

Question on Notice

No. 1261

Asked on 8 November 2022

MS A LEAHY asked the Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON L LINARD)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister confirm (a) the Charleville Child Safety Office in Alfred Street will continue to operate at the current premises beyond 30 June 2023 and (b) the five FTEs will continue to be located in Charleville operating from this location?

ANSWER

The Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs' (DCYJMA) Charleville Child Safety outpost currently in Alfred Street will relocate to a new premises from early January 2023, with the new premises still located in Charleville at Wills Street. The new office location and arrangements will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

The Charleville Child Safety hub is an outpost from the Roma Child Safety Service Centre and was initially established with five FTE. In the years following the introduction of the hub, case numbers in the Charleville catchment have fallen by two-thirds.

While recent analysis of caseloads and human resourcing has determined two FTE is sufficient to meet current local demand, the government acknowledges the valuable role the Charleville Child Safety hub has had and the desire of community members to retain local child safety staff.

DCYJMA currently has two staff members based in Charleville with no plans to relocate these staff during 2023.