

Question on Notice

No. 579

Asked on 24 March 2010

MR DEMPSEY asked the Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Sport (MR REEVES)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister outline the specific process and/or procedure that is utilised to place Indigenous children with kinship carers, and the methodology/framework that is utilised to determine whether to place Indigenous children requiring care with family members?

ANSWER

The Bligh Government is committed to providing culturally appropriate placements to children and young people who have been harmed or who are at risk of harm and do not have a parent able or willing to care for them.

Section 5 of the *Child Protection Act 1999* states that “the preferred way of ensuring a child’s well-being is through the support of the child’s family”.

The Indigenous Child Placement Principle, section 83(4) of the Act states that placements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children must be made in the following order of priority:

- a member of the child's family;
- a member of the child's community or language group;
- another Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander who is compatible with the child's community or language group;
- another Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander.