



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 5 – JUSTICE AND COMMUNITIES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2025-2026**

### **Supplementary questions**

Portfolio Committee No. 5 – Justice and Communities

**Families and Communities, Disability Inclusion**  
**(Washington)**

Hearing: Tuesday 19 August 2025

**Answers due by: 5.00 pm Monday 15 September 2025**

**Budget Estimates secretariat**  
Phone (02) 9230 2991  
[BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:BudgetEstimates@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2025-2026**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

|                                            |
|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Questions from Ms Sue Higginson MLC</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|

#### **FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES**

##### **Portable Long Service Leave**

- (1) Estimates project that the levy for the new Portable Long Service Leave scheme will cost the community services sector an additional \$84 million each year.
  - (a) Has the Government provided any funding to contribute to this new cost?
  - (b) Is the Government concerned that impacted organisations may need to cut service levels in response?
  - (c) What steps will the Minister take to support impacted organisations in her portfolio in covering costs for this new levy?

##### **Out of Home Care**

- (2) How many non-government out of home care providers are currently operating in NSW?
  - (a) How many were identified as having non-compliance issues as a result of the system review process?
  - (b) How many instances of non compliance related to financial issues?
  - (c) How many instances of non compliance related to child protection issues?
  - (d) How many were subject to further audit following the system review?
  - (e) How many were subject to financial audit?
  - (f) How many financial audits produced results inconsistent with the Government's expectations?

##### **Residential care arrangements**

- (3) How many reports has the Government received of young people in residential care facilities who are vulnerable to ongoing sexual abuse in the financial year:
  - (a) 2024/25?
  - (b) 2023/24?

- (c) 2022/23?
  - (d) 2021/22?
  - (e) 2020/21?
  - (f) 2019/20?
  - (g) 2018/19?
  - (h) 2017/18?
- (4) How many reports has the Government received of young people in residential care facilities who are vulnerable to drug abuse?
- (a) 2024/25?
  - (b) 2023/24?
  - (c) 2022/23?
  - (d) 2021/22?
  - (e) 2020/21?
  - (f) 2019/20?
  - (g) 2018/19?
  - (h) 2017/18?

### **Tomaree Lodge**

- (5) The 2025-26 NSW budget includes \$8.5 million to "fund disability initiatives and upgrade government-owned disability properties." We understand this includes critical upgrades to Tomaree Lodge. What are the other specific disability initiatives that will be funded under this allocation?

### **Midjumbirri Youth Service**

- (6) What steps has the Minister taken to ensure recurrent funding for the Midjumbirri Youth Service in Marrickville?
- (a) Has there been an increase in funding for Midjumbirri since amalgamation? If not, why?
  - (b) What steps does the government take to support services who transition to become ACCOs?

## **Early Intervention and Family Preservation / ROSH**

- (7) Given the overwhelming need for Family Preservation programs, and the system imperative to reduce demand for out of home care, why has the Government chosen not to increase the quantum of funding to Family Preservation programs in New South Wales?
  - (a) What is the number of Family Preservation places available to NSW families before and after recommissioning?
- (8) What was the total number of Family Preservation places available in New South Wales, overall in:
  - (a) 2022-23?
  - (b) 2023-24?
  - (c) 2024-25?
- (9) What was the total number of Family Preservation places available in New South Wales in each DCJ district:
  - (a) 2022-23?
  - (b) 2023-24?
  - (c) 2024-25?
- (10) For each District, in what proportion of cases where a child has been identified as being at risk of significant harm (ROSH), have families been referred to Family Preservations Services?
  - (a) For each District, what is the average time between a ROSH report being received, and the families being referred to Family Preservation Services?
- (11) Has the Risk of Significant Harm threshold changed?
  - (a) If yes, can the Minister provide a breakdown of which categories have changed and why?
  - (b) If no, are there any plans to lower the threshold for ROSH?
- (12) How many kids between the ages of 14 to 16 who have been reported as ROSH, are not in secure homes (couch surfing)?
  - (a) How many of these kids do not have active case work securing housing and appropriate support?

- (b) How many kids are in refuges and not allocated to a case worker actively locating permanent housing options?

### **Community Referral Cap**

- (13) What is the government's rationale for capping community referrals into Family Preservation programs at 10%, despite strong stakeholder recommendations that this would lead to delays in providing support to families with a child at risk of significant harm?
  - (a) DCJ's Finalising the Family Preservation foundational elements paper makes a commitment to "explore approaches to trial higher rates of community referrals in a small number of locations to build an evidence base and better understand whether an increased proportion of community referrals reduces the number of children and young people entering out of home care". How will stakeholders be consulted about the development of the trial, and when will it be implemented?
- (14) Does the government agree it has a cultural issue in the caseworkers in that some CSCs just do not make referrals? What is the Minister doing to rectify this?

### **Implementation**

- (15) DCJ's Funding Approach paper for Family Preservation services notes that \$5.6 million per annum will be held back by the department for implementation. What is the current status and intended use of the Family Preservation implementation funding?
  - (a) When will detailed plans be released?
- (16) The funding approach paper for Family Preservation programs notes that services will receive an additional CALD cultural loading when working with some families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and earmarks funding for an advisory service.
  - (a) How will stakeholders be consulted about the development of the CALD advisory service, and when will it be implemented?

### **Child Protection Helpline**

- (17) How many reports are yet to be processed at the Helpline and are in the 'backlog'?
  - (a) What is the oldest report yet to be assessed?
- (18) Are you worried that there are children waiting to be assessed at the Helpline that may die without ever seeing a caseworker?

- (19) How many reports that met the JCPR criteria resulted in criminal proceedings and ultimately convictions?
- (20) In the past 29 months how many children have been left in Police Stations overnight because the Helpline afterhours team did not respond?
  - (a) How old were these children and how did this happen?
  - (b) Did the children sleep in the cells?
  - (c) At which police stations did this occur?

### **Face-to-face assessments in OOHC**

- (21) Of children entered in the OOHC system, how many children received a face-to-face assessment?
  - (a) Are there any CSCs that did not complete any face-to-face assessments in June, May or April 2025?
  - (b) If so, which CSCs?
- (22) How many children entered care before a safety assessment was completed?
- (23) How many children entered care in total during:
  - (a) 2024-25?
  - (b) 2023-24?
  - (c) 2022-23?
  - (d) 2021-22?
  - (e) 2020-21?

