

Question on Notice

No. 82

Asked on 15 February 2017

MR MINNIKIN 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

With reference to the child safety portfolio—

Will the Minister detail how many of the 5,993 substantiated cases of child abuse recorded as at 30 September 2016 involved (a) a previous notification for that child in the two years prior, (b) a previous child concern report in the two years prior and (c) a previous substantiated case in the two years prior?

ANSWER

In relation to parts a), b) and c), to provide the level of detail requested would require a significant amount of work and divert officers from supporting our hardworking Child Safety Officers.

The Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services already has measures to monitor whether children are re-entering the child protection system after a previous notification or substantiation, within the large suite of measures reported to the public each quarter on the departmental Our Performance website www.communities.qld.gov.au/childsafety/about-us/our-performance.

A related measure is the number of children who were subject to a substantiation, who experienced a subsequent substantiation (resubstantiation) in the following 12 months. The department publicly reports on this measure on the Our Performance website.

For the 12 months ending 30 September 2015, there were 1109 children subject to a substantiation who were the subject of a subsequent substantiation within the following 12 months (up to 30 September 2016). This is a resubstantiation rate of 17.5 per cent, which has declined from 18.4 per cent in 2013-14.