbury, Broadmeadow, Broken Hill, Campbelltown, Casino, Dubbo, Lismore, Liverpool, Mount Vernon, Newcastle, Orange, Parramatta, Raymond Terrace, Strawberry Hills, and Sydney. Where a Minister or employee of the Minister's office undertakes travel, travel is taken in accordance with the NSW Government travel policy and the Ministers' Office Handbook. The Premier's Department website also details PD_A5842315, "Domestic and international travel of NSW Ministers and their offices" that has been released under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.
4	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	4. Please provide the time and location of the CSC meeting held at Broken Hill on the 25th of October 2023.	I am advised: Tuesday, 24 October, at Broken Hill.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
5	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	5. Please provide details on how many ministerial staff attended the Broken Hill ministerial visit?	I am advised: One.
6	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	6. How many nights did the Minister spend in Broken Hill?	I am advised: One.
7	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	7. Did the Minister attend other meetings or social gatherings during her visit?(a) Please indicate what those gatherings were?(b) Did any of her ministerial staff attend?	I am advised: Yes, I met with NGO partners, councillors, the Local MP's office, local business owners and journalists, and I briefly met with Minister Tanya Plibersek who also happened to be visiting Broken Hill.
8	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	8. What was the total cost of the Broken Hill visit?	I am advised: All travel was taken in accordance with the NSW Government travel policy and the Ministers' Office Handbook.
9	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	9. Could the Minister provide the total cost of meals and beverages that her Ministerial Office has incurred since being sworn in as a Minister and up to the 9th of November?	I am advised: Zero.
10	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	10. How many children and young people have been placed into alternative care arrangements between 1st January 2023 and 30th June 2023? (a) How many children specifically have been placed in a hotel, motel or caravan park?	I am advised: 251 children and young people entered alternative care arrangements between 1 January 2023 and 30 June 2023 (a) 83 of these children and young people were accommodated in a hotel, motel or caravan park. These arrangements are short-term until more appropriate accommodation can be sourced.
11	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	11. How many children and young people have been placed into alternative care arrangements between 1st July 2023 up to 9th of November 2023? (a) How many children specifically have been placed in a hotel, motel or caravan park?	I am advised: Data is unable to be provided to 9th of November. 154 children and young people entered alternative care arrangements between 1 July 2023 and 31 October 2023 (a) 65of these children and young people were accommodated in a hotel, motel or caravan park

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
12	Hon Tania Mihailuk MLC	12. Can you please provide the total cost of the alternative care arrangements between 1st May 2023 up to 1st November 2023?	I am advised: The average annualised cost of an ACA in 2022-23 was \$829k.
13	Hon Chris Rath MLC	13. Does the Minister have any discretionary funds in relation to her portfolio responsibilities for Families and Communities?(a) If yes, what is the total amount that has been made available to the Minister?i. How much has already been expended?	I am advised: No
14	Hon Chris Rath MLC	14. Does the Minister have any discretionary funds in relation to her portfolio responsibilities for Disability Inclusion? (a) If yes, what is the total amount that has been made available to the Minister? i. How much has already been expended? (b) Can the Minister provide a dollar value breakdown on what the discretionary funds have been expended on?	I am advised: No
15	Hon Chris Rath MLC	15. What date is the Adoption Act due for review?	I am advised: The Act does not specify a forthcoming review date.
16	Hon Chris Rath MLC	16. What date is the Child Protection (International Measures) Act due for review?	I am advised: The Act does not specify a forthcoming review date.
17	Hon Chris Rath MLC	17. What date is the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act due for review?	I am advised: The Act does not specify a forthcoming review date.
18	Hon Chris Rath MLC	18. What date is the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act due for review?	I am advised: The Act does not specify a forthcoming review date. However, the recent amendments to the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 made on 15 November 2023, require the Minister to review that the policy objectives of the Family Is Culture amending Act remain valid and the terms of the Act appropriate to

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			achieve those objectives. The review is to start after 12 months from commencement (so after 15 November 2024) and a report of the review must be tabled in Parliament by November 2025.
19	Hon Chris Rath MLC	19. What date is the Children's Guardian Act due for review?	I am advised: A statutory review of the <i>Children's Guardian Act 2019</i> is underway.
20	Hon Chris Rath MLC	20. What date is the Community Services (Complaints, Reviews and Monitoring) Act due for review?	I am advised: The Act does not specify a forthcoming review date.
21	Hon Chris Rath MLC	21. How soon after a child is missing is this brought to the Minister's attention?	I am advised: I regularly receive critical incident reports regarding children and young people in OOHC.
22	Hon Chris Rath MLC	22. What date/s was the Minister made aware of the three instances of children missing, as referred to in the Budget Estimates session?	I am advised: I regularly receive critical incident reports regarding children and young people in OOHC.
23	Hon Chris Rath MLC	23. How many critical instances reports has the Minister received in relation to OOHC pregnancies since her appointment?	I am advised: Since my appointment on 5 April 2023 to 17 November 2023, I have received 20 individual pieces of critical incident advice where the pregnancy of a young person in out-of-home care was the primary purpose of the report.
			Please note the data regarding critical incident advice is not gathered for the purpose of identifying the number of individual pregnancies reported.
			Additional pregnancies may have been reported where the pregnancy was not the primary purpose of the incident. Multiple critical incident reports may relate to the same young person's pregnancy where additional information has been requested.
24	Hon Chris Rath MLC	24. How many calls has the Child Protection Hotline received so far this year?	I am advised: In quarter one (July to September) of the 2023/24 financial year the child protection helpline received 21,910 eReports and 34,946 telephone reports.
25	Hon Chris Rath MLC	25. How many calls did the Child Protection Hotline receive in 2022-23?	I am advised: For 2022/23, 85,632 eReports and 140,956 telephone reports were received.
26	Hon Chris Rath MLC	26. What date did the review of Structured Decision Making commence?	I am advised: The contract to undertake the Quality Service Review of the Structured Decision Making tools was commenced with Evident Change on 1 June 2021. There are six

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(a) What date is the review expected to be completed?	tools being reviewed. They are in different stages of completion and some will be implemented in 2024. It is expected that the last tool will be implemented in 2025. This timeframe accounts for IT builds and staff training.
27	Hon Chris Rath MLC	 27. Has the Minister had any meetings with her Federal and/or State counterparts in relation to better information sharing of child protection data between jurisdictions? (a) If yes, what date/s? i. Did the Premier attend the meeting/s? ii. Which Federal and/or State counterparts attended? (b) If no, why not 	I am advised: Yes, the most recent of which was the Ministerial Forum on Child Safety. Public information about this meeting can be found here: https://ministers.ag.gov.au/media-centre/outcomes-ministerial-forum-child-safety-24-11-2023
28	Hon Chris Rath MLC	28. How many children that are required to have a case plan have a case plan?(a) What is the number by percentage?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 13,392 children under parental responsibility to Minister were required to have an out of home care (OOHC) case plan. (a) As at 30 June 2023, 11,594 (or 86.6 per cent) children had an OOHC case plan.
29	Hon Chris Rath MLC	29. As of today, many children managed by DCJ have a case plan? (a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months? (b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, there were 5,488 children and young people under parental responsibility to Minister case managed by DCJ, who required an out of home care (OOHC) case plan. 4,962 or 90.4 per cent had a current OOHC case plan. (a) 130 children and young people had been living in OOHC for 0 to 3 months. (b) 209 children and young people had been living in OOHC for 3 to 6 months.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
30	Hon Chris Rath MLC	30. As of today, many children managed by an NGO have a case plan?(a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months?(b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 7,904 children under parental responsibility to Minister case managed by NGOs were required to have an OOHC case plan. 6,632 (or 83.9 per cent) had a current OOHC case plan. (a) 52 children and young people been living in OOHC for 0 to 3 months. (b) 110 children and young people had living in OOHC for 3 to 6 months.
31	Hon Chris Rath MLC	31. As of today, many children managed by DCJ have a current cultural support plan? (a) How many of these children and young people have been living in OOHC for 0-3 months? (b) How many of the children and young people have been living in OOHC care for 3-6 months?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, there were 2,872 Aboriginal children and young people under parental responsibility to the Minister case managed by the Department of Communities and Justice who are required to have cultural support plan. 2,346 (or 81.7 per cent) of children and young people had a cultural support plan. (a) 48 children and young people had been in out-of-home care (OOHC) for 0 to 3 months. (b) 91 children and young people had been living in OOHC for 3 to 6 months. Data is not currently able to be extracted report on cultural support plans for non aboriginal children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.
32	Hon Chris Rath MLC	32. How many young people who have left out-of-home care (OOHC), who are eligible for the Your Choice, Your Future funding, have not applied for assistance?	I am advised: It is estimated around 700 young people who have left care and would be eligible for the allowance had not applied as at 1 September 2023. Eligibility numbers change day by day, as more young people reach the age of 18 years. DCJ continues to take steps to promote awareness of the allowances to ensure that as many eligible young people as possible know of their right to apply for the allowances
33	Hon Chris Rath MLC	33. Since April 2023 how many young have had pathway planning meeting within 30 days?	I am advised: It is a policy requirement that a pathway planning meeting occurs within 30 days of a child entering care, or starting school (whichever is later). DCJ is unable to extract this data on a state-wide level.
34	Hon Chris Rath MLC	34. Since April 2023 how many young have had pathway planning meeting after 30 days?	I am advised:

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			It is a policy requirement that a pathway planning meeting occurs within 30 days of a child entering care, or starting school (whichever is later). DCJ is unable to extract this data on a state-wide level.
35	Hon Chris Rath MLC	35. What is the longest time a young person has waited for learning and support plan to be implemented?	I am advised: It is a policy requirement that a pathway planning meeting occurs within 30 days of a child entering care, or starting school (whichever is later). DCJ is unable to extract this data on a state-wide level.
36	Hon Chris Rath MLC	36. Does the Department keep data on school attendance?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) does not keep data on general school attendance. There is a data sharing agreement in place between DCJ and the Department of Education (DoE) to regularly monitor and review the educational outcomes for students in out-of-home care (OOHC). This assists better informed case planning and personalised support planning to target the individual needs of the children and young people in care.
			From July 2023, DCJ has received monthly school attendance rates for all school aged children who are enrolled in a NSW public school and who are the under the parental responsibility of the Minister. By February 2024, DCJ will have received the attendance rates for these children and young people for the entire 2023 school calendar year. The analysis of this data will provide valuable insights to caseworkers and teachers about attendance of children and young people in OOHC across NSW.
37	Hon Chris Rath MLC	37. Are there young people in OOHC not enrolled in school right now?(a) If yes, how many?	I am advised: School aged children are required by law to be enrolled in, and attend school. DCJ is unable to extract this information on a state-wide level.
38	Hon Chris Rath MLC	38. How many young people in OOHC are suspended from school right now?(a) What is the most recent date that this information is available?	I am advised: School aged children are required by law to be enrolled in, and attend school. DCJ is unable to extract this information on a state-wide level.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
39	Hon Chris Rath MLC	39. How many children known to child protection in NSW have died in the last six months?(a) How many were in OOHC?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) reports publicly on the deaths of children who were known to the department when the <i>Child Deaths Annual Report</i> is tabled in the NSW Parliament each November. The 2022 Child deaths report has been tabled in Parliament and reveals that in 2022, 111 children known to DCJ died. These included children known to DCJ because they and/or their siblings had been reported at risk of significant harm in the three years prior to their death, or the child was in out of home care when they died.
40	Hon Chris Rath MLC	40. How many children are currently in OOHC?(a) What is the most recent date that this information is available?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, there were 14,723 children and young people in out-of-home care. (a) Due to requirements for data ageing, the most up to date quality assured data is at
			30 June 2023. Data as at 30 September will be available in mid-December
41	Hon Chris Rath MLC	41. How many children in OOHC are currently living overseas?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, there were eight children and young people in out-of-home care living overseas.
42	Hon Chris Rath MLC	42. How many children are Aboriginal?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 6,563 children and young people in out-of-home care were Aboriginal.
43	Hon Chris Rath MLC	43. How many are non–Aboriginal?(a) Do you have a breakdown of non-Aboriginal by ethnicity?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 8,160 children and young people in out-of-home care were non-Aboriginal.
			(a) Data quality on Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CALD) children and young people is limited, however as at 30 June 2023, around 27 per cent of non-Aboriginal children and young people identified as CALD within their records.
44	Hon Chris Rath MLC	44. How much is allocated to NGOs for OOHC?	I am advised: The out of home care budget allocated to non-government organisations for the 2023/24 financial year is \$1,131 million.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer		
45 Hon Chris A5. How many Aboriginal Control are there providing OOHC? (a) What are the names of the A Organisations?	are there providing OOHC? (a) What are the names of the Aboriginal Controlled			led Organisations. Of these, es. These providers are listed	
		Organisations operate?	Name of ACCO	Program location	
			Biripi Aboriginal Corporation Medical	Inverell	
			Centre	Taree	
			Burrun Dalai Aboriginal	Kempsey	
		Corporation	Tamworth		
				Taree	
			Coffs Harbour Aboriginal	Coffs Harbour	
		Family Community Care Centre	Grafton		
			Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service Limited	Coonamble	
		Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation - Myimbarr	Wollongong		
			KARI Ltd	Liverpool	
				Penrith	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer		
				Rosebery	
				Sydney Olympic Park	
			Mirrimpilyi Muurpa-nara Aboriginal Corporation		
			Muloobinba Aboriginal Corporation	Cardiff	
			Narang Bir-rong Aboriginal Corporation	Penrith	
			Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Corporation	Lismore	
		Orange Aboriginal Corporation Health Service	Orange		
			Riverina Medical and Dental Aboriginal Corporation	Wagga Wagga	
			South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation	Nowra	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer		
			Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation	Singleton	
			Wandiyali	Elermore Vale	
			Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre Inc	Gunnedah	
			Woomera Aboriginal Corporation Albury	Albury	
			Yerin Aboriginal Health Services Ltd	Mardi	
46	Hon Chris Rath MLC	46. How many Aboriginal children are with ACCOs?		Aboriginal children and youn Controlled Organisations (AC	g people were case managed COs).
47	Hon Chris Rath MLC	47. What proportion of Aboriginal children in OOHC are case managed by DCJ?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 52.7 pe home care were case mana	_	and young people in out-of-
48	Hon Chris Rath MLC	48. What proportion of Aboriginal children in OOHC are case managed by NGO provider?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 47.3 per cent of Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care were case managed by a non-government organisation (NGO), of which 20.7% (1,361) were case managed by an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation and 26.6% (1,746) by non-Aboriginal NGO.		
49	Hon Chris Rath MLC	 49. During 2022-23, how many children leaving OOHC were referred to homelessness support within 12 months of leaving care? (a) Where all children over 18 years of age? (b) If not, what was the youngest age? 	I am advised: This data has not been av	ailable for some years, and ransparency and the availab	I am working with the