### **High-Cost Emergency Arrangements**

- (24) How many children have transitioned from Alternative Care Arrangements (ACA) to Individualised Placement Arrangements (IPA) arrangements rather than into stable long-term placements?
  - (a) Of those in IPA, how many are placed with for-profit providers?
  - (b) How many for-profit providers are there delivering IPAs?
  - (c) How many for-profit providers are also providing housing supply to DCJ?

### **Intensive Therapeutic Transitional Care**

- (25) Over the last 5 years, how many children in the OOHC system have accessed Intensive Therapeutic Transitional Care (ITTC)?
- (26) Is the Government exploring any alternatives to ITTC given DCJ has acknowledged there is an undersupply of residential care in some locations, particularly for children and young people with a disability?
- (27) What are the implications for emergency care capacity for high needs children and young people with very complex needs and behaviours who cannot access ITTC?
- (28) How does the unit price for Intensive Therapeutic Care (ITC) in NSW compare to similar services in states like Victoria?

### **Government-run residential care**

- (29) How will the government-run residential care model be staffed given there are no Award provisions for DCJ to be able to pay direct care residential staff?
  - (a) How does the staffing differ from ACA arrangements with contracted staff?
- (30) How will outcomes and economic efficiency be measured/evaluated in these departmentally operated house models?
- (31) How many children absconded from the Sherwood program in the last financial year?
  - (a) What are you doing to prevent this from occurring?
- (32) Does the government engage contract providers who have the same qualifications as required by NGO's, Diploma in youth work, Therapeutic Specialists?
- (33) Can the government provider describe the model they have implemented before providing services?

### **State Peaks Program**

- (34) What is the Government's future funding intention for the State Peaks Program?
  - (a) With the reform agenda underway, how does the government intend to coordinate and implement with the sector?
  - (b) Will there be an increased role for peaks in supporting implementation, what form will this take and how will it be resourced?

- (c) Does the Government have a view that there should be a consolidation or fewer number of Peaks?

### **20% Carer Allowance Increase**

- (35) Can the Minister confirm whether all carers will receive the full 20% increase on top of their actual current allowance?
  - (a) Is it the case that some carers will not receive an increase in the allowance they receive?
- (36) Why did the government not wait for the recommendations of the IPART report before adjusting carer allowance levels?
  - (a) When will the final IPART report on Out-of-Home Care Costs and Pricing be publicly released?
- (37) Of the newly announced caseworker positions, how many are new roles rather than refilled vacancies?
- (38) Why were casework specialist roles deleted, and how will this impact service quality?
- (39) How many caseworkers left are in the first year of their tenure?
- (40) How many caseworkers are on Workers Compensation?
  - (a) How many caseworkers are on Workers Compensation for psychological injury?
  - (b) Is the Minister concerned that the Government's proposed Workers Compensation reforms will negatively impact the ability of caseworkers to manage traumatic elements of the work they do?

### **ACCOS**

- (41) Can the Minister confirm what percentage of the Department's budget is currently allocated to Aboriginal community-controlled organisations (ACCOS), compared with non-Indigenous service providers?
- (42) How is the Department ensuring long-term, core funding security for ACCOs, in line with Recommendation Three of the Closing the Gap Jumbunna Indigenous-led Review?
- (43) What steps is the Department taking to shift from short-term, competitive tendering to direct investment models for Aboriginal community-controlled services?
- (44) Given new Aboriginal community-controlled organisations (ACCOS) are being funded, what budget allocation has been made for workforce training and capacity building?

- (45) Has the number of Aboriginal children entering care increased? What are you doing to keep Aboriginal children safe with their families?
- (46) What are the government's plans to support families currently working with non-Aboriginal providers who may transition to Family Preservation programs run by ACCOs under the 40% target?
- (a) Which government and non-government workforces will be targeted for
  - (b) implementation and what support will they be provided to implement the framework?
- (47) What investments will be made to support Family Preservation beyond already allocated funds, especially in non-ACCO areas?
- (48) What are the reasons why more than 200 Aboriginal children have transferred from ACCOs back to DCJ? Is this not a 'reverse transition'?
- (a) How many children in the OOHHC system has transferred from ACCOs back to DCJ in:
    - i. 2025?
    - ii. 2024?
    - iii. 2023?
    - iv. 2022?
    - v. 2021?
    - vi. 2020?
  - (b) Over the last 12 months, in how many cases did an ACCO request a transfer of a First Nations child back to DCJ?
  - (c) Over the last 12 months, in how many cases did DCJ request the transfer of a child from an ACCO to DCJ?
  - (d) Over the last 12 months, in how many cases did a First Nations child transferred from an ACCO end up with a non-government provider?
- (49) How many ACCOs have accreditation conditions placed on them meaning they cannot accept transfers from NGOs?
- (50) What specific outcome measures are being used to determine the success of current reforms in child protection and OOHHC?

- (51) Why has the Common Approach to Risk Assessment and Safety (CARAS) been delayed?
- (52) How is the Department supporting ACCOs to access and govern child protection and family support data relevant to Aboriginal children and families, in line with Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles?
- (53) Has the Department committed resources or partnered with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations to develop culturally governed monitoring and evaluation frameworks for Closing the Gap targets?

### **DCJ Accreditation**

- (54) How many DCJ districts are accredited by the OCG?
  - (a) How many districts have accreditation conditions placed on them?
- (55) How many districts have an OCG performance improvement plan?
- (56) Why is it that some districts cannot even meet the most basic of minimum standards? How can you consider delivering more OOHC when you can't meet the standards? Is this not a recipe for disaster?
- (57) What evidence of change in the Department has taken place that will avoid another Wood Special Inquiry?

### **DCJ Culture**

- (58) Given the increased workload on DCJ staff, what steps have you taken to ensure a safe workplace culture at DCJ?
- (59) Given multiple staff reports of bullying, harassment and unfair termination, will you commit to an external and independent review of the workplace culture at DCJ?

### **Family is Culture Report**

- (60) Could the Minister please provide an update on the implementation of the Family is Culture Report, specifically which recommendations have changed in status since the February 2024 progress update?
- (61) Of the 126 recommendations, how many remain “not supported” by this Government?
  - (a) Could the Minister please list each of the recommendations that have the status of “not supported”?

- (62) How many of the recommendations have been addressed by the funding allocation in this year's budget?
- (63) Will the Minister commit to annual reporting on these recommendations?
- (64) What is the Minister doing to ensure greater transparency with regard to the 3000+ case-specific recommendations of the Family is Culture Review Report?
- (a) What mechanism is DCJ using to track the 3000+ specific cases?
  - (b) How many of the cases have been resolved?
- (65) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should amend clause 45 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012 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." The NSW Liberal National Government failed to support this recommendation - will the Minister reverse this decision and support this recommendation?
- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (66) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should amend the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 and the Adoption Act 2000 to ensure that adoption is not an option for Aboriginal children in OOHC." The NSW Liberal National Government failed to support this recommendation - will the Minister reverse this decision and support this recommendation?
- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (67) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should amend the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Regulation 2012 to ensure that the Office of the Children's Guardian does not have the power to accredit agencies that have not demonstrated compliance with the accreditation criteria." The NSW Liberal National Government failed to support this recommendation - will the Minister reverse this decision and support this recommendation?
- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (68) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should establish a new, independent Child Protection Commission. The Commission should be required by legislation to operate openly and transparently." The NSW Liberal National

Government failed to support this recommendation - will the Minister reverse this decision and support this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

(69) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The Children's Court of NSW should be appropriately resourced to enable it to publish all its final judgments online in a de-identified and searchable form." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

(70) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should amend the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW) to mandate the provision of support services to Aboriginal families to prevent the entry of Aboriginal children into OOHC." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

(71) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should, in partnership with Aboriginal communities and stakeholders, introduce a system of qualitative file reviews modelled on the Quality Case Review and Quality Service Review systems that have been implemented in some states of the United States of America, with the introduction of the additional component of a Family Group Conference." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

(72) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ establish a notification service, similar to the NSW Custody Notification Service, to notify a relevant Aboriginal community body about the removal of an Aboriginal child or young person from their family, providing a timely opportunity for review, oversight, and advocacy on behalf of Aboriginal families and communities in the best interests of Aboriginal children and young people." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

(73) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should work with the First Peoples Disability Network Australia, People with Disability Australia, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and Aboriginal community and stakeholders to develop a plan of action to improve disability identification, practice competence, and

pathways to specialist disability service involvement within DCJ for children and families at all stages of the child protection system—from early intervention support through to entry into care, restoration and post entry into care casework." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

- (74) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should, in partnership with the First Peoples Disability Network Australia, People with Disability Australia, Aboriginal community and stakeholders, implement a strategy for early intervention and prevention work specifically targeted towards early identification and responses to the needs of Aboriginal parents and children with disability who come into contact with the child protection system." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

- (75) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should design and implement, in partnership with Aboriginal community groups and representatives, a system of post-removal support for Aboriginal mothers and fathers who have had newborn or infant children removed from their care. The system should include the mandatory provision of information to parents about their ability to seek post-removal support from the Secretary of DCJ under s 21 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

- (76) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should revise its mandate on Temporary Care Arrangements to ensure that the ability of a parent to terminate a Temporary Care Arrangement is not used to deter its use." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

(a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?

- (77) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "The NSW Government should establish a Child Protection Advocacy Program to train and support a state-wide network of specialist child protection advocates to give advice to, and advocate for, families who are involved in the child protection system. This program should be akin to the Tenant's Advice and Advocacy Program currently resourced by Fair Trading NSW. This program should be informed also by the advocacy method that GMAR NSW have been performing unofficially." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?

- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (78) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should develop policy guidance for caseworkers that addresses the desirability of promoting regular contact between Aboriginal children and their family, kin, and community; how to promote this contact in practice; and when supervision is necessary in contact arrangements." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?
- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (79) The Family is Culture Review Report recommends that "DCJ should review and update the restoration information that is publicly available on its website in line with issues raised in this report. The Department should also provide online information to improve guidance for parents in relation to restoration practices and processes and further information about what parents can do when restoration is not deemed to be a 'realistic possibility'." What steps has the Minister taken to meet this recommendation?
- (a) Will this recommendation be adopted by the end of the government's term?
- (80) What is the projected commencement and completion date for the comprehensive review of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998?
- (a) How will the Government ensure that urgent recommendations from the Family is Culture Report are not delayed for years pending the review's finalisation?
- (b) Will the Government commit to introducing interim legislative amendments in this term of Parliament to address the most pressing reforms affecting Aboriginal children?
- (81) Can you confirm that the terms of reference for the Care Act review will explicitly include consideration of all outstanding Family is Culture recommendations, including those previously rejected or deferred?
- (82) How will the Government ensure that the review does not narrow or water down the intent of Professor Megan Davis's recommendations?
- (a) Will the review be co-designed and co-led with Aboriginal community-controlled peaks such as AbSec and the ALS, with equal decision-making authority as required under Priority Reform One of the Closing the Gap Agreement?
- (83) What mechanisms will be in place to ensure Aboriginal community voices—including lived experience – have authority in drafting legislative proposals before they are tabled in Parliament?

- (84) What budget allocation has been set aside to fund Aboriginal-led governance and consultation for the review process?
- (85) Will funding be ring-fenced for regional, remote, and linguistically diverse engagement to ensure the review process is genuinely inclusive?
- (86) How will the Government transparently report on expenditure linked to Aboriginal-led elements of the Care Act review?
- (87) Given the continuing high rates of Aboriginal child removals, what risk mitigation strategies will be in place during the review period to prevent further avoidable removals?
- (88) Will the Government publish quarterly progress updates on the review to ensure accountability to Aboriginal communities and the public?

### **Aboriginal Community Controlled Mechanisms**

- (89) How many ACCMs have been established before November 2024?
- (90) How many ACCMs have been established since November 2024?
- (91) Is there a formalised process for the establishment of ACCMs through DCJ?
- (92) The Jumbunna Review highlights significant underperformance by local governments in implementing Closing the Gap reforms. Could this present an opportunity to consider support for locally-led initiatives, such as ACCMs, in ensuring child and family services meet their Closing the Gap obligations?
- (93) What funding or capability-building programs are currently available specifically for local government partners or community-led initiatives working with Aboriginal children and families?
- (94) Are there dedicated resources or programs to support the development and scaling of ACCMs as a model for delivering child and family services at the local level?
- (95) How is the Department engaging with Aboriginal communities to ensure ACCMs have the necessary support, funding, and governance capacity to meet Closing the Gap targets?e. Does the Department have a plan to evaluate and learn from ACCMs that are successfully improving outcomes for Aboriginal children and families, and to expand these models where appropriate?

