

Question on Notice

No. 942

Asked on Friday, 26 May 2006

MR LINGARD MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**) –

- (1) What is the total number of allegations of abuse or misconduct received by his department by recipients of care provided or funded by Disability Services Queensland for 2004, 2005 and current year to date (reported separately)?
- (2) What investigative action was taken by his department in each instance?

ANSWER:

Disability Services Queensland Provided Services

In the calendar year 2004, the department received ten allegations of abuse by staff of Disability Services Queensland. Of these, all matters were referred to the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC). Following assessment by the CMC, the department investigated each allegation. In six instances, behaviour that could, if proved, constitute a criminal offence was also referred to the Queensland Police Service.

In the calendar year 2005, the department received ten allegations of abuse by staff of Disability Services Queensland. Of these, eight matters were referred to the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC). Following assessment by the CMC, the Department investigated each allegation. In four instances, the matters were also referred to the Queensland Police Service.

In the period 1 January – 31 May 2006, the department received five allegations of abuse by staff of Disability Services Queensland. Of these, three matters were referred to the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC). Following assessment by the CMC, the department investigated each allegation. In three instances, behaviour that could, if proved, constitute a criminal offence was also referred to the Queensland Police Service.

Disability Services Queensland Funded Services

In the calendar year 2004, the Complaints and Prevention Unit, Disability Services Queensland received four allegations of abuse by staff of services funded by Disability Services Queensland. The Complaints and Prevention Unit managed each of these allegations according to the department's policies and procedures for complaints management. In two instances, the matters were also referred to the Queensland Police Service. In three instances, it was also considered appropriate to refer the allegations to the Office of Adult Guardian.

In the calendar year 2005, the Complaints and Prevention Unit, Disability Services Queensland received two allegations of abuse by staff of services funded by Disability Services Queensland. The Complaints and Prevention Unit managed each of these allegations according to the department's policies and procedures for complaints management.

In the period 1 January – 31 May 2006, the Complaints and Prevention Unit, Disability Services Queensland received two allegations of abuse by staff of services funded by Disability Services Queensland. The Complaints and Prevention Unit managed each of these allegations according to the department's policies and procedures for complaints management. In one instance, it was also considered appropriate to refer the allegations back to the agency for direct action.