

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Question 1: Asked by The Hon Trevor Khan (page 11):

Regarding the 1,700 people whom ADHC has recording as having expressed a need for supported accommodation, can they be categorised by region, age and other criteria and how long they have been waiting?

Answer

1. The Register of Requests for Supported Accommodation does not currently provide full information on how long people have to wait to receive ADHC accommodation support services. This is a reflection of the process by which ADHC is developing its centralised database (see details which are set out in answer to Question on Notice 26. However, for people who requested accommodation after 1 January 2010, the Register records the date the request was active or allocated. This will be almost always equivalent to the date of the request. For people who requested accommodation before that date they will show the date they were transferred from a regional register to the central Register.
2. The Register does not include children under the age of 16. The preferred accommodation for a child or young person with a disability is with his or her family. In the rare circumstances where this is not possible, family based care is the preferred model of care for all children and young people, especially children under 12 years of age. Models of family based care include foster care, shared care and family or kinship placement. When a group home placement is sought for a child, it can only proceed with the approval of the Regional Director if the child is less than 12 years of age and where there is an eligible provider. For all children and young people, consideration needs to be given to their placement with other children and young people with whom that are likely to be able to form meaningful relationships.

Number of months each service request has been active or allocated by Region

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Hunter	88	62	48	198
Metro North	13	11	129	153
Metro South	27	26	93	146
Northern	24	36	51	111
Southern	23	9	37	69
Western	5	6	35	46
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

Number of months each service request has been active or allocated by Support Required

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Drop-in support	9	6	25	40
Drop-in support in own home	9	7	10	26
Drop-in support in SP accomm	8	2	8	18
Group Home 24-hour support	63	59	138	260
Group Home sleep-over support	87	72	169	328
Not Recorded	4	4	43	51
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

Number of months service request has been active or allocated by Client Age Group

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Under 18	18	6	15	39
18 - 24	30	40	83	153
25 - 34	37	39	109	185
35 - 44	34	27	83	144
45 - 54	35	30	69	134
55 - 64	26	8	32	66
65 and over	0	0	1	1
Not recorded	0	0	1	1
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

Number of months service request has been active or allocated by Client Gender

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Female	77	64	156	297
Male	103	85	237	425
Not Recorded	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

Number of months service request has been active or allocated by Primary Disability Group

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Acquired brain injury	13	10	39	62
Autism	8	4	13	25
Deafblind	1	0	0	1
Intellectual	118	110	266	494
Neurological	5	5	10	20
Physical	14	9	32	55
Psychiatric	19	7	17	43
Vision	0	1	1	2
Not Stated	0	0	1	1
Not Recorded	2	4	14	20
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

Number of months service request has been active or allocated by Ethnicity

	Less than 3 months	3 to 6 months	Over 6 months	TOTAL
Afghan	0	1	1	2
Anglo-Indian	0	1	0	1
Angolan	0	0	2	2
Arab, n.e.c.	0	0	1	1
Australian	58	58	78	194
Australian Aboriginal	1	2	1	4
Chinese	0	1	4	5
Cook Islander	0	1	0	1
Culture and Linguistic Diverse	1	0	0	1
Dutch	0	0	2	2
Egyptian	0	0	1	1
English	2	0	3	5
Estonian	0	0	1	1
Filipino	0	0	1	1
Greek	1	0	3	4
Indian	0	0	2	2
Indonesian	1	0	0	1
Italian	2	2	6	10
Korean	1	0	0	1
Lebanese	0	0	1	1
Macedonian	0	1	0	1
Maltese	0	1	1	2
Russian	0	0	1	1
Serbian	0	0	1	1
Spanish	0	0	2	2
Tongan	1	0	0	1
Turkish	0	0	1	1
Not recorded	112	82	280	474
TOTAL	180	150	393	723

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Question 2: Asked by The Hon Trevor Khan (page 12):

Could you provide a table comparing ADHC to other public sectors in terms of benchmarks of overheads?

Answer:

The last available public information is for 2007/08. In comparison with the median for large public sector agencies, it shows that the then Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care had:

- (a) 63 full time equivalent staff for each full time equivalent corporate services staff member – the median for large agencies was 18, which makes ADHC corporate services staffing usage 71% less than the median for comparable agencies.
- (b) annual corporate services costs per full time equivalent staff member of \$5,931 – the median for large agencies was \$7,319, which makes ADHC corporate services costs 19% less than the median for comparable agencies.

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Question 3: Asked by The Hon Trevor Khan (pages 12-13):

In terms of length of time it takes from the notification or request for intake or assessment until the actual assessment process is undertaken, can you provide details as to how long that takes, broken down by region, age groups and range of disabilities?

Answer

During 2009/10 the time taken from the request for assessment until the assessment began is shown in the tables below. The information is shown by region, age group and primary disability group.

Time taken to assessment by Region:

Region	less than 3 months		3 to 6 months		6 to 12 months		more than 1 year		Total	
	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%
Hunter	111	43%	75	29%	43	16%	32	12%	261	100%
Metro North	285	44%	183	28%	171	26%	15	2%	654	100%
Metro South	469	68%	138	20%	72	10%	11	2%	690	100%
Northern	218	65%	59	18%	34	10%	22	7%	333	100%
Southern	151	61%	77	31%	14	6%	5	2%	247	100%
Western	204	55%	101	27%	40	11%	25	7%	370	100%
Total	1438	56%	633	25%	374	15%	110	4%	2555	100%

Time taken to assessment by Age Group:

Age Group	less than 3 months		3 to 6 months		6 to 12 months		more than 1 year		Total	
	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%
0-5	502	52%	254	27%	163	17%	38	4%	957	100%
6-12	346	56%	135	22%	106	17%	33	5%	620	100%
13-17	178	52%	106	31%	51	15%	9	2%	344	100%
18-24	139	64%	55	25%	16	7%	9	4%	219	100%
25-34	106	69%	29	19%	10	6%	9	6%	154	100%
35-54	151	65%	45	20%	25	11%	10	4%	231	100%
55-64	16	55%	9	31%	3	10%	1	4%	29	100%
64+		0%		0%		0%	1	100%	1	100%
Total	1438	56%	633	25%	374	15%	110	4%	2555	100%

Time taken to assessment by Primary Disability Group:

Primary Disability	less than 3 months		3 to 6 months		6 to 12 months		more than 1 year		Total	
	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%	Clients	%
Acquired brain injury	15	68%	3	14%	4	18%		0%	22	100%
Autism	116	52%	67	30%	30	13%	12	5%	225	100%
Deafblind	1	100%		0%		0%		0%	1	100%
Developmental delay	267	54%	131	27%	86	17%	10	2%	494	100%
Hearing	2	50%	1	25%	1	25%		0%	4	100%
Intellectual	899	58%	369	24%	213	13%	75	5%	1556	100%
Neurological	13	62%	3	14%	4	19%	1	5%	21	100%
Physical	40	55%	17	23%	12	17%	4	5%	73	100%
Psychiatric	4	33%	5	42%	2	17%	1	8%	12	100%
Specific learning/A.D.D.	1	100%		0%		0%		0%	1	100%
Speech	3	60%		0%	1	20%	1	20%	5	100%
Vision	2	50%	2	50%		0%		0%	4	100%
Missing Primary Disability Information	75	55%	35	26%	21	15%	6	4%	137	100%
Total	1438	56%	633	25%	374	15%	110	4%	2555	100%

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Question 4: Asked by The Chair (page 14):

As to the recent National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement, which establishes the Commonwealth taking over policy, management and delivery responsibility for a national aged care system, what effect will that have in terms of any function of the State in monitoring grievance procedures and all those issues related to delivery?

Answer:

1. Details which will determine the specific implications of the impact of the Agreement on State functions are yet to be negotiated between the Australian and NSW Governments. NSW is committed to a transition to the new arrangements in a way that ensures:
 - (a) minimal disruption to clients and existing providers
 - (b) no net costs to the State, including over time
 - (c) minimal duplication of service provider reporting
 - (d) clear pathways for clients in navigating the new system
 - (e) seamless service provision, including interfaces between care systems.
2. The following is provided as background information on the agreed directions for reform:
 - (a) At the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting on 19 and 20 April 2010, NSW agreed to a package of national health reforms which includes establishing the Commonwealth as the level of government with full responsibility for aged care.
 - (b) All jurisdictions except Victoria and Western Australia have agreed to reforms regarding the roles and responsibilities for aged care and disability services, to enable the creation of a national aged care system, and a national disability service system.
 - (c) Under the National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement (NHHNA) there will be a split of responsibilities for aged care and disability services at age 65, or at age 50 for Indigenous Australians, with the Commonwealth to assume full responsibility for aged care services from 1 July 2012. This includes services provided in NSW under the HACC Program.
 - (d) Specifically, the Commonwealth will assume responsibility for:
 - (i) funding and program management of basic community care services currently provided under the HACC program for people 65 years and over and 50 years and over for Indigenous Australians.

- (iii) funding specialist disability services provided under the NHHNA for people aged 65 years and over and 50 years and over for Indigenous Australians.