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
50	Hon Chris Rath MLC	50. What funding has Family Connect and Support (FCS) received for the following years:(a) 2021-22?(b) 2022-23?	I am advised: Family Connect and Support was allocated the following funding: a) \$19.1 million for the 2021/22 financial year b) \$20.1 million for the 2022/23 financial year.
51	Hon Chris Rath MLC	51. How many clients have FCS supported for the following years?(a) 2021-22?(b) 2022-23?	I am advised: Family Connect and Support supported the following numbers of clients a) 12,536 clients in the 2021/22 financial year. b) 20,465 clients in the 2022/23 financial year.
52	Hon Chris Rath MLC	52. Regarding (2)(a) and (2)(b), how many clients were Indigenous?	I am advised: a) 3,185, Family Connect and Support clients were Indigenous in the 2021/22 financial year. b) 4,832,Family Connect and Support clients were Indigenous in the 2021/22 financial year.
53	Hon Chris Rath MLC	53. How many individual clients has the TEI program seen for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: The Targeted Earlier Intervention program saw the following number of individual clients: a) 2020/21 = 118,024 b) 2021/22 = 133,945 c) 2022/23 = 170,229.
54	Hon Chris Rath MLC	54. Regarding (1), how many individual clients identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander for the following years? (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: The following numbers of TEI individual clients identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander: a) 2020/21 = 16,775 b) 2021/22 = 20,212 c) 2022/23 = 26,215.
55	Hon Chris Rath MLC	55. How many unidentified clients has the TEI program seen for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: The Targeted Earlier Intervention program saw the following number of individual clients that were unidentified: a) 2020/21 = 712,416 b) 2021/22 = 977,815

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			c) 2022/23 = 1,116,855
56	Hon Chris Rath MLC	56. How many sessions of service delivery have occurred for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: The Targeted Earlier Intervention program completed the following numbers of sessions of service delivery: a) 2020/21 = 399,804 b) 2021/22 = 461,434 c) 2022/23 = 487,648.
57	Hon Chris Rath MLC	57. What is the total number of contracted places that family preservation programs have provided to families for the following years: (a) 2019-20? (b) 2020-21? (c) 2021-22? (d) 2022-23?	I am advised: This information is available in DCJ Annual Reports.
58	Hon Chris Rath MLC	58. Regarding (1), how many services were delivered to children for the following years: (a) 2019-20? (b) 2020-21? (c) 2021-22? (d) 2022-23?	I am advised: a) 16,038 (estimate) b) 16,968 (estimate) c) 16,465 (estimate) d) 10,059 (estimate). Family preservation data is in the process of being moved to a new data collection system and Minimum Data Set which will see data quality and availability improved.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
59	Hon Chris Rath MLC	59. Regarding (2), how many of those children were Aboriginal for the following years: (a) 2019-20? (b) 2020-21? (c) 2021-22? (d) 2022-23?	I am advised: a) 5,158 (estimate) b) 5,670 (estimate) c) 6,429 (estimate) d) 3,695 (estimate). Family preservation data is in the process of being moved to a new data collection system and Minimum Data Set which will see data quality and availability improved. Given the magnitude of changes data for 2022-23 is likely to be an undercount. Revised results will be published on the DCJ website once available.
60	Hon Chris Rath MLC	60. Regarding Permanency Support Program (PSP) Family Preservation, how many families have been assisted for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: 2020/21 = 521 2021/22 = 549 2022/23 = 470
61	Hon Chris Rath MLC	61. Regarding (4), how many families were Aboriginal for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the Department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
62	Hon Chris Rath MLC	62. Regarding Brighter Futures, how many families received support for the following years:(a) 2020-21?(b) 2021-22?(c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
63	Hon Chris Rath MLC	63. Regarding (6), how many of those were children and young people for the following years:(a) 2020-21?(b) 2021-22?(c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the Department to increase transparency and the availability of data.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
64	Hon Chris Rath MLC	64. Regarding Youth Hopes, how many children received support for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
65	Hon Chris Rath MLC	65. Regarding Multisystemic Therapy for Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN) and Functional Family Therapy Child Welfare (FFT-CW), how many families accepted service for the following years? (a) 2019-20? (b) 2020-21? (c) 2021-22? (d) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
66	Hon Chris Rath MLC	66. Regarding Resilient Families, how many families have been referred to the program for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
67	Hon Chris Rath MLC	67. Regarding Intensive Family Preservation, how many families have received support for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
68	Hon Chris Rath MLC	68. Regarding Intensive Based Family Support, how many families received support for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
69	Hon Chris Rath MLC	69. Regarding (12), how many Aboriginal families received support for the following years:(a) 2020-21?(b) 2021-22?(c) 2022-23?	I am advised: This data has not been available for some years, and I am working with the department to increase transparency and the availability of data.
70	Hon Chris Rath MLC	70. Regarding Family Group Conferencing (FGC), how many families were referred and how many conferences were convened for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22?	I am advised: In the 2020/21 financial year, 1,133 families were referred for a Family Group Conference and 915 were convened. This number is inclusive of all Family Group Conferences held including for children in out of home care. Data for 2021/22 financial year is not available.
71	Hon Chris Rath MLC	71. Regarding (14), of those that participated in the conference, how many families were Aboriginal for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22?	I am advised: In the 2020/21 financial year, 51 per cent of the 915 were Family Group Conference convened involved Aboriginal families. Data for the 2021/22 financial year is not available.
72	Hon Chris Rath MLC	72. Regarding (14), how many proceeded to the Children's Court for interim or final orders for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22?	I am advised: In the 2020/21 financial year, 25 per cent of the children involved in the family group conferences proceeded to the Children's court for interim or final orders. Data for 2021/22 financial year is not available in this format.
73	Hon Chris Rath MLC	73. Regarding (16), how many that proceeded to the Children's Court for interim or final orders involved Aboriginal families for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22?	I am advised: This data is not currently available in this format.
74	Hon Chris Rath MLC	74. How many risk of significant harm (ROSH) reports were received for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised that the following numbers of significant harm (ROSH) reports were received: a) 276,932 b) 219,743 c) 228,347.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
75	Hon Chris Rath MLC	75. How many children were reported at ROSH in NSW for the following years:(a) 2020-21?(b) 2021-22?(c) 2022-23	I am advised that the following numbers of children and young people were reported at ROSH in NSW for the following years: a) 126,818 b) 108,697 c) 112,592.
76	Hon Chris Rath MLC	76. How many children were seen by a caseworker for the following years: (a) 2020-21? (b) 2021-22? (c) 2022-23?	I am advised that the following numbers of children and young people were seen by a Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) caseworker: a) 36,524 b) 31,567 c) 27,782.
77	Hon Chris Rath MLC	77. What is the current proportion of children and young people re-reported at risk of significant harm?	I am advised that there 32.8 per cent of children and young people re-reported at risk of significant harm within 12 months of case closure.
78	Hon Chris Rath MLC	78. How many children and young people were in each HCEP during the following time period: (a) 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023 (b) 1 July to 30 September 2023 (c) 1 October to 31 October 2023?	I am advised: The following numbers of children were in each High-Cost Emergency Arrangement (HCEA) type in the following time periods: (a) 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023 i. Alternative Care Arrangement (ACA)- 258 ii. Interim Care Model (ICM) – 113 iii. Individual Placement Arrangement (IPA) – 216 iv. Short Term Emergency Arrangement (STEP)- 101. (b) 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023 i. ACA – 244 ii. ICM – 112 iii. IPA – 254 iv. STEP – 99 (c) 1 October 2023 to 31 October 2023

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			i. ACA – 166
			ii. ICM – 91
			iii. IPA – 226
			iv. STEP – 59
79	Hon Chris	79. Regarding (1), how many are case managed by	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	DCJ and how many are case managed by a non-	a) i. Numbers of children and young people case managed by the Department of
		government organisation during the same timeframes?	Communities and Justice (DCJ)
		time i unico	ACA :163
			ICM :71
			IPA :139
			STEP :57
			Total DCJ case managed – 430
			ii. Numbers of children and young people case managed by a non-government
			organisation (NGO)
			ACA :95
			ICM :42
			IPA :77
			STEP :44
			Total NGO case managed – 258
			b) i. Numbers of children and young people case managed by DCJ
			ACA :165
			ICM :72
			IPA :160
			STEP :58
			Total DCJ case managed – 355
			ii. Numbers of children and young people case managed by NGO
			ACA :79