### **Alternative Dispute Resolution System**

(96) Does the DCJ track the number of instances where ADRs are offered to families involved in care and protection matters?

(a) If so, in how many instances were ADRs offered to families by the Children's Court in:

- i. 2018?
- ii. 2019?
- iii. 2020?
- iv. 2021?
- v. 2022?
- vi. 2023?
- vii. 2024?
- viii. 2025?

(b) If so, in how many instances were ADRs not offered to families by the Children's Court in:

- i. 2018?
- ii. 2019?
- iii. 2020?
- iv. 2021?
- v. 2022?
- vi. 2023?
- vii. 2024?
- viii. 2025?

(c) If so, in how many instances were ADRs offered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families by the Children's Court in:

- i. 2018?
- ii. 2019?
- iii. 2020?

- iv. 2021?
- v. 2022?
- vi. 2023?
- vii. 2024?
- viii. 2025?

(d) If so, in how many instances were ADRs not offered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families by the Children's Court in:

- i. 2018?
- ii. 2019?
- iii. 2020?
- iv. 2021?
- v. 2022?
- vi. 2023?
- vii. 2024?
- viii. 2025?

(e) If not, will the Minister commit to commencing a process that would track this process within the courts and publicly report on these statistics periodically?

- i. Will the Minister ensure this process keeps track of the outcomes specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families?

### **Shared Decision-Making and Cultural Governance**

- (97) The Productivity Commission report in 2024 talked about the shifting of power as part of the transformation of government. What formal mechanisms are in place to share decision-making – the kind that requires power shifting – with AbSec and other Aboriginal peaks on child and family policy and funding decisions?
- (98) How is the Department measuring the effectiveness of shared decision-making structures, and are there KPIs for Departmental leaders responsible for partnership work in place linked to Closing the Gap Priority Reform 1?

- (99) Has the Department conducted any internal review of its governance processes to ensure they align with cultural governance principles recommended in the Jumbunna Independent Review (Recommendation 5a, p. 15)?
- (100) Given the Independent Review’s finding that “governments have yet to commence any genuine transformative work” (p. 8), what specific initiatives or reforms is the Department undertaking to address systemic racism within child protection services?
- (101) Has the Department established dedicated targets or benchmarks for reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care, and how do these align with Closing the Gap Outcome 12?
- (102) What resourcing has been allocated within the Department to build Aboriginal cultural capability and address the “cultural load” identified in Recommendation 2b (p. 12) of the Review?
- (103) How has the Department considered shifting or sharing power with Aboriginal people and organisations in order for them to truly participate in decision-making regarding their children?
- (104) Under section 11 of the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998, the Minister can negotiate and agree with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to the implementation of programs and strategies that promote self-determination? Can you outline when you have done this in the last 12 months and how those programs and strategies promoted self-determination?

## **AARC**

- (105) Where are we at with the Minister’s commitment to the Aboriginal Authority for Restoring Children?
- (106) How many Aboriginal children in OOHC have a case plan goal of restoration?
- (107) How many Aboriginal children exited care by way of restoration?
- (108) Can you update on the status of AARC, including in relation to any business case for ongoing funding?
- (109) What commitment has your government actually made to AARC in financial terms?
- (110) Are you still committed to the AARC?

- (111) Given the repeated failures identified by recent CTG reviews to close the gap in the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in OOHC, why hasn't the NSW Government publicly committed to the AARC as a form of Aboriginal-led restoration? Isn't it time to do things differently?
- (112) How many DCJ-led restoration teams currently exist?
- (a) How much funding is going to DCJ-led restoration initiatives?
  - (b) How many of those DCJ-led restoration teams have been set up within the last 12 months?
  - (c) How many staff are working on DCJ-led restoration taskforces, and how many of those staff are Aboriginal and in identified positions?
  - (d) How do the DCJ-led restoration taskforces align with the Govt's CTG commitments to work in genuine partnership and transform?
  - (e) How can you argue that DCJ is improving restoration practices, when the rates of restoration continue to drop each year?

### **Budget Allocation for Child Protection**

- (113) The NSW Government has announced a \$1.2 billion Child Protection Package in the 2025-26 budget, including \$800 million for "supporting children ... in OOHC".
- (a) How much of this \$1.2 billion is new money (rather than overspend)?
  - (b) How much of the \$1.2 billion is going to restoration?
  - (c) How much of the \$1.2 billion is going to early intervention and support services that are co-designed with the community and intended to keep Aboriginal children at home and within their communities?
- (114) How much is going towards the Aboriginal Authority for Restoring Children?

### **Structure Decision Making Tool**

- (115) Will the Minister commit to a review of the case files of all Aboriginal children who were removed during the usage of the Structured Decision-Making tools?
- (116) Did the usage of the Structured Decision-Making tool resulted in removal of children from mothers who have been victimised by partners who used violence? How does the Government plan to address this?

- (117) Since the removal of the Structured Decision Making (SDM) tool, how many Aboriginal children have entered care compared to similar prior periods?

### **Contract Variations**

- (118) DCJ's decision-making process can be time-intensive and opaque, will introducing a requirement for DCJ approval of purchases over \$10,000 – or \$2,000 in bulk – be workable?
- (119) As of July 2025, key purchasing approval processes had not been finalised, creating unreasonable obligations that risk service delivery and child wellbeing. This approach contradicts Closing the Gap Priority Reforms 1 and 3 and imposes administrative burdens, given that most ACCOs allow CEOs to approve up to \$50,000. The IPART draft report confirms DCJ's frequent delays, with decisions sometimes taking months. Why should it be acceptable to demand that NGOs and ACCOs sign contract variations when some procedures relevant to those variations are not known, finalised or in some cases even developed?
- (120) If the purpose of the mooted approval process is solely to enhance transparency, would the Government consider having the NGO and ACCO sector provide more regular reports on asset purchases as an alternative?
- (121) If the contract variations proceed and some NGOs and ACCOs are forced to exit the provision of OOHC, DCJ will inherit the case management of hundreds if not thousands of children, close to half of which are Aboriginal. What contingency arrangements does DCJ have in place to assume case management responsibility for all these children?
- (122) Can the Minister explain how the scale and complexity of reabsorbing these cases will somehow not place DCJ's own accreditation at risk?
- (123) Why does the Minister think DCJ is better at caring for Aboriginal children than ACCOs, notwithstanding that multiple inquiries and Royal Commissions have found that DCJ does not provide culturally appropriate care for Aboriginal children?
- (124) Why is the Minister demanding that NGOs and ACCOs implement poor governance and financial management processes, such as limiting rollover for any uncommitted expenditure to 2%?

### **Cultural Identification**

- (125) What is the current DCJ policy in relation to de-identification of Aboriginal children and young people?

- (126) What is the current process for changing the cultural status of an Aboriginal child on the DCJ ChildStory system?
- (127) What is the progress on finalising DCJ's new Identification Policy for recording and changing Aboriginal cultural status?
- (128) Has DCJ consulted with Stolen Generations organisations regarding this Identification Policy?
- (129) How many children have had their cultural status changed from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander to another status since January 2024?
- (130) Are there measurable impacts (social, emotional, psychological) from changes to cultural status, especially where children or families continue to self-identify as Aboriginal?

### **Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership**

- (131) How many times have you met with the Ministerial Aboriginal Partnership Group (MAP) members?
- (132) What are the reform priorities identified by MAP Group members and agreed with your office as priorities?
- (133) The MAP Group uses "partnership" in its name – how do you interpret this distinction from "advisory"? How are you ensuring genuine partnership in practice?

### **Reinvestment and Funding Reform**

- (134) What steps have been taken to develop the reinvestment plan recommended by the System Review and the 2016 Tune Report (including the proposed NSW Family Investment Commission)?
- (135) How does the IPART Interim Report (and final report, expected in July 2025) integrate with the above recommendations?
- (136) Have you considered whether any of the recent OOHHC budget announcements might be impacted by the IPART final report?
- (137) There are a number of reports now received by the NSW Government that demonstrate that the money DCJ is spending in OOHHC is not resulting in the needs of Aboriginal children being met – when will DCJ move that money to where it is better invested and could make immediate impacts?

(138) Your TEI update states the Minister intends to double ACCO investment from the 7.2% reported in August 2023. What is the projected (or actual) amount and % of total funding to be allocated to:

- (a) Targeted Early Intervention (TEI)?
- (b) Family Connect and Support (FCS)?
- (c) Family Preservation?

### **Guardianship Orders**

(139) Could the Department provide annual data for the 5-year period commencing 2020-21 through to 2024-25 the number of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children who exited OOHC by being restored home and the number who exited to Guardianship.

(140) How many Aboriginal children exited OOHC to be restored home in:

- (a) 2020-21?
- (b) 2021-22?
- (c) 2022-23?
- (d) 2023-24?
- (e) 2024-25?

(141) How many Aboriginal children exited OOHC to guardianship in:

- (a) 2020-21?
- (b) 2021-22?
- (c) 2022-23?
- (d) 2023-24?
- (e) 2024-25?

(142) How many non-Aboriginal children exited OOHC to be restored home in:

- (a) 2020-21?
- (b) 2021-22?
- (c) 2022-23?
- (d) 2023-24?

(e) 2024-25?

(143) How many non-Aboriginal children exited OOHC to guardianship in:

(a) 2020-21?

(b) 2021-22?

(c) 2022-23?

(d) 2023-24?

(e) 2024-25?

(144) For Guardianship Orders made for Aboriginal children or young people, what is the number and proportion of Aboriginal children and young people who have Aboriginal Guardians versus non-Aboriginal Guardians as of:

(a) 2020-21?

(b) 2021-22?

(c) 2022-23?

(d) 2023-24?

(e) 2024-25?

(145) Where Guardianship Orders saw an Aboriginal child or young people placed with a non-Aboriginal Guardian, on how many occasions did the NSW Children's Court make an Order for Contact with a member of members of the child or young person's aboriginal family in conjunction with the Guardianship Order in:

(a) 2020-21?

(b) 2021-22?

(c) 2022-23?

(d) 2023-24?

(e) 2024-25?

## **DISABILITY INCLUSION**

### **Aboriginal Disability Data**

(146) What funding has been allocated since 2019 to:

- (a) Improve disability data collection in DCJ systems?
  - (b) Accurately identify and record disability status for Aboriginal families?
- (147) Does the Department currently publish any data on the prevalence of disability among Aboriginal children or parents in OOHC? If not, when will this commence?
- (148) What investment has been made to improve disability-informed and culturally safe practice among DCJ caseworkers, particularly for Aboriginal parents with intellectual disability?
- (149) How many Aboriginal families with disability have received supported accommodation, practical parenting support, or coordinated NDIS-linked early intervention?
- (150) What funding has been allocated to:
- (a) Improve disability referral pathways in child protection?
  - (b) Ensure Aboriginal families in contact with DCJ are supported to access NDIS services?
- (151) Has the NSW Government committed to implementing Recommendation 9.1 of the Disability Royal Commission concerning culturally appropriate parenting capacity assessments for First Nations parents with disability?
- (a) What steps have been taken to progress this recommendation?
- (152) What funding, if any, has been allocated to support the co-design of culturally and disability-appropriate parenting capacity assessments with First Nations stakeholders?
- (a) Which First Nations peak bodies, or representatives have been engaged in the co-design of culturally appropriate parenting capacity assessment guidelines?
  - (b) What mechanisms are in place to ensure this engagement is ongoing and equitable?
- (153) Will the NSW Government introduce a legislative or policy requirement that all practitioners conducting these assessments must undertake mandatory cultural competence training, as recommended?
- (a) If not, why not?
- (154) How will the NSW Government ensure consistency in the implementation of these guidelines across NSW, particularly in remote or regional areas with limited access to culturally safe practitioners?

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Questions from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

**Questions to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner**

- (155) Can you explain what you requested in your budget bid ahead of the 2025-26 NSW Budget?
- (a) Did the Minister engage with the Commission regarding this?
- (156) Can you explain the gap in the current funding following the latest budget, compared to what was requested to meet minimum demand and fulfill statutory requirements, as well as what is actually needed to comprehensively carry out duties?
- (157) I understand from the disability community and peak bodies that there is a level of fear, confusion and distress about adults with disability losing vital supports following recent NDIS eligibility changes, resulting in concerning outcomes. Is this something the Commission is aware of or is looking into?
- (158) How many total reports relating to coercive control has the Commission received?
- (159) Lack of available and affordable housing that is accessible is regularly noted as one of the biggest concerns people with disability are facing right now, which is leading to people being forced into homelessness, living in a home that is not accessible, or living in an unsafe or dangerous situation. Can you advise the number of reports or calls received relating to this?
- (160) One of the Commission's legislated functions is to advise, and make recommendations to, the Minister. Since establishment, how many times has the Commission provided advice or recommendations to the Minister, and in relation to what?
- (161) How do you monitor whether the government acts in response to recommendations made?

**Foundational supports**

- (162) What is the government's timeline for consulting and designing foundational supports?
- (a) Once the budget for NSW is known, will there be further community consultations around the practical design of foundational supports?
- (b) How does the government plan to ensure foundational supports are fit for purpose for all people with disabilities (beyond the initial 0-9 cohort)?
- (163) Is the NSW Government conducting any kind of needs-based analysis of people with disabilities in NSW being removed from the NDIS, to catch those who are falling through the cracks?

## **Thriving Kids**

- (164) Was the Minister consulted about the Thriving Kids proposal ahead of the Federal government's announcement this week?
- (165) Can you please provide any further information or details about the proposal?
- (166) How will Thriving Kids interact with the NSW government's current work designing and developing foundational supports?
- (167) As Minister for Disability Inclusion, what have you done since the announcement was made to get clarity on the proposal from the Federal government?

## **Questions to Minister Washington**

- (168) Were you involved in the government response to the PC3 inquiry into the experiences of children and young people with disability in education settings?
- (a) Were you briefed as Minister for Disability Inclusion?
- (b) Do you support the idea of an independent oversight body, to advocate for children with disability and their families in the education system?
- (169) For each financial year since it was established, how much funding has DCJ provided to the Ageing and Disability Commissioner to fill the funding gap needed to fulfil its statutory duties?
- (170) What is the government doing to raise awareness across local councils about accessibility and universal design?
- (171) When will a Federation Funding Agreement (FFA) be signed with the commonwealth regarding the \$17.1 million Commonwealth Accessible Australia initiative (Accessible Australia) announced in February 2025?
- (172) Many of the recommendations from the federal inquiry into family violence orders were directed at both the commonwealth and state governments, and throughout the report there were many findings and comments of concern about gaps in state processes and systems. Which Minister has responsibility for this?
- (a) Has the NSW government met with the commonwealth yet about these cross-jurisdictional issues following the report's publication in February?
- (b) Is there any action underway to address the gaps identified at a state level?

- (173) On 12 February 2025, the NSW Legislative Council passed my motion relating to the National Autism Strategy, which called on the government to “commit to developing a statewide plan for improving outcomes for the autistic community across health, education and employment, as well as diagnosis, services and support systems, that is neuro-affirming, human rights based and co-designed with autistic people.” Has the government made any progress on developing a statewide plan?
- (174) I understand the new NSW DIAP is due in November 2025, and that all agencies and departments are due to deliver their new plans within the 6 months ahead of this. Have all departments and agencies done so?
- (a) How are you ensuring this is more meaningful for all people with disability, for example things like ensuring inclusive employment targets and actions include people with intellectual disability?
- (175) An essential part of individual emergency planning for people with disability is early evacuation, however our current systems are not set up to provide early warnings, open evacuation centers early, nor to provide accessible transport in most of rural and regional NSW to evacuate. Will the government commit to working with people with disability and their representative groups on these and other issues to make planning for and responding to emergencies more accessible and inclusive?
- (a) Is there any work underway between DCJ and other government agencies to improve emergency planning?
- (176) Does the Minister or DCJ have any involvement in or oversight of ensuring assistance animals are considered in biosecurity and disease control?
- (a) Australia is preparing for the arrival of a new H5N1 variant via migratory birds that we have seen jump species in the northern hemisphere. Are you aware if plans for zoonotic disease control in NSW take into account the needs, numbers and variety of species that serve as assistance animals in NSW?
- (b) Has the government planned to count the numbers and species of assistance animals in service in NSW?
- (177) I understand the government intended to hold stakeholder roundtables to inform further advice on the proposed restrictive practices framework in the first half of 2025. How many roundtables have been held so far?
- (a) Who attended these?

- (b) Will any further roundtables be held?
- (c) The NSW Council for Intellectual Disability has proposed that key aspects of the development of a legislative model in relation to restrictive practices in NSW should be informed by a working group, similar to the approach used in relation to guardianship reform recommendations, which the Ageing and Disability Commission supported. Will the government commit to establishing such a working group?

### **NSW inquiry into Child protection and social services system**

- (178) In the government's response to recommendation 8 of the NSW inquiry into Child protection and social services system, it indicated that DCJ is undertaking a quality service review to consider how best to capture and assess concerns about domestic and family violence in existing decision-making tools. What is the status of this?
  - (a) When will it be completed?
  - (b) Will the findings be made public?
  - (c) The inquiry found that crucial information about FVOs and breaches is not being shared between police in different jurisdictions, and family law court orders are not being routinely shared with police. Will the government take action to address this?
- (179) The government supported recommendation 12 of the NSW inquiry into Child protection and social services system, which was "that the NSW Government consult with the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and advocate for improvements to the mandated training for legal professionals working with children in the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia, including mandatory and comprehensive training in child abuse and family violence and managing family law matters that involve child abuse and family violence." What is the status of this work?
- (180) The inquiry found that children and young people are not being provided the opportunity to be heard, in their own words, in court proceedings where significant decisions are often made for them. What are the barriers to DCJ introducing new tools for children to record their own experiences in a form that can be presented in both state children's and federal family law courts?
  - (a) Has DCJ begun any work liaising with the Advocate for Children and Young People or the Children's Court on the adequacy of current tools to support hearing children's perspectives through court proceedings?

(181) In relation to recommendation 14, can you explain how the government is closely monitoring reforms that are underway at a federal level?

(a) What is the status of this?

(182) Commonwealth funding is expiring this year for the pilot co-locating specialist staff at family court registries in NSW. Is this funding being extended by the Commonwealth?

(a) If not, what will happen to the pilot?

(b) Will the NSW government provide any funding to continue or expand the pilot, given its success?

(c) How much funding does the NSW Government provide in supplementary funding related to the Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence National Partnership Agreement to support implementation of the National Framework?

### **Government owned disability properties**

(183) Can you please break down the allocation of \$3.9 million over two years to audit and upgrade existing government owned disability properties?

(a) What is the timeline for the audit?

(b) Who is carrying out this work?

(c) How many properties will be considered in this process?

(d) Will assisted boarding houses be included?

### **Targeted Early Intervention (TEI)**

(184) Have TEI service providers been sent contract offers, or letters of invitation, to negotiate?

(a) If not, why not?

(b) When will the sector get certainty?