(e) States/Territories will assume responsibility for:

- (i) funding and regulating basic community care services currently delivered under the HACC Program for people under the age of 65 and under 50 for Indigenous Australians, which will be incorporated under the National Disability Agreement
 - (ii) funding packaged community and residential aged care services delivered by the Commonwealth for people under the age of 65 and under 50 for Indigenous Australians.
- (f) The NHHNA commits to a budget neutral funding transfer for changes in the roles and responsibilities for HACC and related programs.

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Question 5: Asked by The Hon Helen Westwood (page 15):

In regard to children aged 0 to 5 years who are receiving no other services and have been diagnosed as having a disability (see Figure 30 of the ADHC Submission), can you provide details of their level of disability, need and/or priority”

Answer

Figure 30 in the ADHC submission indicates there are 273 children, aged 0-5 years, who are waiting for an ADHC service and who have not yet received a service.

It is noted that 72% of this cohort do not have a primary disability type identified at this age as diagnosis is unreliable at this age and as many children who develop at a slower rate may "grow out of" their developmental delay. For the remaining 28%, a diagnosis can be reliably determined at this age.

The cohort of 273 children had 437 requests for service in total. Each service request is categorised according to priority of need, and 369 or 85% of these requests were identified as medium priority.

The following table identifies the cohort by primary disability type and priority of need.

Primary Disability	Individuals	Immediate response		High		Medium		Low		Total	
Acquired brain injury	1	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%		0%	1	100%
Autism	23	1	2%	9	18%	41	80%		0%	51	100%
Developmental delay	27	4	7%	12	20%	43	73%		0%	59	100%
Intellectual	23	1	2%	7	16%	36	82%		0%	44	100%
Speech	2	0	0%	1	25%	3	75%		0%	4	100%
Missing Primary Disability Information	197	8	3%	24	9%	245	88%	1	0%	278	100%
Total	273	14	3%	53	12%	369	85%	1	0%	437	100%

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Question 6: Asked by The Hon Trevor Khan (page 15):

In regard to children aged 0 to 5 years who are receiving CST services, can you provide details which show those who have not received any form of initial assessment or support from those receiving ongoing support and asking for additional assessment? Can this include some de-identified examples of people who are in categories of waiting a long time? Can the data be unpacked by Local Planning Area?

Answer

The table below identifies the current status, as at September 2010, of children aged 0-5 years who were not receiving services shown in Figure 30 of the ADHC submission:

Waiting	No of children	Now being seen	Still waiting	Cancelled/ ineligible/ not able to be contacted	Awaiting eligibility
Less than 3 months	170	58	62	0	50
Between 3 – 12 months	82	32	25	5	20
More than 1 year	21	0	8	13	0
Total	273	90	95	18	70

Since the initial data capture, a review of all 273 children aged 0-5 years waiting for a service has been conducted.

Of the 21 children, aged 0-5 years, who have been waiting for a service for more than 12 months identifies that 13 or over half of the requests have been cancelled because the referral was not appropriate, the service was no longer required, or services were obtained elsewhere. Of the 8 clients still waiting for more than a year, the review shows that most of the families have remained in contact with ADHC and support has been provided during that time such as information and guidance leading to contact with medical specialists or early intervention services and referral for additional services such as case management.

Of the 82 children aged 0-5 years waiting between 3 and 12 months, 32 or more than a third are now receiving a service, and of the remaining 25 still waiting for a service, most are awaiting completion of assessments and information from external agencies to assist in finalising the eligibility and needs assessment process.

Of the 170 children waiting less than 3 months, 58 children or approximately a third of this group are now receiving services, another third has been determined eligible and are awaiting a needs assessment, and the remaining third are awaiting reports and information for completion of eligibility process.

The length of time a child aged 0-5 years waits for a specialist disability service varies depending on the needs of the individual and the demand for the service requested. This data cannot be broken down by local planning area, but is provided by ADHC region in the table below:

Age Group	Region	Less than 3 months	Less than 6 months	less than 1 year	More than 1 year	Grand Total
0-5 years	Hunter	11	7	4	2	24
	Metro North	55	10	2	1	68
	Metro South	14	6	6	9	35
	Northern	48	15	17	7	87
	Southern	15	4	-	-	19
	Western	27	9	2	2	40
Total		170	51	31	21	273

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Question 7: Asked by The Chair (page 24):

To expand upon the statement in the ADHC Submission that there has been a 125% increase in respite care since the introduction of *Stronger Together*, can you provide a table that shows the details of the growth in respite and which details the source of the growth, ie *Stronger Together*, *Disability Assistance Package*, etc?

Answer

Respite and Older Parent Carer Respite				
Total no.	2006/07 & 2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	4 year change
Stronger Together New Places	2,709	1,291	318	4,318
Disability Assistance Package (Commonwealth funding)		718		718
TOTAL New Respite Places				5,036