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			ICM :40
			IPA :94
			STEP:41
			Total NGO case managed – 254
			c) i. Numbers of children and young people case managed by DCJ
			ACA :115
			ICM :55
İ			IPA :137
			STEP:34
			Total DCJ case managed – 331
			ii. Numbers of children and young people case managed by NGO
			ACA :51
			ICM :36
			IPA :89
			STEP :25
			Total NGO case managed – 201
80	Hon Chris	80. What is the current availability of placements	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	under the Interim Care Model, and how many of these placements have already been filled?	As at 31 August, there were 105 contracted interim care model placements, with 86 children and young people currently residing within these placements.
81	Hon Chris	81. What is the current availability of placements	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	under Short-Term Emergency Placements, and how	Short Term Emergency Placement (STEP) is an on-demand emergency arrangement,
1		many of these placements have already been filled?	as such information about current STEP availability is not able to be captured in this
			way. As at 31 August 2023, 65 children and young people were in STEP.
82	Hon Chris	82. What adjustments have been made as part of	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	Intensive Therapeutic Care recommissioning?	DCJ is in the final stages of the Intensive Therapeutic Care (ITC) Expansion Tender to
		(a) Are any further adjustments planned?	expand ITC placement capacity to better meet placement demand.
			ITC expansion tender is a key short-term measure to build much needed capacity in
			the ITC service system and enable eligible children and young people to move into ITC
			placements from high cost emergency arrangements.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			The tender will introduce greater competitive tension into certain locations and will be a lever to lower ITC vacancy rates.
			a) Any further adjustments will be announced in due course.
83	Hon Chris Rath MLC	83. Will the Minister commit to publishing this data on a quarterly basis?(a) If yes, when will this commence?	Yes, High-Cost Emergency Arrangement data will be reported on a quarterly basis on departmental dashboards commencing in 2024. I note the former government chose not to publish this data.
84	Hon Chris Rath MLC	84. The Minister has advised the Committee in her session that she has undertaken a campaign to recruit more foster carers into the system. What is the name of the campaign? (a) What date was the campaign launched? (b) How much funding has been allocated to the campaign? (c) When date does the campaign end?	I am advised: The Government is undertaking a number of actions to recruit more foster carers.
85	Hon Chris Rath MLC	85. Does the Carer Reference Groups (CRG's) still operate?	I am advised: Yes, Carer Reference Groups (CRG) remain operational. CRGs provide a localised setting for carers, carer representatives, agencies and DCJ to work together to identify issues and opportunities to achieve better outcomes for children and young people in out of home care.
86	Hon Chris Rath MLC	86. What is the role of the CRG's?	I am advised: DCJ fund My Forever Family to run Carer Reference Groups across NSW in order to hear directly from foster carers about the matters that are most important to them, in order to inform policy decision making. The carer reference groups bring together DCJ staff, funded foster care providers and carers.
			DCJ provides funding to AbSec Carer Support for carer groups. These groups are exclusively for Aboriginal carers or non-Aboriginal carers with an Aboriginal child. They convene quarterly in Newcastle and Western Sydney. AbSec is currently exploring starting new carer support groups across different locations in NSW.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
87	Hon Chris Rath MLC	87. What is the process for participating in the CRG?	I am advised: For My Forever Family CRGs, interested parties need to complete an expression of interest form and submit to My Forever Family. For AbSec CRGs, carers can contact the Absec Carer Support Line and be connected into local groups. AbSec actively promotes these groups to encourage carer attendance.
88	Hon Chris Rath MLC	88. What date/s did the CRGs last meet and locations?	I am advised: Both My Forever Family and AbSec Carer Reference Groups meet at least four times per year. For My Forever Family there are currently seven Carer Reference Groups in NSW, one in each DCJ District however the specific location within each district is flexible and these are typically run as online groups. These groups are separate to the 37 peer support groups. AbSec's carer groups are located in Newcastle and Western Sydney. AbSec is currently exploring how these groups can be expanded across NSW.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
89	Hon Chris	89. How many foster carers were there in the	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	following CSC during 2020-2021?	Data on foster carer households is only available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The
		(a) Central Coast:	number of foster carer households by district for 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are
		i. Gosford?	provided at attachment 4.
		ii. Wyong?	
		(b) Hunter New England:	
		i. Cessnock?	
		ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace?	
		(c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Number			
		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. Clarence Valley	
		iii. Lismore?	
		iv. Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Ivamber		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
90	Hon Chris	90. How many foster carers were there in the	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	following CSC during 2021-2022?	Data on foster carer households is only available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The
		(a) Central Coast:	number of foster carer households by district for 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are
		i. Gosford?	provided in attachment 4.
		ii. Wyong?	
		(b) Hunter New England:	
		i. Cessnock?	
		ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace?	
		(c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. (ii) Clarence Valley	
		iii. (iii) Lismore?	
		iv. (iv) Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Ivamber		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
91	Hon Chris	91. How many foster carers were there in the	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	following CSC during 20222-23?	Data on foster carer households is only available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The
		(a) Central Coast:	number of foster carer households by district for 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 are
		i. Gosford?	provided in attachment 4.
		ii. Wyong?	
		(b) Hunter New England:	
		i. Cessnock?	
		ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace?	
		(c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Trumber		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. Clarence Valley	
		iii. Lismore?	
		iv. Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
92	Hon Chris	92. How many children were cared for by foster cares	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	in the following CSC during 2020-2021?	Data on numbers of children who were cared for by foster carer households is only
		(a) Central Coast:	available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The number of children cared for by foster carer
		i. Gosford?	households by district for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 is available at attachment 5.
		ii. Wyong?	
		(b) Hunter New England:	
		i. Cessnock?	
		ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace?	
		(c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. Clarence Valley	
		iii. Lismore?	
		iv. Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
93	Hon Chris	93. How many children were cared for by foster cares	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	in the following CSC during 2021-2022?	Data on numbers of children who were cared for by foster carer households is only
		(a) Central Coast: i. Gosford?	available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The number of children cared for by foster carer
			households by district for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 is available at attachment 5.
		ii. Wyong?	
		(b) Hunter New England:	
		i. Cessnock? ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace? (c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Trumber		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. Clarence Valley	
		iii. Lismore?	
		iv. Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Ivamber		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
94	Hon Chris	94. How many children were cared for by foster cares	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	in the following CSC during 2022-23?	
		(a) Central Coast:	Data on numbers of children who were cared for by foster carer households is only
		i. Gosford?	available by DCJ District, not by CSC. The number of children cared for by foster carer
		ii. Wyong?	households by district for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 is available at attachment 5.
		(b) Hunter New England:	·
		i. Cessnock?	
		ii. Charlestown?	
		iii. Edgeworth?	
		iv. Maitland?	
		v. Mayfield?	
		vi. Raymond Terrace?	
		(c) Illawarra Shoalhaven:	
		i. Nowra?	
		ii. Shell harbour?	
		iii. Ulladulla?	
		iv. Wollongong?	
		(d) Southern:	
		i. Batemans Bay?	
		ii. Bega?	
		iii. Cooma?	
		iv. Goulburn?	
		v. Queanbeyan?	
		vi. Yass?	
		(e) Murrumbidgee:	
		i. Albury?	
		ii. Cootamundra?	
		iii. Deniliquin?	
		iv. Griffith?	
		v. Leeton?	
		vi. Tumut?	
		vii. Wagga Wagga?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Trumber		(f) Far West:	
		i. Broken Hill?	
		ii. Dareton?	
		iii. Wilcannia?	
		(g) Western New South Wales:	
		i. Bathurst?	
		ii. Bourke?	
		iii. Brewarrina?	
		iv. Cobar?	
		v. Condobolin?	
		vi. Coonabarabran?	
		vii. Coonamble?	
		viii. Cowra	
		ix. Dubbo?	
		x. Mudgee?	
		xi. Nyngan?	
		xii. Orange?	
		xiii. Parkes?	
		xiv. Walgett?	
		(h) Northern New South Wales:	
		i. Ballina?	
		ii. Clarence Valley	
		iii. Lismore?	
		iv. Tweed Heads?	
		(i) Mid North Coast:	
		i. Coffs Harbour?	
		ii. Kempsey?	
		iii. Port Macquarie?	
		iv. Greater Taree?	
		(j) New England:	
		i. Armidale?	
		ii. Glen Innes?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iii. Inverell?	
		iv. Moree?	
		v. Muswellbrook?	
		vi. Narrabri?	
		vii. Tamworth?	
		(k) South Western Sydney:	
		i. Bankstown?	
		ii. Highlands Hub?	
		iii. Macarthur?	
		iv. Fairfield?	
		v. Ingleburn?	
		vi. Liverpool?	
		(I) Sydney:	
		i. Burwood?	
		ii. Central Sydney?	
		iii. Lakemba?	
		(m) South Eastern Sydney:	
		i. Eastern Sydney?	
		ii. St George?	
		iii. Sutherland?	
		(n) Northern Sydney:	
		i. Chatswood?	
		ii. Pennant Hills?	
		(o) Western Sydney:	
		i. Auburn?	
		ii. Blacktown?	
		iii. Mount Druitt?	
		iv. Parramatta?	
		(p) Nepean Blue Mountains:	
		i. Blue Mountains?	
		ii. Hawkes bury?	
		iii. Lithgow?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		iv. Penrith? v. St Marys?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
95	Hon Chris Rath MLC	95. How many intensive therapeutic service providers are there?(a) How many had their funded vacancies filled?	I am advised: There are currently ten providers contracted under the Permanency Support Program to deliver Intensive Therapeutic Care in nine 'hub' locations across the state. (a) None, all service providers have vacancies.
96	Hon Chris Rath MLC	96. Has the Minister met with the Advocate for Children and Young People since her appointment? (a) If yes, how many times? i. What date/s did the Minister meet with the Advocate? ii. Did the Minister ever discuss the Special Inquiry into Children and Young People in Alternative Care Arrangements prior to its public announcement?	I am advised: Yes, on several occasions. As a courtesy, the Advocate advised me of her intention to establish a Special Inquiry.
97	Hon Chris Rath MLC	97. Is the Minister aware of the work undertaken by Societal Consulting Pty Ltd regarding the Out-of-Home Care Reform? (a) If yes, has the Minister received any briefings in relation to the work? i. If yes, what date/s? a. Who provided the briefing to the Minister?	I am advised: Recommendations from Societel have been included in the approved work plan of the High-Cost Emergency Uplift Team. This team is working to halt the current volume and spend for children and young people in High-Cost Emergency Arrangements. I was briefed on the approved work plan of the High-Cost Emergency Uplift Team on Thursday 26 October 2023. The briefing was delivered by Lauren Dean, Executive Lead for the HCEA Uplift Team.
98	Hon Chris Rath MLC	98. What immediate initiatives were identified in the current program for implementation and reporting rigour? (a) What is the timeframe for implementation?	The Department of Communities and Justice is implementing a range of immediate initiatives to improve out-of-home care system and budget performance. This includes initiatives to improve the efficiency of payments and reduce the need for high-cost emergency arrangements. a) These initiatives are in the process of being implemented throughout 2023/24.
99	Hon Chris Rath MLC	99. What medium-term initiatives have been developed to form a work program? (a) What is the timeframe for implementation?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice is developing a range of longer-term reform initiatives to improve out-of-home care system performance and financial sustainability. These will be considered by government in the first half of 2024. a) Longer-term initiatives are expected to be implemented from 2024/25.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
100	Hon Chris Rath MLC	100. What work has been undertaken with the existing PMO and district management to improve the communications mechanisms with districts to ensure successful implementation of reforms? (a) What is the timeframe for implementation?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice is implementing a range of actions to improve communications with districts and operational staff to ensure successful implementation of reforms. This includes a range of consultation forums with districts and operational staff to directly provide input to reform development. a) These actions are being implemented throughout 2023/24.
101	Hon Chris Rath MLC	101. What work has been undertaken with the existing PMO and executives to improve the clarity and understanding with and in central agencies? (a) What is the timeframe for implementation?	I am advised: The Department of Communities of Justice, NSW Treasury and The Cabinet Office have commenced a joint project to develop a package of reform initiatives to improve out-of-home care system performance and financial sustainability. This project includes a cross-agency work plan and joint governance. The Department of Communities and Justice is also consulting with executive and operational staff on reform initiatives. a) This work is being implemented throughout 2023/24.
102	Hon Chris Rath MLC	102. Has the Minister met with the Family is Culture executive working group? (a) If yes, what date/s?	I am advised: No, but I regularly meet with members of this group.
103	Hon Chris Rath MLC	103. Has the Minister met with the ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group? (a) If yes, what date/s?	I am advised: The MAP Group will meet soon after it is formally established.
104	Hon Chris Rath MLC	104. How many children in OOCH exited to guardianship for the following years: (a) 2021-22? (b) 2022-23?	I am advised: (a) 375 children and young people in OOHC who exited to Guardianship. (b) 299 children and young people in OOHC who exited to Guardianship.
105	Hon Chris Rath MLC	105. How many are Aboriginal?	I am advised: (a) 142 (or 37.9%) Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC exited to Guardianship. (b) 114 (or 38.1%) Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC exited to Guardianship.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
106	Hon Chris Rath MLC	106. How many young people have a plan for guardianship? (a) What is this by percentage?	I am advised: (a) As at 30 June 2023, 846 (5.7%) of children in OOHC have Guardianship as a case plan goal.
107	Hon Chris Rath MLC	107. How many adoptions were there of children from OOHC in NSW for the following years: (a) 2021-22? (b) 2022-23?	I am advised: a) 89 children and young people were adopted from OOHC. b) 60 children and young people were adopted from OOHC.
108	Hon Chris Rath MLC	108. How many were Aboriginal?	I am advised: a) In the 2021-22 financial year there were five Aboriginal children adopted from OOHC. b) In the 2022-23 financial year there were less than five Aboriginal children adopted from OOHC.
109	Hon Chris Rath MLC	109. How many young people have a plan for adoption? (a) What is this by percentage?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 219 (1.5%) of children in OOHC have Adoption as a case plan goal.
110	Hon Chris Rath MLC	110. How many restorations were there of children from OOHC in NSW for the following years: (a) 2021-22? (b) 2022-23?	I am advised: (a) In 2021-22, there were 422 children in OOHC who exited to Restoration. (b) In 2022-23, there were 417 children in OOHC who exited to Restoration.
111	Hon Chris Rath MLC	111. How many were Aboriginal?	I am advised: For those children who exited to Restoration, 157 (or 37.2%) and 164(or 39.3%) were Aboriginal children in 2021-22 and 2022-23 respectively.
112	Hon Chris Rath MLC	112. How many young people have a plan for restoration?(a) What is this by percentage?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, 807 (5.5%) of children in OOHC have Restoration as a case plan goal.
113	Hon Chris Rath MLC	113. What date did the High-Cost Emergency Arrangement Unit commence?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice has reallocated existing staff resources to address HCEAs, which is an immediate priority of the Government.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
114	Hon Chris Rath MLC	114. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) are dedicated to the Unit?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice has reallocated existing staff resources to address HCEAs, which is an immediate priority of the Government.
115	Hon Chris Rath MLC	115. How many meetings has the Unit held to date?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice has reallocated existing staff resources to address HCEAs, which is an immediate priority of the Government.
116	Hon Chris Rath MLC	116. What is the cost for the establishment of the Unit and its operating expenses?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice has reallocated existing staff resources to address HCEAs, which is an immediate priority of the Government.
117	Hon Chris Rath MLC	117. How much was allocated in the 2023-24 NSW Budget to the following: (a) Engagement and Family Support Team? i. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) does the	I am advised that: a) The Engagement and Family Support Team has 15.2 FTE team members, costing \$4,982,923 (23/24 budget).
		Engagement and Family Support Team currently have? i. (b) Residents' Rights? i. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) does Residents' Rights currently have?	b) People with Disability Australia are funded \$570,712 excluding GST in 2023/24 to provide residential rights supports to people living in Specialist Disability Accommodation. DCJ does not hold information on the number of full-time equivalent employees engaged by People with Disability Australia to deliver this service.
118	Hon Chris Rath MLC	118. How much was allocated in the 2023-24 NSW Budget for an additional 250 full-time equivalent (FTE) school counsellors to support students with mental health needs and disabilities? (a) What is the breakdown of locations that the counsellors will be based? (b) How many counsellors will be dedicated specifically to students with disabilities? (c) How are the locations of counsellors determined?	I am advised: This question should be directed to the Minister for Education.
119	Hon Chris Rath MLC	119. Is the Government committed to increasing representation of people with disability in the NSW public sector to 5.6 per cent by 2025?	I am advised: Yes.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
120	Hon Chris Rath MLC	120. What is the current number of employees with disability in the NSW Public Service? (a) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Communities and Justice? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (b) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Planning and Environment? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (c) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Education? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (d) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Premier's Department? ii. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (e) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Cabinet Office? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (f) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (g) What is the current number of employees with disability in Treasury? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (h) What is the current number of employees with disability in Department of Health? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (i) What is the current number of employees with disability in Transport for NSW? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)?	I am advised: That data is published on the Public Service Commission's website at https://www.psc.nsw.gov.au/reports-and-data/workforce-profile/workforce-profile-reports/workforce-profile-reports/workforce-profile-report-2022/diversity#people-with-disability.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(j) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Customer Service? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (k) What is the current number of employees with disability in the Department of Regional NSW? i. How many are full-time equivalent (FTE)? (l) Who is responsible for monitoring and reporting on the number of employees with disability in the NSW public sector?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
121	Hon Chris Rath MLC	121. Has the Minister met with the Ageing and Disability Commissioner since her appointment? (a) If yes, how many times? i. What date/s did the Minister meet with the Commissioner?	I am advised: I regularly meet with the Ageing and Disability Commissioner.
122	Hon Chris Rath MLC	122. How many calls did the Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) receive in 2022-23?	I am advised: In 2022/23, the Ageing and Disability Commission's Ageing and Disability Abuse Helpline received 14,025 calls.
123	Hon Chris Rath MLC	123. How many Helpline consultants are there currently?	I am advised: As at 23 November 2023, the Helpline has six consultant roles, and the helpline manager. One of the consultant roles is in the process of being backfilled.
124	Hon Chris Rath MLC	124. How many matters consisting of reports and enquiries did the ADC receive?(a) How many reports were received under section 13 of the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act?(b) How many were enquiries?i. How many were general enquiries?	I am advised: In 2022/23, the Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC) received 5,353 matters. (a) The ADC received 4,258 reports under section 13 of the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act.
		ii. How many were abuse related enquiries?(c) How many frontline community supports and investigations staff are there currently?(d) How many reports related to regional, rural and	(b) The ADC received 1,095 enquiries. (i) 446 were general enquiries. (ii) 650 were abuse-related enquiries.
		remote areas? (e) How many of reports related to older people, including older people with disability?	(c) As at 23 November 2023, there are 12 frontline community support and investigations staff including one temporary.
		(f) How many reports related to adults with disability (who were not older people)?	(d) In 2022/23, of the 3,102 reports in which the location of the adult was known, 1,602 reports (52 per cent) related to older people and adults with disability who lived in regional, rural and remote areas of NSW.
			(e) Of the 4,248 reports to the ADC in 2022/23, 3,207 reports (75 per cent) related to

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			older people, including 1,084 reports about older people with disability. (f) Of the 4,248 reports to the ADC in 2022-23, 1,051 reports (25 per cent) related to adults with disability who were not older people.
125	Hon Chris Rath MLC	125. Has the Minister for Disability Inclusion read the Report of the Independent Statutory Review of the Ageing and Disability Commissioner Act 2019? (a) Has the Minister met with other Minister/s in relation to the Report i. If yes, which Minister/s? a. What date/s? ii. If no, why not? (b) Has the Minister met with the Ageing and Disability Commissioner in relation to the Report? i. If yes, what date/s? ii. If no, why not?	I am advised: Yes to all questions. A Government Bill has been introduced to Parliament.
126	Hon Chris Rath MLC	126. Has the Minister received a briefing note in relation to the Report? (a) If yes, what date?	I am advised. Yes. A Government Bill has been introduced to Parliament.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
127	Hon Chris	127. What is the Government's response to the	I am advised:
	Rath MLC	following list of recommendations?	A Government Bill has been introduced to Parliament.
		(a) Recommendation 1: That the NSW Government	
		amend section 12(1)(h) of the Act to reflect that the	
		'National Disability Strategy' has been replaced with	
		'Australia's Disability Strategy'?	
		(b) Recommendation 2: That the NSW Government amend the Act to allow the Commissioner discretion	
		about whether to refer relevant reports to the bodies	
		listed in section 13(8) and to allow the Commissioner	
		a discretion under section 13(9) not to refer reports	
		to the Commissioner of Police or the Director of	
		Public Prosecutions where the Commissioner believes	
		on reasonable grounds that the adult does not wish	
		the information to be reported?	
		(c) Recommendation 3: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to extend the circumstances in which	
		the Commissioner may investigate allegations without	
		the consent of the relevant adult, both:	
		i. to cover situations in which the Commissioner	
		cannot obtain access, and with respect to the issue of	
		the adult's capacity to consent, to:	
		a. establish a presumption of capacity,	
		b. enable the Commissioner to investigate without	
		consent where capacity is relevantly and sufficiently	
		impaired rather than where there is no capacity and	
		c. give guidance on when capacity is relevantly and	
		sufficiently impaired?	
		(d) Recommendation 4: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to broaden information sharing under	
		section 14 with arrange of organisations and	
		individuals that are either engaged with or are able to	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
rumser		provide supports to adults with disability or older people, who hold relevant information that could	
		assist the ADC in handling reports?	
		(e) Recommendation 5: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to permit OCVs to provide information	
		and advice to appropriate regulatory bodies, such as	
		the NDIS and DCJ, to improve regulation of the	
		disability services sector and assisted boarding	
		houses?	
		(f) Recommendation 6: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to require disability service providers	
		to notify the ADC of their contact details and any new	
		visitable services or location changes to existing	
		visitable services they operate to improve the	
		operation and efficacy of the OCV scheme?	
		(g) Recommendation 7: That the NSW Government	
		not amend the Act to provide for volunteer OCVs?	
		(h) Recommendation 8: That the NSW Government	
		repeal section 26 as a spent provision?	
		(i) Recommendation 9: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to require that the Ageing and	
		Disability Advisory Board include two or more persons	
		who are older people?	
		(j) Recommendation 10: That the NSW Government	
		amend the Act to address the internal inconsistencies	
		within section 29 between the responsibilities of the	
		Minister and the Commissioner regarding	
		membership of the Ageing and Disability Advisory	
		Board, and to align it with appointment and	
		remuneration provisions of other similar advisory	
		boards?	
		(k) Recommendation 11: That the NSW Government	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		amend the Act to appoint or designate a Parliamentary Committee to monitor and review the functions of the ADC?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
128	Hon Chris Rath MLC	128. Have any evaluations in relation to More Jobs More Care commenced? (a) If yes, what date? i. What date are the evaluations expected to be completed?	I am advised: Following the completion of Phase One of the More Jobs More Care (MJMC) program in 2022, Apprenticeship Careers Australia who delivered this phase of the program, provided their program evaluation to the Department of Communities and Justice in May 2023. Yilabara Solutions is expected to provide the Department their program evaluation for
			MJMC Phase Two (Western NSW) in early 2024.
129	Hon Chris Rath MLC	129. How many government departments have DIAPs?	I am advised: Nine Departments (and the three entities specified in the Disability Inclusion Regulation 2023) have Disability Inclusion Action Plans (DIAPs). Where DIAPs are expired, work is underway to develop new DIAPs.
130	Hon Chris Rath MLC	130. How many councils have DIAPs?	I am advised: All 128 Councils have a Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP). Where DIAPs are expired, work is underway to develop new DIAPs.
131	Hon Chris Rath MLC	131. What is the quarterly breakdown of expenditure for NSW NDIS participants since Q1 2022 to most recent (a) What is the expenditure? (b) How much is being utilised?	I am advised: This information is contained in the NDIS Quarterly Reports at https://www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/publications/quarterly-reports
132	Hon Chris Rath MLC	132. In 2022-23, how much did NSW organisations receive in NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grants?	I am advised: The NSW financial contribution to the NDIS includes funding for Tier 2 supports including Information, Linkage and Capacity Building (ILC) projects. The ILC program is managed by the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS). DSS has not reported on how much ILC grant funding was provided to NSW organisations. This information is not available to DCJ.
133	Hon Chris Rath MLC	133. In the Disability Reform Ministerial Council meeting on 23 June 2023, it was agreed that Ministers will invite Housing Ministers to a joint meeting to discuss solutions to accessible and affordable housing for people with disability. Has this occurred?	I am advised: The Housing and Disability Officials Integrated Service Delivery Working Group was established in June 2023. The Working Group is co-chaired by NSW and the Commonwealth to progress work to improve the accessibility, supply and data sharing in relation to housing for people with disability. It is expected a joint meeting of Housing and Disability Ministers will occur in 2024.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(a) If yes, what date?(b) If no, what date will the meeting occur?	
134	Hon Chris Rath MLC	134. Does NSW still lead the NDIS System Reform and Mainstream Interface Tasking Group?	I am advised: Yes, NSW still leads the National Disability Insurance Scheme and Mainstream Interface Tasking Group.
135	Hon Chris Rath MLC	135. What work/s have been progressed across the other Tasking Groups focussed on Australia's Disability Strategy and NDIS Performance?	I am advised: The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) System Reform and Mainstream Interface Tasking Group has considered the development of a nationally consistent transport policy and work to understand the available national housing data for people with disability. The Australia's Disability Strategy (ADS) Tasking group (now called the ADS Senior Officials Group) is led by the Commonwealth with representation from all states and territories. Recent work has progressed the National Autism Strategy, The National Advocacy Strategy, National Disability Research Partnership, Consultation Guides for engaging the disability sector and reporting on the Targeted Action Plans, ADS Implementation. The ADS incorporated a review of the current strategy following the release of the
136	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the States and territories breakdown of the 50 recommendations from the Report of the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, which was agreed in-principle?	Disability Royal Commission recommendations in its current workplan. I am advised: The NSW Government intends to provide an initial response to the Disability Royal Commission in March 2024.
137	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the joint Commonwealth, states, and territories breakdown of the 85 recommendations from the Report of the Royal Commission into	I am advised: See response to question 136

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability, which was agreed in-principle?	
138	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many people under the age of 65 are living in residential aged care homes in NSW? (a) What is the breakdown by the following age groups: i. 18-35? ii. 35-45? iii. 45-55? iv. 55-65?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice does not hold this data.
139	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In light of the net neutral reallocation of all state and territory contributions on 1 July 2023 in line with each state's and territory's share of the total national population as per the most recent Census data, what has been the impact on NSW?	I am advised: The net neutral reallocation will result in a reduction of 2.3 per cent in the NSW share of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) contributions. However, the NSW contribution to the NDIS continues to grow, year on year.
140	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many unallocated services are there currently? (a) Of these, how many are visitable residential out- of-home care services for children and young people? (b) How many are visitable disability accommodation services?	I am advised: As at 31 October 2023, there were 1,644 unallocated services. Of these: (a) 115 are residential out-of-home care services for children and young people (b) 1,529 are visitable disability accommodation services.
141	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Is the Minister aware of issues with the NSW Health system relating to transitioning long-stay patients who are NDIS participants? (a) Has the Minister met with the Minister for Health in relation to these issues? i. If yes, what date/s? ii. If no, why not?	I am advised: I am well aware of these issues, and I have discussed them with the Minister for Health.
142	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the most recent number of NDIS participants medically ready for discharge?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice does not hold this information.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(a) What is the breakdown of the number by Local Health District (LHD)?	
143	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Of the 46 NSW actions included in the current TAPs, how many have commenced and on-track? (a) How many have commenced and are slightly delayed? i. Which ones? (b) How many are completed? i. Which ones? (c) many are paused? i. Which ones? (d) Are any scheduled to commence? i. Which ones?	I am advised: Progress on Targeted Action Plans is reported annually. The latest available information relates to the 2022/23 financial year report as at 30 June 2023. The Commonwealth is expected to publish the report at https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads/strategy As at 30 June 2023: a) 26 of the actions had commenced and were on track and there were 11 with slight delay. These were Employment 1.1 and 1.5, Community Attitudes 2.1 and 2.2, Safety 3.4, 3.7, 3.9, 4.2, 4.5 and 5.1, and Emergency Management 2.1. b) Six of the actions had been completed. These were Employment 1.2, Community Attitudes 1.2, Safety 2.1 and 3.2, Early Childhood 2.2 and Emergency Management 1.3. c) Three of the actions had been paused. These were Early Childhood 1.1 and 2.1, and Safety 4.1.
			d) The reporting does not identify actions scheduled to commence.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
144	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) continued to be provided to Community Neighbourhood Centres to distribute across the state? (a) If yes, how many RATs does the Government currently have available? i. How many have been provided to Community Neighbourhood Centres since either the beginning of the year? ii. How many have been provided to Community Neighbourhood Centres since April 2023? iii. Will the RATs continue to be provided to Community Neighbourhood Centres for free? (b) If no, when did this practice stop? i. What supports have been provided to Community Neighbourhood Centres in its place?	I am advised that: Free Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits continue to be available via HealthShare NSW for Community and Neighbourhood Centres across NSW. From 1 October 2023 free RAT kits have been distributed to Community and Neighbourhood Centres directly by HealthShare under an ordering system managed by them. Prior to that the Department of Communities and Justice managed the ordering and distribution of RAT kits that were provided by Healthshare. (a) i) the number of RAT kits provided to Community and Neighbourhood Centres since 1 January 2023 up to 30 September 2023 was 40,500. ii) the number of RAT kits provided to Community and Neighbourhood Centres since 1 April 2023 up to 30 September 2023 was 13,700. HealthShare advise that from 1 October 2023 to 20 November 2023, the number of free RAT kits distributed to Neighbourhood Community Centres was 9,300. iii) the ongoing provision of free RAT kits to Community and Neighbourhood Centres is a NSW Health decision.
145	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What date/s did the Minister meet with the Tomaree Headland Heritage Group?	b) The provision of RAT kits has not ceased. I am advised: I met with the Tomaree Headland Heritage Group on 30 August 2023.
146	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Why aren't students with disabilities referenced in the Plan for NSW Public Education?	I am advised: The NSW Government's Plan for NSW Public Education is a plan for all students in Public Schools across the State.
147	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Will the Minister work with the Minister for Education to release a revised Plan which includes students with disabilities?	I am advised: The NSW Government's Plan for NSW Public Education is a plan for all students in Public Schools across the state.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
148	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In her Budget Estimates session, the Minister advised the Committee she had sought immediate advice in relation to vacant properties that could be utilised. On what date did the Minister seek the advice?	I am advised: I am working closely with the Department of Communities and Justice to ensure vacant properties are being meaningfully utilised.
149	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many properties are currently operating on a monthly lease?	I am advised: Of the 805 assets in the disability assets portfolio, 523 have expired leases. All expired leases are continuing on a month-to-month 'holdover' basis while work is undertaken to determine the future utilisation of these properties.
150	Hon Chris Rath MLC	The Minister also advised during the session that "a large piece of work" is being undertaken to determine how to best utilise housing in the Families and Communities portfolio. What date did this piece of work commence? (a) What date is it expected to be completed? (b) What are the Terms of Reference for this work? (c) Is the work being undertaken by the Department or and external agency? (d) What is the cost of this work?	I am advised: I am working closely with the Department of Communities and Justice to ensure vacant properties are being meaningfully utilised.
151	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Can DCJ confirm that the properties it owns which require SDA funding are not suitable for use by people that are non-SDA? (a) Have any matters been raised with the Department or the Minister's office in relation to this?	I am advised: DCJ lease agreements with Supported Disability Accommodation (SDA) providers contain clauses (Item 6 clauses 1.1 & 7) which specify the permitted use of a DCJ-owned property by the Lessee. This ensures the property is used for providing accommodation for people with disability. (a) Both DCJ and my office receive queries from time to time in relation to the use of SDA properties.
152	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many days per week is the average full-time, not including case workers, working from home?	I am advised: Flexible working arrangements are tailored on an individual basis and are discussed as part of ongoing conversations which are embedded in the departments' Performance Development Framework.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
153	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In relation to (1), on which days are we seeing higher rates of working from home?	I am advised: Flexible working arrangements are tailored on an individual basis and are discussed as part of ongoing conversations which are embedded in the departments' Performance Development Framework.
154	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In relation to (1), how often are Working from Home arrangements reviewed?	I am advised: Flexible working arrangements are tailored on an individual basis and are discussed as part of ongoing conversations which are embedded in the departments' Performance Development Framework.
155	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Regarding the principal office for Department staff, what percentage of available office space is utilised on average for each day of the working week?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice operates a number of offices around the State, including offices for specific child protection teams. These offices are utilised according to operational need, which is reviewed regularly.
156	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In relation to (4), when does the current leasing period end for the principal office for Department staff and is there any intention to renegotiate?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice operates a number of offices around the State, including offices for specific child protection teams. These offices are utilised according to operational need, which is reviewed regularly.
157	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In relation to (5), what is the current cost for leasing the principal office premises?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice operates a number of offices around the State, including offices for specific child protection teams. These offices are utilised according to operational need, which is reviewed regularly.
158	Hon Chris Rath MLC	In relation to (4), should there be underutilisation, are there plans to better utilise office space?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice operates a number of offices around the State, including offices for specific child protection teams. These offices are utilised according to operational need, which is reviewed regularly.
159	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Are you a Member of the Qantas Chairmans Club? (a) Have you ever previously been a member? When did you cease to be a member? (b) When did you initially become a member? (c) When was this declared on the Ministerial gifts register?	I refer to Legislative Council question on notice 110.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
160	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many senior executive service employees were employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) 28 March 2023? (b) 23 October 2023?	I am advised: This information is reported via workforce profile data as detailed in agency annual reports.
161	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the expenditure on senior executive service employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: This information is reported via workforce profile data as detailed in agency annual reports.
162	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many individuals were employed as internal legal counsel by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) 28 March 2023? (b) 23 October 2023?	I am advised: Staff numbers are included in agency annual reports.
163	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the expenditure on internal legal counsel employees employed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities 28 March 2023?	I am advised: All employees under the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 within the Department of Communities and Justice and agencies are paid in accordance with the relevant Acts and Awards.
164	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many redundancies were processed by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023? (a) Of these redundancies, how many were: i. Voluntary ii. Forced (b) What was the total cost of all redundancies in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	I am advised: All redundancies are managed in accordance with M2011-11 Changes to the Management of Excess Employees. Redundancy information is included in agency annual reports.
165	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Is any former employee from your ministerial office now employed by any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	I am advised: The employment of former Ministerial office staff is not tracked. Ministerial office staff must comply with their ethical obligations under the NSW Office Holder's Staff Code of Conduct, including after the cessation of the employment.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
166	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff were dismissed from each Department/agency under your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023? (a) Without identifying individuals, what were the reason(s) for each dismissal?	I am advised: The termination of an employee is treated confidentially and is managed in accordance with then Government Sector Employment Act 2013 and relevant accompanying policies.
167	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total amount each of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: Stationery purchases by the department and other portfolio agencies are made in accordance with the applicable policies and procedures on procurement.
168	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many employees in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities are working in an 'acting' capacity?	I am advised: The number of temporary assignments will vary each fortnight. Temporary assignments are managed under the Government Sector Employment (General) Rules 2014 and the Public Service Commission Assignment to Role Guidelines. Temporary assignments provide development opportunities whilst staff are on periods of leave, or to cover vacancies while recruitment action is undertaken, and for specific limited term projects.
169	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the average number of days worked from home by employees in each Department/Agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice's (DCJ) approach to flexible working has been team based, encouraging flexible work arrangement that meet team, client and individual's needs. This is supported by the DCJ Better Ways of Working Flexible Work Framework which launched in 2021. Consistent with the team based approach, DCJ has not mandated a minimum office attendance requirement. As such there is no count of the days worked from home.
170	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Do any senior executive service employees in any of the Departments/agencies under your portfolio responsibilities have a driver that is paid for by the Department/agency? (a) If so, what is the number of senior executive service employees that have a driver, and which senior executive service employees have a driver? (b) How much was spent on these drivers since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: Nil for this portfolio.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
171	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on charter air flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency?	I am advised: Agency travel is conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Premier and Cabinet Circular C2022-08 and ATO determinations. Agency travel spent is outlined in the annual report.
172	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on domestic flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency? (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class? (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?	I am advised: Agency travel is conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Premier and Cabinet Circular C2022-08 and ATO determinations. Agency travel spend is outlined in the annual report.
173	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Since 28 March 2023, how much has been spent on overseas flights by your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency? (a) Of these, how many flights were taken in business class? (b) Of these, how many flights were taken in first class?	I am advised: Agency travel is conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Premier and Cabinet Circular C2022-08 and ATO determinations. Agency travel spent is outlined in the annual report
174	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total expenditure since 28 March 2023 by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities on: (a) Taxi hire? (b) Ridesharing services? (c) Limousine/private car hire? (d) Hire car rental?	I am advised: Agency travel is conducted in accordance with relevant NSW Government policies and guidelines including Premier and Cabinet Circular C2022-08 and ATO determinations.
175	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How much has your ministerial office spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: Catering provided for official purposes may be funded from the Ministerial office budget.
			As Members of Parliament, Ministers have credit facilities extended to them for dining and hospitality at Parliament House. These facilities may be used for business or private purposes.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
176	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How much have Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spent on hospitality, including catering and beverages, since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: All departmental expenditure, including on hospitality, must be made in compliance with the <i>Government Sector Finance Act 2018</i> (GSF Act). The GSF Act sets out provisions for managing public finances and applies to a range of government decision makers, including Ministers, agency heads and government officers.
177	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you been the recipient of any free hospitality? (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received?	I am advised: Ministers are required to declare to the Secretary of TCO certain gifts and hospitality with a market value of more than \$500 under Part 4 of the Schedule to the Ministerial Code.
178	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have any staff members in your office been the recipient of any free hospitality? (a) What was the total value of the hospitality received? (b) Are these gifts of hospitality declared publicly? (c) Do staff declare their gifts publicly?	I am advised: All Ministerial staff are required to comply with their disclosure obligations under the Gifts, Hospitality and Benefits Policy for Office Holder Staff. The Policy includes disclosure obligations for Ministerial staff in respect of gifts, hospitality and benefits over \$150. These disclosures are kept on the Office Holder's Register of Gifts and Benefits.
			If a Ministerial staff member is required by their role to accompany their Office Holder at an event that the Office Holder is attending as the State's representative, or where the Office Holder has asked the staff member to attend, then attendance at that event would not constitute a gift or benefit for the purposes of the Policy.
179	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were not paid on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice's performance in payment of accounts is detailed in agency annual reports.
180	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 30 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice's performance in payment of accounts is detailed in the annual reports.
181	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many invoices to suppliers or contactors from your portfolio agency were paid over 60 days late on time since 28 March 2023, broken down by agency? (a) What was the penalty for paying suppliers or contactors late, broken down by agency?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice's performance in payment of accounts is detailed in the annual reports.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
182	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Ministerial car been subject to any traffic or parking fines? (a) If so, please provide details of each fine? (b) Who was driving the car at the time of each incident? (c) Who paid any of the fines?	I am advised: Where a fine is incurred, the payment of the fine is the responsibility of the driver of the vehicle.
183	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Ministerial Car been pulled over by the police? (a) If so, who was driving the car?	I am advised: The department does not record these types of events
184	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has the Minister been the subject of any workplace complaints, including bullying, harassment, and sexual harassment?	I am advised: The Respectful Workplace Policy applies to all Ministerial Offices and staff and is published on the Cabinet Office's Website.
185	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Since 28 March 2023, how many consultancy contracts have been signed in your portfolio agencies, broken down by agency? (a) What was the individual amount of each contract? (b) What is the purpose of each contract? (c) Who was the contract with? (d) Did the contract go to a competitive tender?	I am advised: Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in agency annual reports.
186	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How much did the Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities spend in legal costs since 28 March 2023? (a) For what specific purposes or matters was legal advice sought?	I am advised: Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in agency annual reports.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
187	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have any Department/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities engaged any consultants to provide the following services or advice since 28 March 2023: (a) Social media? i. What were the cost of these services? (b) Photography? i. What were the cost of these services? (c) Videography? i. What were the cost of these services? (d) Acting training? i. What were the cost of these services? (e) Ergonomics? i. What were the cost of these services?	I am advised: Financial Statements, including legal, consulting and any other general costs from third party service providers, are available in agency annual reports.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
188	Hon Chris Rath MLC	For each department, statutory agency and/or other body in the Minister's portfolio please report: (a) How many credit cards are currently on issue for staff? i. Please provide a break-down of this information by grade. (b) What was the value of the largest reported purchase on a credit card for the last year? (c) What was each largest reported purchase for? (d) What was the largest amount outstanding on a single card at the end of a payment period and what was the card holder's employment grade? (e) How many credit cards have been reported lost or stolen? i. What was the cost to replace them? (f) How many credit card purchases were deemed to be illegitimate or contrary to agency policy? i. What was the total value of those purchases? ii. How many purchases were asked to be repaid on the basis that they were illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and what was the total value thereof? iii. Were all those amounts repaid? iv. If no, how many were not repaid, and what was the total value thereof? (g) What was the largest purchase that was deemed illegitimate or contrary to agency policy and asked to be repaid, and what was the cardholder's employment grade? i. What amount was repaid, in full? ii. What amount was left unpaid? (h) Are any credit cards currently on issue connected to rewards schemes?	I am advised: Cards are issued to staff according to business need and are managed in accordance with Treasury Policy TPP 21-02 Use and Management of NSW Government Purchasing Cards. The policy is available at: https://arp.nsw.gov.au/assets/ars/attachments/TPP21-02-Use-and-Management-of-NSW-Govt-Purchasing-Cards.pdf

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		i. Do staff receive any personal benefit as a result of those reward schemes?(i) Can a copy of the staff credit card policy please be provided?	

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
189	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Was an efficiency dividend applied to any Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities in the 2023-24 NSW Budget? (a) If so, what was the efficiency dividend applied to each Department/agency? (b) What measures are being considered to achieve this efficiency dividend?	I am advised: All agencies are expected to operate efficiently, and within available resources. Budget efficiencies have been applied to the agency budgets as published in the NSW Budget Papers.
190	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many GIPA Applications have been received by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023? (a) How many of these Applications have been accepted? (b) How many of these Applications have been rejected? (c) If so, what were the reasons provided? (d) How many of these Applications were reassigned? (e) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced? (f) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office: i. Date received. ii. Date acknowledged. iii. Date responded. iv. The description provided for the information sought.	I am advised: The information concerning the obligations of a Minister's office as an agency under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 is required to be submitted to the Attorney General in accordance with section 125(2) of the Act. The information is included in agency annual reports in accordance with sections 125(3) and (5) of the Act.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
191	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many GIPA Applications have been received by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023? (a) How many of these Applications have been accepted? (b) How many of these Applications have been rejected? i. If so, what were the reasons provided? (c) How many of these Applications were re-assigned? (d) How many of these Applications had fees waived/reduced? (e) Please provide in table form the following details of each Application received by your office: i. Date received. ii. Date responded. iv. The description provided for the information sought.	I am advised: Statistical information about GIPA access applications is published in the Department of Communities and Justice annual reports.
192	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have any Departments/agencies within your portfolio responsibilities utilised the services of Labour Hire Firms since 28 March 2023? If yes, please advise in table form: (a) The names of the firms utilised. (b) The total amount paid to each firm engaged. (c) The average tenure period for an employee provided by a labour hire company. (d) The longest tenure for an employee provided by a labour hire company. (e) The duties conducted by employees engaged through a labour hire company. (f) The office locations of employees engaged through a labour hire company.	I am advised: This information is not held in a readily accessible format. The Department of Communities and Justice has utilised the services of labour hire Firms as required and in accordance with NSW Public Service policies.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(g) The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an employee provided by a labour hire company.	
193	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How much has your ministerial office spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms: (a) Facebook (b) Instagram (c) LinkedIn (d) TikTok (e) YouTube (f) WhatsApp (g) X (formerly known as Twitter)	I am advised: No money has been spent from the Ministerial office on advertising or sponsored posts on the social media platforms.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
194	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How much has each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities spent on advertising or sponsored posts since 28 March 2023 on the following social media platforms: (a) Facebook (b) Instagram (c) LinkedIn (d) TikTok (e) YouTube (f) WhatsApp (g) X (formerly known as Twitter)	I am advised: Expenditure is included in department and agency annual reports each year.
195	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you had media training or public speaking training? (a) If yes, who paid for it? (b) If paid by taxpayers, what was the amount paid since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: No.
196	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many media or public relations advisers are employed for each of your portfolio agencies and what is the total cost to employ these advisers?	I am advised: Staff numbers are included in department and agency annual reports each year. Staff numbers undertaking media or public relations activities are commensurate with need and can go up or down as required. All employees under the <i>Government Sector Employment Act 2013</i> within the Department of Communities and Justice and agencies are paid in accordance with the relevant Acts and Awards
197	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the forecast for the current financial year for the number of media or public relations advisers to be employed in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities and their total cost?	I am advised: Staff numbers are included in department and agency annual reports each year. Staff numbers undertaking media or public relations activities are commensurate with need and can go up or down as required. All employees under the <i>Government Sector Employment Act 2013</i> within the Department of Communities and Justice and agencies are paid in accordance with the relevant Acts and Awards
198	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the total cost of media monitoring services used by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities?	I am advised: Meltwater provide a Whole of Government media monitoring service. The NSW Premier's Department manages the Whole of Government media monitoring contract.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			The Communications Branch within the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) purchases a separate iSentia subscription that covers all DCJ portfolios. From July 2023 (through to end of December 2023) the cost of the subscription is \$51,660.
199	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Please provide a list of all transactions where customers need to pay a merchant fee on credit and/or debit card payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.	I am advised: DCJ does not normally recoup merchant fees from customers. Details on any merchant fee that are recovered are not held centrally for the DCJ portfolio.
200	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Please provide the percentage and/or amount of the merchant fees applied to all credit and/or debit card payments/transactions payments in each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities.	I am advised: DCJ does not normally recoup merchant fees from customers. Details on any merchant fee that are recovered are not held centrally for the DCJ portfolio.
201	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total amount paid in merchant fees on credit and/or debit card payments made by each Department/agency within your portfolio responsibilities since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: DCJ does not normally recoup merchant fees from customers. Details on any merchant fee that are recovered are not held centrally for the DCJ portfolio.
202	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Did you make any updates to your Ministerial disclosure on or after 2 August 2023? (c) If yes, what prompted this update to your disclosure?	I am advised: Disclosure obligations for Ministers under Part 2 (Standing disclosure of interests), Part 3 (Conflicts of Interest) and Part 4 (Gifts and Hospitality) of the Schedule to the Ministerial Code are continuous.
203	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What brand of paper is used in your office? (a) Is it recycled paper? (b) Is it Australian made paper?	I am advised: Office supplies are purchased in accordance with standard procurement arrangements

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
204	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS6 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
205	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS5 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
206	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS4 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
207	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS3 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
208	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS2 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
209	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members were employed in your ministerial office at the MS1 grade for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
210	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the average salary for staff members in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
211	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many DLOs were seconded to your ministerial office for the following months: (a) April (b) May (c) June (d) July (e) August (f) September (g) October	I am advised: Information relating to Department Liaison Officers is available on the Disclosure Log: Government Information {Public Access} Act 2009 Reference number PD_A5833715.
212	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff in your office are employed as 'caucus liaison officers'? (a) What are the responsibilities allocated to 'caucus liaison officers'? (b) Have 'caucus liaison officers' been directed to only work with Government MPs? (c) Do 'caucus liaison officers' contact members of the Australian Labor Party as part of their regular work duties?	I am advised: Staff are employed in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013.
213	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff members employed in your office under the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013 have been seconded from a NSW Government Department/agency? (a) Please list each Department/agency staff members have been seconded from.	I am advised: NSW Government sector employees may be seconded from agencies to Ministers' offices in accordance with clause 35 of the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014.
214	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is your ministerial office budget for 2023-24? (a) How much of this budget is allocated to staff?	I am advised: Minister's office budgets are drawn from the Premier's Department annual financial allocation to cover employee related expenses, accommodation, and other operating

