

Question on Notice

No. 646

Asked on Tuesday 23 May 2017

MS BATES asked the Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise (a) how many children with a child protection order against them were in youth detention for a period of time in 2015-16 and 2016-17 to date (reported by year), (b) how many in (a) were in residential care before being sent to youth detention and (c) how many in (a) were sent to youth detention on a previous occasion?

ANSWER

The specific information requested would require cross-matching and the development of new and complex measures between the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General. These measures do not form part of standard corporate reporting by either department, however, work is underway to improve information sharing and collation across both departments.

The monitoring of young people in youth detention in Queensland is undertaken by Youth Justice Performance and Reporting as part of the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG).

In the last count undertaken in 2015–16 by DJAG of children in youth detention, a total of 59 of the 186 children (32 per cent) had a Child Protection Order (CPO) history and 127 (68 per cent) did not. That is less than 0.6 per cent of all young people aged 10–17 years in Queensland with either a current or historic CPO.

When children in the child protection system come into contact with the youth justice system, both Youth Justice and Child Safety work closely together to support young people and their families to help them reach their full potential. With the right supports and caring people in their lives, many of these children work through the issues they have confronted and achieve good outcomes.

Prior to release from detention, proactive planning by Child Safety Services and Placement Support Services, with input from Youth Justice, determines the most appropriate placement for each young person.