(185) I understand the government granted a six-month contract extension for TEI services with a view to align with FS from 1 January 2026. Is the government on track to commence new TEI contracts from 1 January 2026?

(186) Have the Community and Family Support Program Specifications been finalised?

(a) When will this be available on the DCJ website?

### **Accessible transport**

(187) The NSW Accessible Public Transport Disability Standards were issued under the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992, over 32 years ago. Whilst substantial improvements have been made, much of our public transport network is still inaccessible. Will the Government set a date by which all public transport will be fully accessible?

(a) Have you met with the Minister for Transport about this important issue?

(188) For many in NSW there is no public transport, meaning that people with disability, children and elders are unable to access essential services. With less than 2% rental vacancy, and up to 40% rises in rents over the past 5 years, relocation to places with public transport is not feasible for most anymore. Will the government commit to mapping the parts of this state without accessible public transport, and to a plan to address this deficit?

### **Domestic violence**

(189) How will DCJ implement the domestic and family violence NSW Common Approach to Risk Assessment and Safety Framework (CARAS) to ensure child protection and family support service staff have the capability to identify domestic and family violence and assess or manage risk?

(190) On the impact of domestic violence on children and young people, what processes are in place to hold perpetrators of violence to account, and to keep protective parents safe and together with children?

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Questions from the Opposition</b> |
|--------------------------------------|

### **Families and Communities**

(191) How many calls were made into the Child Protection Hotline during 2024-25?

(192) How many calls were made into the Child Protection Hotline between:

(a) January to March 2025?

(b) April to June 2025?

(193) Which CSCs did not complete any face-to-face assessments during the following months:

(a) January 2025

(b) February 2025

(c) April 2025

(d) May 2025

- (e) June 2025?
- (194) For the above, how many children entered care before a safety assessment was completed?
  - (a) In 2024/25 how many had their cases closed without being seen by a caseworker?
- (195) Are Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors still captured as a ROSH report?
  - (a) What is the current list of categories for the ROSH threshold?
  - (b) Who determines the threshold criteria?
  - (c) Has the criteria changed in the last 12 months?
    - i. If so, why
- (196) How many reports that met the JCPR (Joint Child Protection Response) criteria resulted in criminal proceedings and ultimately convictions in last financial year?
- (197) What is the age of the youngest person in an IPA at the moment?
- (198) How much was allocated in 2025/26 for early intervention programs?
- (199) How much was allocated in 2025/26 for family preservation programs?
- (200) What funding has Family Connect and Support (FCS) received for the following years:
  - (a) 2023-24?
  - (b) 2024-25?
- (201) How many clients have FCS supported for the following years:
  - (a) 2023-24?
  - (b) 2024-25?
  - (c) How many of the above were Aboriginal, in each year?
- (202) What is the total number of contracted places that family preservation programs have provided to families for the following years:
  - (a) 2023-24?
  - (b) 2024-25?
  - (c) How many of the above were Aboriginal, in each year?
- (203) Regarding the above, how many services were delivered to children for the following years:
  - (a) 2023-24?

- (b) 2024-25?
  - (c) How many of the above were Aboriginal, in each year?
- (204) How many individual clients has the TEI program seen for the following years:
- (a) 2023-24
  - (b) 20240-2025
  - (c) How many of the above were Aboriginal, in each year?
- (205) How many unidentified clients has the TEI program seen for the following years:
- (a) 2023-24?
  - (b) 2024-25?
- (206) How many children and young people were in each HCEA for:
- (a) January to March 2025?
  - (b) April to June 2025?
  - (c) Regarding the above, how many cases are managed by DCJ and how many cases are managed by a non-government organisation during the same timeframes?
- (207) What is the cost of each HCEA for January to June 2025?
- (208) What is the highest number of ROSH re-reports received for a single child for the following periods:
- (a) January to March 2025?
  - (b) April to June 2025?
  - (c) For the above in which district was the ROSH report made, in each period?
- (209) How many young people have a plan for guardianship as of 30 June 2025?
- (210) How many young people have a plan for restoration as of 30 June 2025?
- (211) As of 30 June 2025, how many children have a case management plan of adoption?
- (212) As of 30 June 2025, how many young people who are under Parental Responsibility of the Minister were not in a placement with authorised carer?
- (a) How many were “Absent over 24 hours – location unknown”?
  - (b) How many were Self-placed?

- (c) How many were 'no placement or whereabouts recorded'?
  - (d) How many were with Parent/s - Both Parents, Parent/s – Father, Parent/s – Mother?
  - (e) How many were in a Youth Justice Centre – remand or sentence?
- (213) How many critical instances reports has the Minister received in relation to OOHC pregnancies from:
- (a) 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024?
  - (b) 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025?
- (214) How many internal reviews of CSCs were conducted in 203-24 and 2024-25?
- (a) Please list these reviews by CSC?
- (215) How many internal reviews of CSCs was the Minister made aware of?
- (216) How many children and young people are currently in ITC?
- (217) As of 30 June 2025, how many children and young people have a CALD plan?
- (218) As of 30 June 2025, how many children and young people have an education plan?
- (219) As of 30 June 2025, how many children and young people have a leaving care plan?
- (220) What is the NSW public school enrolment for 2025 for children and young people under the parental responsibility of the Minister?
- (a) Of the children enrolled to attend school, what is their attendance rate?
- (221) What is done for those children who are suspended from attend school, where the carer is working and must leave the child unattended?
- (222) What is done for those children who are refusing to attend school, where the carer is working and must leave the child unattended?
- (223) How many young people in OOHC and ccase managed by DCJ were suspended from school during:
- (a) 2023-24?
  - (b) 2024-25?
- (224) What percentage of carers complete a carers education course, and in what kind of timeframe?

- (225) How and when is a carer informed of what types of supports, funded and otherwise, are available to them in their role as carer?
- (a) Can you provide a list of what they are and in what circumstances they are made available (if not in all circumstances)?
- (226) What is the number of foster carer households during 2023/24 and 2024/25 by district?
- (227) What is the number of children and young people in foster carer households for 2023/24 and 24/25 by district?
- (228) Has the Department established mandatory arrangements to enable timely monitoring of children in OOHC who present to homelessness services?
- (229) Has the Department conducted a systemic review of children in OOHC who are presenting as homeless to an SHS?
- (230) In 2024/25 how many children were removed from their families in total?
- (a) How many children were removed from their families by warrant and how many were Aboriginal?
- (b) How many children were removed by NSW police and how many were Aboriginal?
- (231) How many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children were restored to their parents from final orders and from interim orders in 2023-24 and 2024-25?
- (a) What were the restoration rates for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children by type of order in these years?
- (b) For the above what were the ages range?
- (c) How long were the children and young people in care?
- (232) During 2023/24 and 2024/25 how many Section 90 variations has the Department made for a child that was “missing from placement”?
- (a) Of these how many were successful?
- (b) How many were unsuccessful?
- (233) How many children absconded from the Sherwood program during 2024-25?
- (a) What was the longest period of time a young person was away from this placement?
- (b) What are you doing to prevent this from occurring?
- (234) How many children and young people are in each category of HCEA?

- (a) Of these, how many have been in emergency or temporary arrangements for:
    - i. 0-3,
    - ii. 3-6,
    - iii. 6-9,
    - iv. 9-12, or
    - v. 12+ months?
  - (b) How many have been in emergency or temporary arrangements for: under 5 years, 5-12 years?
  - (c) Of these, what is the longest stay of any individual child or young person?
  - (d) Of these, what is the median stay in these arrangements?
  - (e) Of these, provide a breakdown by type of accommodation?
- (235) How many children have been moved out of temporary and emergency accommodation arrangements and to what kind of care have they exited?
- (236) How many children under 12 are currently in residential care?
- (a) What is the youngest age?
  - (b) How long has this person been in the accommodation?
  - (c) What is the usual length of stay in these placements?
- (237) How many children under 12 are currently in IPA?
- (a) What is the youngest age?
  - (b) How long has this person been in the accommodation?
  - (c) What is the usual length of stay in these placements?
- (238) How many children are in a serviced apartment?
- (a) What is the youngest age?
  - (b) How long has this person been in the accommodation?
  - (c) What is the usual length of stay in these placements?
- (239) What is the total attrition rate for 2024-25, by percentage, for DCJ Child Protection Caseworkers employed:

- (a) Less than 1 year?
  - (b) 1 - 2 years?
  - (c) 2 - 5 years?
  - (d) 5 - 10 years?
  - (e) 10 - 20 years?
  - (f) More than 20 years?
  - (g) For the above, please provide a breakdown for the Joint Children Protection Response Team.
- (240) For 2023-24, and 2024-25 what was the total number of Family Preservation Places available in New South Wales, overall and in each DCJ district?
- (241) What is the projected number of Family Preservation Places available in 2025-26 and 2026-27 and in each DCJ district?
- (242) For each District, in what proportion of cases where a child has been identified as being at risk of significant harm (ROSH), have families been referred to Family Preservation Services?
- (243) For each District, what is the average time between a ROSH report being received, and the families being referred to Family Preservation Services?
- (244) DCJs Funding Approach paper for Family Preservation Services notes that \$5.6 million per annum will be held back by the department for implementation. What is the current status and intended use of the Family Preservation implementation funding?
- (a) When will details of the implementation plan be released?
- (245) How will stakeholders be consulted about the development of the CALD advisory service, and when will it be implemented?
- (246) How much funding was allocated to the “targeted advertising” campaign to promote multicultural child protection applications?
- (a) How many CALD candidates applied?
  - (b) How many where successful?
- (247) How would the OCG audit an organisation to ensure their data on under 18 members is being handled responsibly?

- (248) There was a report recently that Rising Tide was harvesting information of under 18s around Newcastle in a recruitment program. Has the OCG investigated how Rising Tide stores its information and who has access to these records?
- (249) Has the OCG conducted spot checks on Rising Tide camps to ensure Rising Tide has registered every adult attending their all-ages camps?
- (250) How many WWCC applicants received an 'interim bar' whilst their application was being assessed?
- (251) In response to QON 550 (Legislative Assembly) the Minister advised "We are also pursuing a range of reforms to further strengthen the WWCC system and expedite the integration with other jurisdictions' systems." – Can you outline what these reforms will be?
- (252) How many children and young people, including by percentage, in OOHC have completed Health Measure?
- (a) For the above how many are Aboriginal?
- (253) How many children entering out-of-home care (OOHC) received a health assessment within 30 days, as required?
- (254) How often is a health plan or assessment undertaken or reviewed?
- (255) How many Aboriginal children have been transitioned from NGOs back to DCJ case management?
- (256) How many Aboriginal children have been transitioned from ACCOs back to DCJ case management?
- (257) In 2022/23 and 2024/25 how many Aboriginal children and young people have been de-identified?
- (a) How many are in the process of being de-identified?
- (258) How many Aboriginal children and young people have been given an exemption by DCJ not to transfer?
- (a) What were these reasons?
- (b) Who is involved in making this decision?
- (259) What is the percentage and total number of senior managers who are currently based outside of Sydney?
- (260) How many district staff are not based in their district?

## **Disability Inclusion**

- (261) When will the NSW Government report and update on the progress against the final recommendations from the Disability Royal Commission?
- (262) What is the NSW Government doing to monitor the impacts of the current changes to the NDIS on the supports being delivered to people with disabilities in NSW?
- (263) What is the NSW Government's plan to ensure changes to the NDIS do not negatively impact people with disabilities in NSW?
- (264) Is there any funding allocated for the developing foundational supports for people with disabilities in 2024/25?
- (265) How many meetings of the Foundational Supports advisory committee have been held?
- (266) What further consultation with the sections is planned?
- (267) Who is the lead minister in NSW for the implementation of foundational supports?
- (268) What are you doing to provide early intervention support for people with disability ineligible for the NDIS?
- (269) What are you doing to provide support for children with developmental concerns, delay and/or disability who are ineligible for the NDIS?
- (270) What support is being provided to carers, families and kin of children and young people who are not ineligible for the NDIS?
- (271) How many people with disability are there in NSW?
  - (a) Of these, how many are children and young people?
- (272) In 2023-24 and 2024-25, how many people in NSW have had their NDIS funding plan cut?
  - (a) Of these, how many are children and young people?
- (273) In 2023-24 and 2024-25, how many people in NSW have had their NDIS funding plan cancelled?
  - (a) Of these, how many are children and young people?
- (274) How many children and young people in OOHC have an NDIS plan?
- (275) In 2023-24 and 2024-25, how many children and young people in OOHC have had their NDIS funding plan cut?

(276) In 2023-24 and 2024-25, how many children and young people in OOHC have had their NDIS funding plan cancelled?