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			expenses. Further information relating to Ministers' Office Budgets is available in the Ministers Office Handbook.
215	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many iPhones/Smart Phones are assigned to staff in your ministerial office? (a) For each phone, how much was each bill in 2022-23? (b) How many phones have been lost or replaced due to damage in your office? i. What is the cost of replacing those phones?	I am advised: Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23
216	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many iPads or tablets are assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued? (a) What was the cost of providing iPads or tablets to your ministerial office in 2022-23? (b) How many iPads or tablets have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23? i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?	I am advised: Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23
217	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many laptops has the Premier's Department or The Cabinet Office assigned to your ministerial office and to whom have they been issued? (a) What was the cost of providing laptops to your ministerial office in 2022-23? (b) How many laptops have been replaced due to lost or damage in 2022-23? i. What was the cost of replacing these devices?	I am advised: Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Communication Devices Policy provides guidance on the use, loss, theft, and return of communication devices provided for business purposes. The costs for the period 28 March 2023 to 30 June 2023 form part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet Annual Report 2022-23
218	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has any artwork been purchased or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023? (a) What is the cost of this?	I am advised: Purchase or lease of artwork for official purposes is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
219	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have any floral displays or indoor plants been hired or leased for display in your ministerial office since 28 March 2023? (a) If so, what was the cost of these items?	I am advised: Hire or lease of floral displays or indoor plants is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.
220	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total amount your office spent on stationery since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: Office supplies are purchased in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.
221	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total cost of all subscriptions by you and your staff to online news services, newspapers, magazines, journals, and periodicals since 28 March 2023? (a) What are these services/newspapers/magazines/journals/periodicals?	I am advised: The total cost of all subscriptions is in accordance with standard procurement arrangements.
222	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What was the total value of all gifts purchased for use by you and your office since 28 March 2023? (a) What were the gifts purchased? i. Who were they gifted to?	I am advised: The Ministers' Office Handbook outlines the policy relating to gifts.
223	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What non-standard features are fitted to your ministerial vehicle? (a) What is the cost of each non-standard feature?	I am advised: Non-standard accessories fitted to Ministerial vehicles are for business, security, and safety related reasons, in accordance with the NSW Government Motor Vehicle Operational guidelines.
224	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What is the total spend for your office since 28 March 2023 for: (a) Taxi hire? (b) Ridesharing services? (c) Hire car rental? (d) Limousine/private car hire?	I am advised: The Ministers' Office Handbook outlines the policies relating to taxis or ride share services.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
225	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Were any planes or helicopters chartered by you or your office and paid for with public money since 28 March 2023? (a) If yes, please provide details of the trip including the date of the trip, purpose of the trip, the method of transport and the cost?	I am advised: All domestic and international travel bookings for official business must be made through the NSW Government's approved travel management supplier.
226	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many people are employed in your ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?	I am advised: Ministerial staff numbers and grades are published on the NSW Government Website.
227	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many women are employed in your Ministerial office as at 1 October 2023?	We aim for an inclusive and diverse workforce across Ministerial offices that reflects the communities that we serve.
228	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) as at 1 October 2023?	We aim for an inclusive and diverse workforce across Ministerial offices that reflects the communities that we serve.
229	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff employed in your ministerial office identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as at 1 October 2023?	We aim for an inclusive and diverse workforce across Ministerial offices that reflects the communities that we serve.
230	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff in your office are employed as media advisers or have responsibility for media/social media/communications?	I am advised: Staff are employed in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013.
231	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How many staff in your office are employed as policy advisers or have responsibility for policy work?	I am advised: Staff are employed in accordance with the Members of Parliament Staff Act 2013.
232	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you had any overseas trips paid for using public funds since 28 March 2023? (a) If yes, did any of your relatives or friends accompany you on these trips?	I am advised: In line with M2015-05-Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information, Ministers' overseas travel is published on the Premier's Department website.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
233	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you undertaken any official overseas travel that was privately funded since 28 March 2023? (a) If yes, what was the nature of these trips? (b) Who paid for these trips?	I am advised: In line with M2015-05-Publication of Ministerial Diaries and Release of Overseas Travel Information, Ministers' overseas travel is published on the Premier's Department Website. Gifts and Hospitality, including contributions to travel are managed in accordance
234	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Does your Parliamentary Secretary have pass access to your ministerial office?	with the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct. I am advised: Security passes for 52 Martin Place are required to be issued in accordance with the 52 Martin Place security procedures and the associated Privacy and Surveillance Statement.
235	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Does your Parliamentary Secretary have a desk in your ministerial office?	I am advised: Parliamentary Secretaries are not allocated a ministerial office as part of their office holder remuneration and/or resourcing.
236	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Parliamentary Secretary spoken on any pieces of legislation on your behalf? If so which legislation?	Please refer to the NSW Parliament Hansard.
237	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What event/meetings has your Parliamentary Secretary attended on your behalf? (a) Please provide in table form the date and the purpose of the event/meeting.	I am advised: A Parliamentary Secretary may perform functions pursuant to section 38C of the Constitution Act 1902. The general duties of a Parliamentary Secretary are outlined in the Ministers' Office Handbook available on the Premier's Department website
238	Hon Chris Rath MLC	How often do you meet with your Parliamentary Secretary?	Regularly.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
239	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas since 28 March 2023? (a) If so, when, and where? (b) If so, what was the cost of: i. Airfares? ii. Accommodation? iii. Food and beverage? iv. Transportation? v. Entertainment?	I am advised: All Parliamentary Secretaries are subject to the same travel rules as Ministers when travelling on behalf of the Premier or the Minister.
240	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Parliamentary Secretary travelled domestically since 28 March 2023? (a) If so, when, and where? (b) If so, what was the cost of: i. Airfares? ii. Accommodation? iii. Food and beverage? iv. Transportation? v. Entertainment?	I am advised: All Parliamentary Secretaries are subject to the same travel rules as Ministers when travelling on behalf of the Premier or the Minister.
241	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your Parliamentary Secretary received training? (a) If so, was it speech, voice, or media training? (b) If yes, who provided this training, on what date and at what cost	I am advised: Members of Parliament have a Skills Development Allowance that may be used in a manner consistent with the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal.
242	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Has your office or department used a Probity Auditor or Probity Advisors, or similar, since 28 March 2023? (a) If so please list the company and/or individual, the project, the engagement dates, and their total remuneration in tabular format.	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice has internal mechanisms in place to ensure that probity is routinely considered in procurement decisions in line with the NSW Government Procurement Policy Framework. Under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act), agencies are required to register government contracts valued at \$150,000 (including GST) or more on the NSW Government eTendering website. Departments are required to include in their annual reports information in relation to consultants engaged by or on behalf of the agency.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
243	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you received any training since becoming a Minister? (a) If yes, please provide the details of what the training was.	I am advised: All Cabinet Ministers haveundertaken a program of Ministerial induction training. Ministers will undertake Respectful Workplace Policy. Training that will commence in December. Members of Parliament have a Skills Development Allowance that may be used in a manner consistent with the Parliamentary Renumeration Tribunal. Any expenditure incurred in the Minister's Office is done in accordance with the
244	Hon Chris Rath MLC	Have you received any speech, vocal or performance training? (a) If so, what was the cost? (b) Was this cost covered by the taxpayer?	Funding and Expenditure guidelines contained within the Ministers Office Handbook. I am advised: Any expenditure incurred in the Minister's Office is done in accordance with the Funding and Expenditure guidelines contained within the Ministers Office Handbook.
245	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What were the top 20 most utilised (by data sent and received) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: All acceptable use of Network Services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical. The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.
246	Hon Chris Rath MLC	What were the top 20 most accessed (by number of times accessed) unique domain names accessed by your ministerial office since 28 March 2023?	I am advised: All acceptable use of Network Services must be lawful, appropriate, and ethical. The Ministers' Staff Acceptable Use of Network Services Policy is available in the Ministers' Office Handbook.
247	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The OCV Annual Report 2022-23 identified several systemic issues in disability services like SIL homes, with similar issues found in assisted boarding houses. What is being done to address these systemic issues, specifically in relation to implementing a consistent approach to compatibility assessments, and the involvement of residents in skills development and meaningful activities?	I am advised: The Ageing and Disability Commission is currently working on the next stage of the Official Community Visitor (OCV) systemic issues project, which will involve meeting in early 2024 with the relevant regulatory, oversight and funding bodies to discuss the issues identified by OCVs, and to ascertain the work that is underway or planned to address the issues.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
248	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	What are the current requirements for providers conducting compatibility assessments?	I am advised: There are standards relevant to compatibility assessments in relation to National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) registered providers and residential out-of-home care providers. To assist Official Community Visitors in the systemic issues project, the Ageing and Disability Commission provided the below summary of the relevant aspects of the standards to bear in mind when visiting. Under the NDIS Practice Standards:
			Supported independent living providers supporting participants in specialist disability accommodation (SDA) dwellings have documented arrangements in place with each participant and each SDA provider. In shared living, the arrangements should outline the roles and responsibilities of parties for how potential conflicts involving participant(s) will be managed; and how vacancies will be filled, including each participant's right to have their needs, preferences and situation taken into account.
			 planned transition to or from the provider is facilitated in collaboration with each participant when possible, and this is documented, communicated and effectively managed. Risks associated with each transition to or from the provider are identified, documented and responded to, including risks associated with temporary transitions from the provider to respond to a risk to the participant, such as health care risk requiring hospitalisation. Processes for transitioning to or from the provider (including temporary transitions) are developed, applied, reviewed and communicated.
			 Under the Out-of-Home Care Standards for Permanent Care: The views of children and young people must be taken into account when making placement decisions. The initial assessment of a child or young person occurs prior to the placement or immediately after for crisis or emergency placements.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			The initial assessment considers the reason for the placement, family details, social and medical history and the cultural identity of the child or young person.
			Placement matching decisions are informed by an assessment of the capacity of the proposed placement to meet the identified needs, interests and wellbeing of the child or young person in the care environment.
249	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	Has there been any modelling completed in relation to expanding the scope of the OCV program to include general boarding houses? (a) Is there any intention to expand the scope of the OCV program to include general boarding houses?	I am advised: No modelling has been undertaken to date in relation to expanding the scope of the Official Community Visitor scheme to include general boarding houses.
250	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	Has there been any modelling completed in relation to expanding the scope of the OCV program to address service gaps? (a) Is there any intention to expand the scope of the	I am advised: No modelling has been undertaken to date in relation to expanding the scope of the Official Community Visitors (OCV) scheme to address service gaps.
		OCV program to address service gaps?	(a) The OCV scheme does not have a direct input into service gaps. Rather, the OCV scheme visits supported residential services prescribed by legislation. There are no current plans to extend the OCV scheme scope in NSW. However, there are ongoing discussions regarding the nature and scope of the OCV scheme in the disability area arising from the Disability Royal Commission and the National Disability Insurance Scheme Review. There are ongoing discussions as to the scope of persons or services to be visited in various forms of out-of-home care.
251	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	Has there been any modelling completed in relation to increase funding to hire OCVs as paid employees or contracted suppliers? (a) Is there any intention to increase funding to hire OCVs as paid employees or contracted suppliers?	I am advised: Official Community Visitors (OCVs) are paid Ministerial appointees. OCV remuneration is guided by the NSW Government Boards and Committees Guidelines and includes an hourly rate plus allowances (such as mileage). No modelling has been completed to increase funding to hire OCVs as paid employees or contracted suppliers.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			(a) At this stage, there is no intention to increase funding to hire OCVs as paid employees or contracted suppliers. In the 28 years the OCV scheme has been in operation, the independence of OCVs as Ministerial appointees has consistently been highly valued by OCVs and the community.
252	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	How much money does the OCV scheme receive to carry out these duties each year since its introduction?	I am advised: The Official Community Visitor (OCV) scheme has operated for 28 years (commencing in 1995). The annual reports relating to the OCV scheme when it was operated by the Community Services Commission (1995–2001) are not available online and information about the OCV scheme budget from that time is not held by the Ageing and Disability Commission (ADC). The annual reports for the OCV scheme at the Ombudsman's office (2003 to 2018/19) are available on the NSW Ombudsman's website, the financial information reports the scheme's expenses, not the allocated budget. The expenses ranged from \$724,133 in 2003/04 to \$1,131,878 in 2018/19. The OCV scheme was transferred from the Ombudsman's office to the ADC in 2019/20 with the following budget allocations; (a) \$951,000 for 2019/20 (b) \$914,000 for 2020/21 (c) \$902,000 for 2021/22 (d) \$909,000 for 2022/23. The budget of the OCV scheme in 2023/24 is \$1,622,000, comprising the budget of \$922,000 plus additional temporary funding of \$700,000.
253	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	In relation to the \$3.9 million in the Budget for cash and in-kind contributions for individual packages and other flexible supports under the NDIS, can you provide a breakdown of how this funding is distributed?	I am advised: The NSW financial contribution to the National Disability Insurance Scheme of \$3.9 billion for 2023-This consists of \$3.5 billion of cash and \$398 million of in-kind contributions.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
254	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	Did this funding come from the Federal Government?	I am advised: No. The NSW Government fully funds its financial contributions to the National Disability insurance Scheme, in line with the NSW Full Scheme Agreement.
255	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	How much involvement does the NSW Government and DCJ have in distributing NDIS funds to support providers?	I am advised that: The National Disability Insurance Agency is responsible for the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme including determining individual eligibility for supports and developing individual plans including annualised budgets for eligible participants. The NDIS is co-funded and co-governed by the Commonwealth and state and territory governments.
256	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	How much oversight does the NSW Government have over NDIS providers?	I am advised: The Australian Government, through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Quality and Safeguards Commission is responsible for the registration and regulation of NDIS providers including practice standards; compliance monitoring, investigation and enforcement action; and responding to complaints and reportable incidents within the NDIS.
257	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Disability Royal Commission published a report in July 2023 that categorised guardianship as a restrictive practice among other things. What steps are being taken to reduce and eliminate restrictive practices in NSW? Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion (a) The report made eight recommendations. Has there been any consideration of implementing these recommendations?	I am advised: NSW is committed to national initiatives aimed at reducing and eliminating restrictive practices that have been adopted by different sectors including disability services, education and health. This includes implementing national principles for restrictive practices authorisation in disability services. a) The July 2023 report was part of the commissioned research that informed the work of the Disability Royal Commission. The Government's focus is the 222 recommendations in the Disability Royal Commission's final report, released on 29 September 2023, which includes recommendations on restrictive practices. The final report recommendations are being carefully considered in consultation with people with disability, their families, supporters and the disability sector.
258	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	What is the progress of the reforms to the NSW Guardianship framework?	The Attorney General is progressing this work and I am advised: The NSW Government has established a government working party, alongside community representatives, to advise on recommendations for reform of the guardianship framework. The first Working Group meeting was held on 5 September 2023 and further meetings are scheduled for 2024.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
259	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	Will this reform be in line with the recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission in relation to guardianship reform?	I am considering this matter.
260	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Audit Office of NSW found that NSW Trustee and Guardian does not have sufficient oversight to ensure that its services are consistent with legislative principles which aim to promote positive client outcomes. It also found that key findings and recommendations from previous reviews remain unresolved. What is the status of implementation of these recommendations?	While this matter most appropriately falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Attorney General, I am advised: On 16 May 2023 the CEO of NSW Trustee & Guardian responded to the Auditor-General's report "Managing the affairs of people under financial management and/or guardianship orders", accepting in principle the recommendations of the report and committing to work to address them. This response can be found in Appendix One to the Auditor-General's report. The response included an agreed action plan, is expected to be completed by November 2024.
261	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Disability Royal Commission recommended phasing out group homes. Disability advocates have been calling for this for years. Is there any progress being made in this space, in relation to phasing out group homes or preparing for a potential phase out?	I am advised: The recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission are being reviewed in collaboration with the Federal Government and states and territories. Following this, all recommendations relevant to NSW will be considered by the NSW Government in consultation with people with disability, their families, supporters and the disability sector.
262	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	What is being done to support people with disability in NSW to live in accessible individualised housing rather than group homes?	I am advised: People with disability are supported to exercise choice and control over the type of accommodation they live in and who they live with. The NSW Government is a signatory to Australia's Disability Strategy, which sets a national policy priority for housing to be accessible and for people with disability to have choice and control about where they live, who they live with, and who comes into their home.
263	Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	In relation to the 471 children and young people currently in high cost arrangements including 142 in alternative care, 178 in individual placement arrangements, 86 in an interim care model, 65 in short term emergency placements and 29 in special OOHC: (a) How many of these are children and young people with disability? (b) How many of these are victims of family violence?	I am advised: (a) In relation to the 471 children and young people in High-Cost Emergency Arrangements (HCEA) as at 31 August 2023: 304 children and young people had no disability, 167 children and young people had a disability recorded on their records. For the 29 in Special out of home care (SOOHC), two children and young people had no disability and 27 children and young people had a disability recorded on their

Question Memb Number	er Supplementary Question	Answer
Number	(c) How many are First Nations children? (d) What is currently being done to reduce these numbers?	records. b) In relation to the 471 children and young people in HCEA as at 31 August 2023 165 had report/s of domestic violence to the child protection helpline prior to HCEA start date. For the 29 in Special OOHC, five had report/s of domestic violence to the child protection helpline prior to HCEA start date. c) In relation to the 471 children and young people in HCEA as at 31 August 2023, 226 are first nations children and for the 29 in Special OOHC, 13 are first nations children. d) A number of strategies and reforms are underway to increase capacity in preferred placements to enable children to avoid entry into HCEA or to exit from high-cost emergency arrangements as soon as possible, including: • DCJ recruitment of emergency foster carers to increase emergency placement options available to children and young people • Intensive Therapeutic Care (ITC) expansion tender is near finalization to increase placement capacity in response to market gaps for children and young people over 12 with high needs • Expansion of the Central Access Unit to consolidate operational functions of all nonhome based placement options and enable effective tracking and efficient response • Development of options to reform OOHC to address the systemic drivers for increased reliance on high cost emergency arrangements for Government consideration in 2024 • Planned introduction of a new therapeutic emergency model in Orange and Wollongong, currently in the design phase and procurement planning Broader reform options are being explored.

Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		The current and razor focus to reduce the numbers of children and young people in High Cost Emergency Arrangements include:
		 Increased focus on recruitment and retention of emergency foster carers to attempt to increase the number of available foster carers. Increased scrutiny on capacity in the funded service system to reduce the current vacancy rate. Undertake an earlier cost control function, introducing a consistent price point. Establishment of a sole entry point into a High Cost Emergency Arrangement allowing for single executive oversight. Every child and young person currently in a High Cost Emergency Arrangement is being the subject of a focused review to ensure their welfare and wellbeing is paramount and a timely exit plan is being implemented.
Ms Sue Higginson MLC	What processes are in place to put into practice shared decision-making with Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations such as Absec and ALS at all levels of the Department? (a) Have all DCJ employees been given guidance and directives to work in partnership and in accordance with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap? (b) What accountability processes are in place to make sure this happens?	I am advised: The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) has introduced an internal Aboriginal Strategy, which is being implemented across all Divisions. One of the key reform elements of the Strategy is that DCJ shares authority and decision making with Aboriginal communities and people, and specifically, that no decision about Aboriginal people should be made without Aboriginal people at individual or enterprise level. The DCJ Aboriginal Strategy is aligned to the Priority Reforms in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and is published on DCJ's intranet. Amendments were progressed in 2022 and again in 2023 to the <i>Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998</i> that require decision makers to apply the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young Persons Principle and Active Efforts to decisions involving Aboriginal children, including that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community representatives should participate in the design and delivery of services for children and young persons and in individual decisions about
	Ms Sue Higginson	Ms Sue Higginson MLC What processes are in place to put into practice shared decision-making with Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations such as Absec and ALS at all levels of the Department? (a) Have all DCJ employees been given guidance and directives to work in partnership and in accordance with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap? (b) What accountability processes are in place to

Question	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
Number 265	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The MAPG, whilst involving AbSec and SNAICC in determining the members, was an outcome of the forum that was entirely the Minister's suggestion — community had referred to a caucus in discussions within the forum and it was the only announcement made by the Minister at the conclusion of the two days. The other priorities were outlined later. Do you propose to accept the recommendations of the MAPG members in considering finalising the governance structure and do you agree that it should be incorporated into the existing Close the Gap architecture? (a) An example of a lack of shared decision-making was in the announcement of the Safeguarding Decision Making Panels at the Aboriginal Child and Family Wellbeing Reform Forum, as something that	I do not accept the characterisation of the question. As Minister, I intend to work in genuine partnership with AbSec, its members, and other Aboriginal sector leaders. However, I am unable to accept recommendations that I have not seen or considered. The MAP Group has been established as a child protection-specific advisory body. I have no intention on duplicating other bodies that are not child protection-specific.
266	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	had already been established that the Department was hopeful of getting community involvement in. This was the first that the Aboriginal peaks had heard of this, and was not something that was designed in partnership. They were internal decision making, and the responses to budget questions, suggests it is still not finalised what role community plays. When will the next FIC progress report be issued?	I am advised: The Family is Culture progress report will likely be released in December 2023. A draft will be shared with AbSec and the Aboriginal Legal Service.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
267	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Please stipulate the legislative changes recommended in the FIC Review that are yet to be legislated. For each recommended change, state: (a) If DCJ is actively considering or working towards implementation? (b) Has made a decision not to proceed with the change? (c) Is awaiting consideration by the Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group (MAP Group)	I am advised: The Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Amendment (Family is Culture) Act 2022 implemented many of the recommendations of the Family is Culture Report that proposed legislative changes. The remaining recommendations for legislative reform are under consideration by the NSW Government. A progress report outlining the Government's response to the recommendations of the Family is Culture Report will be released in due course.
268	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	As the MAP Group is established, how will DCJ continue to progress the full implementation of the FIC recommendations?	I am advised: The Government is committed to reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC, and will be working in partnership with AbSec, its members and other Aboriginal sector leaders to map out immediate, medium-term and long-term reforms.
269	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Will you take the opportunity to publicly commit to implementing the 126 recommendations, even if you accept more could or should be done in this space?	I am advised: The Government is committed to reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC, and will be working in partnership with AbSec, its members and other Aboriginal sector leaders to map out immediate, medium-term and long-term reforms.
270	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	To date, there is not an Implementation Plan for all of the recommendations for FIC, developed in partnership with the peaks, which has been a priority ask of the peaks consistently since publishing our Community Monitoring Framework. Again, this is in alignment with the NSW Government's under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap and the findings of the Family is Culture Review that self-determination, oversight and accountability to communities are the cornerstones of change/reform.	I am advised: Plans are in place for all recommendations and implementation is being managed via an overall framework set by the Department of Communities and Justice. A single implementation plan that spans all recommendations is not feasible.
271	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Please outline the progress in developing a clear and comprehensive Implementation Plan for the 126 recommendations of the FIC report, to date	I am advised: The Family is Culture progress report will likely be released in December 2023 and will outline progress towards Family is Culture recommendations.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
		(removing the deference now to MAPG). What have you done to date?	
272	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The Government's discussion paper on legislative reform released in April 2022 referred to the second phase of legislative reform, in addition to that, there are a number of items for drafting as part of regulations that formed part of the first tranche. There appears to be a deference to the MAPG as determinative of whether those reforms will occur.	I am advised: The Government is committed to reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC, and will be working in partnership with AbSec, its members and other Aboriginal sector leaders to map out immediate, medium-term and long-term reforms.
273	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Is the government shying away from their previous commitment to legislative reform?	I am advised: Since its election in March 2023, the Government has been demonstrating its commitment to reduce the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC.
274	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The Minister's commitment that there has been no pause in the implementation of the FIC recommendations – is a deference to the MAP Group in relation to legislative reform not a suggestion that this has paused?	I refer to the response provided in the hearing which can be found on page 40 of the transcript.
275	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Do you agree that this is an example of the kind of reform work that should not be paused in anticipation of an endorsement by the MAPG?	I refer to the response provided in the hearing which can be found on page 40 of the transcript.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
276	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Like the matters raised above, when asked about the establishment of the commission (FIC Rec 9) and the appointment of an independent Aboriginal child and family commissioner, this was again deferred to the MAPG. It has been something raised by the NSW peaks over and over, it has progressed in the ACT without reluctance (including the announcement this week of a proud NSW-born Bundjalung women into the role). Deference is being suggested to the MAPG, again. However, is it the case that the Department is in fact concerned that some of the roles of that Commissioner would be removed from existing appointments, such as the Guardian, Ombudsman and Advocate for Children and Young People?	I intend to engage meaningfully with the Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group and other stakeholders on this matter.
277	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Are you prepared to be transparent in your reservations about the role?	I intend to engage meaningfully with the Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group and other stakeholders on this matter.
278	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Do you agree that there is benefit to the independent oversight of the child protection system that would be offered by the role?	I intend to engage meaningfully with the Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group and other stakeholders on this matter.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
279	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	For the review of Structured Decision Making (SDM) tools please provide for each component of SDM tools and explicitly for the Strengths and Risk Assessment (SARA) tool: (a) Which internal (parts of DCJ) and external parties are undertaking the review? Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion (b) Provide a breakdown of the "40 stakeholders" stated by Ms Czech who have been consulted in the review? How were these stakeholders selected? (c) How have AbSec and ALS been — or how will AbSec and ALS — be involved in the review? (d) How is the cultural validity and cultural safety of each tool being assessed and by who? (e) What is the timeline to complete each component of the review?	I am advised: a) The Office of the Senior Practitioner is leading the review of the Structured Decision Making (SDM) tools in partnership with Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes; Strategy, Policy and Commissioning; Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) Legal and Operational staff. External stakeholders include AbSec (up until July 2022); GMARs; Stolen Gens Organisations; Waminda; Tharrawal; NSW Police; NSW Health; Education; Non-Governmental Organisations (out-of-home care and preservation) and Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. b) Stakeholders were selected in a variety of ways. The majority of nominations were received following an email request sent out by the project team. Other stakeholders reached out to the project team and were then included in the working groups to be part of the co-design of the tools. A breakdown of the 40 stakeholders include: 1. Aboriginal young people with experience of being in care 2. Parents with experience of having their child removed 3. Cross government and interagency partners (Health, Education, and Police) 4. Peak agencies (AbSec - withdrew from the project in July 2022) 5. Family preservation and OOHC service providers including non-Government organisations 6. Aboriginal community controlled organisations and service providers (Waminda and Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation) 7. Cross divisional DCJ stakeholders including strategy policy and commissioning (SPC), legal, TAO, operations, FACSIAR and ChildStory 8. Stolen Generations Organisations 9. GMARs c) In February 2022, the Office of the Senior Practitioner contracted AbSec to support the project. A key responsibility of this position was to lead consultation with Aboriginal community members and Community Controlled Organisations so that cultural perspectives could be shared to inform the redesign of the SDM tools. The AbSec policy officer facilitated three community consultations between March and June 2022.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			The person in the AbSec policy role resigned in July 2022 and there has been no dedicated AbSec staff member providing community consultation since this time. DCJ sought resolution of this matter between July and November 2022. In November 2022, AbSec indicated in writing that it would not progress with further community consultation on the SDM tools. The rationale provided by AbSec at the time was that the community position was that it did not want to continue to consult on the tools used by DCJ and instead wanted an Aboriginal led approach to developing child protection assessment tools for Aboriginal children and communities. The Aboriginal Legal Service has not been involved in the project to date. d) Over 40 Aboriginal stakeholders are part of each working group in place for each of the tools. This group is involved in co-designing and testing each SDM tool prior to seeking endorsement. The project also reports to an Executive Governance Group which comprises Deputy Secretary for Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, Deputy Secretary Stragety, Policy and Commissioning, and Deputy Secretary Deputy Secretary, Child Protection and Permanency, District and Youth Justice Services. e) The review of SDM tools project is currently under review. The timeline on this work is being reconsidered, and some tools will be implemented from 2024, including Safety in Care and SDM Screening assessment.
280	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Please stipulate the contracts (including project description, funds allocated, requirements from DCJ on stakeholder engagement and contract duration) that Evident Change has been awarded by DCJ in the last 5 years?	I am advised: Costs associated with Evident Change (\$1,561, 303.34 (AUD) as at 24 November 2023)(\$1,005,800.00 (US). \$668.89 (\$439, 900(US)) has been paid to date. The contract was entered 1 June 2021 up until 1 December 2024 for the SDM Quality Service review of SDM. DCJ (OSP) with Evident Change committed to, and have undertaken a collaborative approach to review and redesign the assessments with all key stakeholder groups. This includes cross government and interagency partners (Health, Education, and Police), Peak agencies (AbSec), family preservation and OOHC service providers including Non-Government organisations, Aboriginal community controlled organisations and service providers, parents and families including Aboriginal families

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			who have experienced statutory child protection services, young people who have had an OOHC experience and cross divisional DCJ stakeholders including strategy policy and commissioning (SPC), legal, TAO, operations, FACSIAR and ChildStory.
281	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	The Secretary acknowledged concerns about the SARA tool being discriminatory and its continued use being tied to 'fulfilling our statutory responsibilities'. What legal advice has DCJ received about using the Structured Decision-Making tools, including a tool that may be discriminatory, as a decision-making instrument in child protection proceedings, including child removal decisions, for Aboriginal children and families?	I am advised: Advice provided by legal services is subject to legal professional privilege.
282	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Peaks are asking for the SDM tools currently being used to be abolished. Do you accept that the SDM suite of tools, and in particular the risk assessment tool, are racist, and therefore should be abolished?	I am advised: Following my Aboriginal Child Safety and Wellbeing Reform Forum, I wrote to each attended and committed to reviewing and replacing the risk assessment tool. That work is ongoing.
283	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Are you able to outline (without referring to AbSec and the MAPG) what you have considered as an alternative to the SDM tools to date, including what you know about assessment tools or processes used in other jurisdictions (such as QLD, who no longer uses the SDM tools)?	I am advised: Following my Aboriginal Child Safety and Wellbeing Reform Forum, I wrote to each attended and committed to reviewing and replacing the risk assessment tool. That work is ongoing.
284	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Will the Active Efforts policy and associated practice guidelines to be proclaimed in November have interim or final status?	I am advised: The Government is committed to delivering on the promise of the now-proclaimed active efforts legislation.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
285	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	If the Active Efforts policy and practice guidelines have interim status, please set out: (a) Timelines for review and when final status will be achieved? (b) How the application of Active Efforts Policy and Practice in child protection casework and Children's Court proceedings will be monitored and results shared with peak organisations wanting to contribute to the review. (c) How DCJ will work with AbSec and ALS as partners in the review process and apply shared decision-making principles to finalise the policy and practice guidelines.	I am advised: The finalised Active Efforts Policy has been distributed to caseworkers. (a) The Policy will be reviewed in 2024 to align with regulations on Active Efforts and other reforms underway. (b) The Minister is required to report to Parliament on the implementation and impact of Active Efforts annually for five years. (c) The Department of Communities and Justice will work with stakeholders, including AbSec and the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) (ALS) on this, noting that Active Efforts provisions apply to all children. The application of Active Efforts policy and practice will be monitored via a District implementation plans and data analysis. AbSec and ALS were members of the Family is Culture Legislative Implementation Steering Committee and associated working groups, including the Active Efforts Working Group and Identification Policy Working Group.
286	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	How many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children were restored to their parents from final orders and from interim orders in 2022-23 and 2021-22? (a) What were the restoration rates for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children by type of order in these years?	The requested data can be found in Attachment for SQ 286.
287	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	How many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children were removed via a Temporary Care Arrangement (TCA) in 2021-22 and 2022-23? (a) Please provide a breakdown for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children in 2021-22 and 2022-23 of the proportion that moved from TCAs to legal orders and the proportion who were restored to their family.	I am advised that: There were 112 Aboriginal children and young people and 200 Non-Aboriginal children and young people that entered out of home care (OOHC) under a temporary care arrangement (TCA) in the 2021/22 financial year. In the 2022/23 financial year there were 136 Aboriginal children and young people and 167 Non-Aboriginal children and young people that entered OOHC under a TCA. (a) See Table 6 in data tables tab

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
288	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	In 2021-22 and 2022-23, how many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children were restored under the case management of: (a) ACCOs, (b) NGOs, and (c) DCJ	I am advised: a) i. In the 2022/23 financial year, there were less than five Aboriginal children case managed by ACCOs, who were restored. ii. In the 2021/22 financial year, there were 13 Aboriginal children and less than five non-Aboriginal children case managed by ACCOs, who were restored. b) i. In the 2022/23 financial year, there were 23 Aboriginal children and 85 non-Aboriginal children case managed by non-Aboriginal NGO, who were restored. ii. In the 2021/22 financial year, there were 20 Aboriginal children and 74 non-Aboriginal children case managed by non-Aboriginal NGO, who were restored.
			c) i. In the 2022/23 financial year, there were 138 Aboriginal children and 168 non-Aboriginal children case managed by DCJ, who were restored. ii. In the 2021/22 financial year, there were 124 Aboriginal children and 187 non-Aboriginal children case managed by DCJ, who were restored.
289	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	What is the median length of time in 2021-22 and 2022-23 that DCJ takes to transfer case management of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children to ACCOs and NGOs?	I am advised: This data is not currently available in this format. DCJ will investigate whether relevant information is captured elsewhere and how it could be brought into structured data in future.
290	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Is this providing ACCOs and NGOs with the opportunity to do effective and intensive case management work with the child/ren and their family in the interim order period?	I am advised: This data is not currently available in this format. DCJ will investigate whether relevant information is captured elsewhere and how it could be brought into structured data in future.
291	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	How many referrals of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal families did DCJ caseworkers make to each type of DCJ funded restoration programs in 2021-22 and 2022-23? (a) Please provide a breakdown by District.	I am advised: This data is not currently available in this format. DCJ is not able to currently report on the numbers of refers made to restoration programs.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
292	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Can you advise how many Aboriginal children are case managed by non-ACCO's?	I am advised: As at 30 June 2023, there were 6,563 Aboriginal children in OOHC. 3,456 (or 52.7 per cent) were case managed by DCJ. 1,746 (or 26.6 per cent) were case managed by Non-Aboriginal NGOs and 1,361 (or 20.7 per cent) were case managed by ACCOs.
293	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Can you provide a breakdown of the NGO's that are case managing, and when their funding agreements are due for renewal?	I am advised: All Permanency Support Program (PSP) contracts are current up to 30 June 2027. There are 51 PSP providers in total. 48 deliver the main PSP contract and three deliver PSP Family Preservation. 20 providers are ACCO's, 17 in the main contract and three are PSP Family Preservation only. Current PSP providers include: Allambi Care Limited
			Anglican Community Services T/A Anglicare Anglicare NSW South NSW West and ACT Barnardos Australia Biripi Aboriginal Corporation Medical Centre Burrun Dalai Aboriginal Corporation CareSouth Caretakers Cottage Ltd CASPA Services Ltd CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay CatholicCare Social Services - Hunter Manning CatholicCare Wollongong NSW Challenge Community Services
			Coffs Harbour Aboriginal Family Community Care Centre Aboriginal Corporation Coonamble Aboriginal Health Service Limited Creating Links (NSW) Limited Family Spirit Limited Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation KARI Ltd Key Assets The Children's Services Provider (Australia) Ltd Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
			Life Without Barriers
			Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd
			MacKillop Family Services Ltd
			Mallee Family Care Ltd
			Marist Youth Care Ltd
			Marymead CatholicCare Canberra & Goulburn
			Muloobinba Aboriginal Corporation
			Narang Bir-rong Aboriginal Corporation
			Nelly's Healing Centre Aboriginal Corporation
			Ngunya Jarjum Aboriginal Child and Family Network Inc
			Orange Aboriginal Medical Service
			Pathfinders Ltd
			Riverina Medical & Dental Aboriginal Corporation
			Samaritans Foundation Diocese of Newcastle
			Settlement Services International Limited
			South Coast Medical Service Aboriginal Corporation
			Southern Youth and Family Services Limited
			The Benevolent Society
			The Burdekin Association Inc
			The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NSW) as delegated through to Uniting
			(NSW.ACT)
			Tribal Warrior Aboriginal Corporation
			Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation
			Veritas House
			Wandiyali
			Wesley Community Services Limited
			Westhaven Limited
			William Campbell Foundation
			Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre Incorporated
			Woomera Aboriginal Corporation Albury
			Yerin Aboriginal Health Services Limited

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
294	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	When you referred to the "relinquishment" of contracts with non Aboriginal service providers – is this a reference to the NGO requesting not to renew, or is this terminology DCJ is using to reflect that they will be reviewing and not-renewing those contracts?	I am advised: DCJ contracts have provisions that allow parties to end an agreement during its term for any reason by giving written notice. Providers may make a decision voluntarily to no longer continue to deliver the contracted services. This is referred to by DCJ as a relinquished contract. Where a contract is not renewed by either party at the end of its term - this would be considered an expiration of the contract, with no renewal. Relinquished funds may be reallocated in accordance with NSW Procurement Guidelines.
295	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	What share of DCJ program funding in 2023-24 - in the areas of early intervention, family preservation, family restoration and OOHC - will be provided to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs)? How does this compare to their share of funding in 2021-22 and 2022-23 and to the proportion of Aboriginal children, young people and families receiving services under each program?	I am advised: (a) In relation to Family Preservation TEI (Targeted Earlier Intervention), see answer to Q296. (b) In relation to out of home care (OOHC) i. In the 2021/22 financial year 14 percent of program funding was allocated to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. During the same period, 20.5 percent of children in OOHC were Aboriginal. ii. In the 2022/23 financial year 14 percent of program funding was allocated to Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. During the same period, 20.7 percent of children in OOHC were Aboriginal.

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer				
296	Ms Sue	Please provide a table that has the ACCO share of	I am advised:				
	Higginson MLC	funding and % of Aboriginal clients in 2021-22, 2022- 23 and 2023-24 by program: (a) Targeted Early Intervention (TEI)					
		(b) Brighter Futures	Family				
		(c) Intensive Family Support	Preservation				
		Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion	Program				
		(d)	2021/2022	\$137,492,235	\$12,591,314	9%	3,602 (or 37.2%)
		Permanency Support Program (PSP) (with	2022/2023	\$142,609,966	\$13,435,299	9%	3,695 (or 36.7%)
		breakdowns for Preservation, Restoration and OOHC)	2023/2024	\$154,893,658	\$15,076,823	10%	Not available
			Permanency				
			Support				
			Program				
			2021/2022	\$838,525,866	\$115,883,610	14%	1,363 (20.5%)
			2022/2023	\$1,003,475,104	\$137,819,390	14%	1,361 (20.7%)
			2023/2024	\$1,113,267,556	\$166,805,654	15%	Not available
			Targeted				
			Earlier				
		Intervention					
			2021/2022	\$168,821,192	\$11,683,667	7%	20,212 (or 15.1%)
			2022/2023	\$179,635,122	\$13,786,746	8%	26,091 (or 15.3%)
			2023/2024	\$185,803,234	\$13,450,508	7%	Not available
			* Funding for th	ne 2023/24 financial	year is point in		_
			time and may b	e subject to change.	As at 23 Nov		
			2023. Based on	information in the C	OMS payment		
			system.				

Question Number	Member	Supplementary Question	Answer
297	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Is the Minister prepared to commit to implementing FIC recommendation 11? [Recommendation 11: The NSW Government should amend clause 45 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012 (NSW) and all other related clauses to ensure that only a charitable or non-profit organisation may apply to the Office of the Children's Guardian for accreditation as a designated agency.]	I am considering this matter.
298	Ms Sue Higginson MLC	Please provide a break-down of the number of Aboriginal children in high cost emergency arrangements (HCEAs) by: (a) Age band (b) Type of HCEA (c) Average and median duration of stay in HCEA	I am advised: a) As at 31 October 2023, there were 207 Aboriginal children in High Cost Emergency Arrangements (HCEA). The breakdown for Aboriginal children by age band were: 0-5 years: 12 6-10 years: 72 11-17 years: 123 b) As at 31 October 2023, there were 207 Aboriginal children in HCEAs. The breakdown by type of HCEA were: ACA: 69 ICM: 29 IPA: 89 STEP: 20 c) As at 31 October 2023, there were 207 Aboriginal children in HCEAs. The breakdown by duration of stay were: Average: 198 nights Median: 127 nights *Please note this is preliminary data with minimal ageing provided, therefore data

Attachment SQ 89, 90, 91, 92 - Number of foster carer households during 2020-21, 2021-2022 and 2022-23

District	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Central Coast District	518	524	528
Far West District	19	18	18
Hunter District	1,228	1,294	1,366
Illawarra Shoalhaven District	675	734	767
Mid North Coast District	554	579	582
Murrumbidgee District	517	548	99
Nepean Blue Mountains District	905	957	1,019
New England District	479	471	482
Northern NSW District	758	780	810
Northern Sydney District	151	152	146
South Eastern Sydney District	522	581	607
South Western Sydney District	824	864	918
Southern NSW District	239	250	257
Sydney District	223	232	238
Western NSW District	653	655	1,121
Western Sydney District	308	301	312
Other	382	253	268
Statewide Services District	58	65	71
Total	9,013	9,258	9,609

Notes:

Source: ChildStory - CIW Annual backend extract

^{1.} Other District include Adoptions, former Hunter New England District, former Hunter Central Coast Region, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning and other districts which were unknown or blank.

^{2.} Statewide Services District includes QACI Team (South Western Sydney).

^{3.} The District is derived from Business Unit, which is the managing CSC/CFDU field on Carer Household. District does not reflect foster carer's location.

Attachment SQ 93 and 94: Number of CYP in foster carer households during 2021-2022 and 2022-23

District	2021-22	2022-23
Central Coast District	492	452
Far West District	29	19
Hunter District	1,121	1,083
Illawarra Shoalhaven District	568	552
Mid North Coast District	482	433
Murrumbidgee District	655	178
Nepean Blue Mountains District	970	910
New England District	461	485
Northern NSW District	527	497
Northern Sydney District	134	100
South Eastern Sydney District	483	481
South Western Sydney District	931	909
Southern NSW District	204	169
Sydney District	156	151
Western NSW District	645	1,051
Western Sydney District	293	249
Other	21	32
Statewide Services District	38	44
Total	8,210	7,795

Notes:

- 2. Statewide Services District includes QACI Team (South Western Sydney).
- 3. The District is derived from Business Unit, which is the managing CSC/CFDU field on Carer Household. District does not reflect foster carer's location.

Source: ChildStory - CIW Annual backend extract Supplementary Questions - Attachments

^{1.} Other District include Adoptions, former Hunter New England District, former Hunter Central Coast Region, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning and other districts which were unknown or blank.

Attachment SQ 93 and 94: Number of CYP in foster carer households during 2021-2022 and 2022-23

District	2021-22	2022-23
Central Coast District	492	452
Far West District	29	19
Hunter District	1,121	1,083
Illawarra Shoalhaven District	568	552
Mid North Coast District	482	433
Murrumbidgee District	655	178
Nepean Blue Mountains District	970	910
New England District	461	485
Northern NSW District	527	497
Northern Sydney District	134	100
South Eastern Sydney District	483	481
South Western Sydney District	931	909
Southern NSW District	204	169
Sydney District	156	151
Western NSW District	645	1,051
Western Sydney District	293	249
Other	21	32
Statewide Services District	38	44
Total	8,210	7,795

Notes:

Source: ChildStory - CIW Annual backend extract

^{1.} Other District include Adoptions, former Hunter New England District, former Hunter Central Coast Region, Strategy, Policy and Commissioning and other districts which were unknown or blank.

^{2.} Statewide Services District includes QACI Team (South Western Sydney).

^{3.} The District is derived from Business Unit, which is the managing CSC/CFDU field on Carer Household. District does not reflect foster carer's location.

Attachment SQ 286 - Table 2: Children and young people who exited out-of-home care and restored to their parents by legal order type and Aboriginality, 2021-22 and 2022-23

		2021-22			2022-23			
Legal order type	Aboriginal CYP	Non- Aboriginal CYP	All CYP	Aboriginal CYP	Non- Aboriginal CYP	All CYP		
Final	106	165	271	107	155	262		
Interim Temporary care	12	37	49	16	46	62		
arrangements	33	55	88	33	44	77		
Unknown	6	8	14	8	8	16		
Total	157	265	422	164	253	417		

Notes:

^{1.} Non-Aboriginal CYP include CYP whose Aboriginality status is "Not stated".

^{2.} Temporary care arrangements include CYP on legal order "Removal S43(1)".

Attachment QTON 78 and SQ 286 - Children and young people who exited out-of-home care and restored to their parents by legal order type and Aboriginality, 2021-22 and 2022-23

	2021-22			2022-23		
Legal order type	Aboriginal CYP	All CYP	Aboriginal CYP	Non- Aboriginal CYP	All CYP	
Final	106	165	271	107	155	262
Interim	12	37	49	16	46	62
Temporary care arrangements	33	55	88	33	44	77
Unknown	6	8	14	8	8	16
Total	157	265	422	164	253	417

Notes:

- 1. Non-Aboriginal CYP include CYP whose Aboriginality status is "Not stated".
- 2. Temporary care arrangements include CYP on legal order "Removal S43(1)".