

**2016 ESTIMATES**  
**Advance Question to Government**  
**to be asked at 2016 Estimates hearings**

Committee: *Estimates*  
Paper No: *42* Date: *16 / 6 / 16*  
Tabled By: *Estimates*  
Signed: *[Signature]*

<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 01</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Government Advertising
<b>Question:</b>	<p>Please provide the costs of advertising and communications in 2015-16 in each agency / Authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a name / description of advertising campaigns run by your agencies / authorities and the costs associated with each campaign.</li> <li>• Provide the details on the number and level of staff who are responsible for communications and advertising in your agencies / authorities.</li> <li>• Has there been an increase in the number of staff and the level of staff responsible for communication and advertising in your agency from 2013-14 to 2015-16? If so, how many and at what additional cost?</li> </ul> <p>Please provide the details and costs of all government advertising that contained either the image or voice of the Minister or Chief Minister or the name of the Chief Minister or Minister.</p>

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families' total expenditure for advertising and marketing was \$55,000, comprising \$39,000 for advertising and \$16,000 for marketing.

**Table 1: Advertising Campaigns as at 31 March 2016**

Campaign Name	Description	Costs		Total
		Advertising	Marketing	
NT Foster and Kinship Carer Excellence Awards	Recognise and celebrate the contribution of carers to the Northern Territory community	\$13,000	\$8,000	\$21,000
National Child Protection Week	Partnership with the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) to launch Child Protection Week	\$3,000	\$7,000	\$10,000
Foster and Kinship Carers Attraction, Recruitment and Retention Campaign	Increase Foster and Kinship Carer numbers across the Northern Territory	\$22,000	\$1,000	\$23,000
Other	One-off advertisement of agency services in the Government Directory	\$1,000		\$1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$39,000</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>

As at 31 March 2016, there were 3 FTE staff involved in communications and advertising in the Department of Children and Families including: 1 x SAO1; and 2 x AO7.

The number of communication and advertising staff has increased by 2 AO7 FTE since 2013-14 at a cost of \$192,000 per annum to deliver the Foster and Kinship Carers Attraction, Recruitment and Retention Campaign.

In 2015-16 there was no advertising expenditure where either the image or voice of the Minister or Chief Minister or the name of the Chief Minister or Minister was included.

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<b>Question No:</b>	Global 02
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Tenders and Consultancies
<b>Question:</b>	<p>For each agency / authority, please provide the costs and number of all consultancies undertaken by the agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Please provide details for consultancies associated with communications.</li><li>• Please provide details of consultancies over \$100,000.</li><li>• Please provide details on consultancies that were conducted by interstate companies.</li></ul>

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, there were no consultancies undertaken by the agency.

- There were no consultancies associated with communications.
- There were no consultancies over \$100,000.
- There were no consultancies conducted by interstate companies.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 03</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Tenders and Consultancies
<b>Question:</b>	Which consultants were not selected through competitive tendering and why?

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, there were no consultancies undertaken by the agency.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 04</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Tenders and Consultancies
<b>Question:</b>	For each agency / authority, how many Certificates of Exemption were issued in 2015-16?

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, there were two Certificates of Exemption issued.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 05</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Tenders and Consultancies
<b>Question:</b>	For each Certificate of Exemption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What is the description of the goods and services contracted?</li> <li>b. What is the value of the goods and services contracted?</li> <li>c. Why was the Certificate of Exemption required?</li> </ul>

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the two Certificates of Exemption issued for the Department of Children and Families were:

Certificate of Exemption 1 – Procurement Emergency Standing Exemption:

- a. Services contracted were to provide support for an emergency evacuation centre located in Darwin.
- b. Value: \$144,000.
- c. The service was acquired under a standing Certificate of Exemption that approves the procurement of supplies that are urgently required in response to an emergency situation, as defined in section 18(1) of the *Emergency Management Act* and cannot practicably be obtained through open and competitive process.

Certificate of Exemption 2 – Intensive Family Preservation Services:

- a. Services contracted were to support families to address child safety concerns, preventing the removal of children from the family. Locations of the services include Darwin, Katherine, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Nhulunbuy to support.
- b. Value: \$14.3M over 36 months.
- c. To ensure that existing service providers operating under a grants based procurement framework, would have time to adjust to a new competitive contract based procurement model.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 06</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Staffing
<b>Question:</b>	How many staff are in each agency / authority detailed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Full time equivalent</li> <li>b. Permanent part time contract</li> <li>c. Temporary contract.</li> <li>d. Frontline staff as FTE and as a percentage of the agency</li> <li>e. FTE and percentage of identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in the agency.</li> </ul>

**Answer:**

**a. Full time equivalent**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families had a full time equivalent total of 626.23.

**b. Permanent part time contract**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families had a full time equivalent of 23.13 permanent, part time staff.

**c. Temporary contract.**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families had 71.61 full time equivalent staff on fixed term (temporary) contracts.

**d. Frontline staff as FTE and as a percentage of the agency**

Answers to 6d should be referred to the Minister for Public Employment.

**e. FTE and percentage of identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff in the agency.**

Answers to 6e should be referred to the Minister for Public Employment.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 07</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Staffing
<b>Question:</b>	How many staff are ECO 1 level and above detailed by classification level.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families had 12 full time equivalent Executive Contract Officers.

By level, the staffing is:

Executive Contract Officer 1	3
Executive Contract Officer 2	6
Executive Contract Officer 3	2
Executive Contract Officer 5	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>



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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 08</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Staffing
<b>Question:</b>	How many staff resigned in 2015-16 to date and what is that as a percentage of the agencies total staff?

**Answer:**

Please refer the question to the Minister for Public Employment.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 09</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Staffing
<b>Question:</b>	How many staff were made redundant in 2015-16? How many were terminated?

**Answer:**

In respect of redundancies, there were no forced redundancies in 2015-16. In terms of other redundancies, please refer the question to the Minister for Public Employment.

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families had no terminations.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 10</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Agency Travel
<b>Question:</b>	<p>These questions apply to all other agencies and Government authorities the Minister is responsible for.</p> <p>Please provide the total cost of travel in each agency and authority broken down into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. International</li> <li>b. Interstate</li> <li>c. Intrastate.</li> </ul> <p>In the case of international travel please provide the itinerary, persons and costs involved in each international trip.</p>

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, Agency travel expenditure is \$2.672M, including \$0.557M in client related travel, and \$36,000 on cab charges.

- a. There has been no international travel by Agency staff during this period.
- b. Interstate travel by staff comprises \$0.137M.
- c. Intrastate travel by staff comprises \$1.942M.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 11</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Agency Travel
<b>Question:</b>	Please provide details and costs of all travel undertaken by the Minister that was paid for by the agency or authority, including travel on charters.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families did not pay for any travel undertaken by the Minister, including travel on charters.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 12</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Hospitality
<b>Question:</b>	Provide details and costs of all hospitality expenditure in the agency or authority undertaken. Please indicate which events were held on behalf of the Minister or at events which the Minister attended.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, hospitality and entertainment expenditure was \$2,222. Hospitality was provided for the opening of a Community Based Child Care Centre in Tennant Creek on 9 July 2015. The opening was catered by a local organisation and was attended by the Minister.

**Table 1: Hospitality and Entertainment to 31 March 2016**

<b>Events/Functions</b>	<b>Itemised Costs</b>	
Community Based Child Care Centre Opening	Yawulyu Women Dancers	\$1,804
	Catering	\$418
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,222</b>

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 13</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Boards and Advisory Bodies
<b>Question:</b>	Please detail all boards and advisory bodies in your agencies.

**Answer:**

The Department of Children and Families has one board/advisory body, the Working With Children Clearance Screening Authority.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 14</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Boards and Advisory Bodies
<b>Question:</b>	Please indicate Boards and advisory bodies where the Chair and / or members attract remuneration.

**Answer:**

There are no Boards and advisory bodies where the Chair and/or members attract remuneration.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 15</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Boards and Advisory Bodies
<b>Question:</b>	Please list the total cost of each Board and advisory bodies in your agencies.

**Answer:**

The Department of Children and Families does not incur any costs associated with the Working With Children Clearance Screening Authority.



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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 16</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Boards and Advisory Bodies
<b>Question:</b>	Please detail how often each board or advisory body met in 2015-16.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Working With Children Clearance Screening Authority has met on 57 occasions.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 17</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Boards and Advisory Bodies
<b>Question:</b>	Please list membership of those boards and amounts paid to members in 2015-2016

**Answer:**

The Working With Children Clearance Screening Authority has the following membership:

- Ms Angelique Pedersen
- Ms Barbara Pederson
- Ms Belinda Fong
- Ms Cindy Jarvis
- Mr Jarrod Ashcroft
- Ms Karin Mulligan
- Dr Kate Raymond
- Ms Kim Loveday
- Mr Kristopher Evans
- Ms Marcia Russell

Members of the Working With Children Clearance Screening Authority are not remunerated.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 18</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Fees and Charges
<b>Question:</b>	Detail the statutory or legislative fees and charges levied by your agency / authority, the revenue raised and whether any of these fees or charges were increased in Budget 2016.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families received fees in relation to partial cost recovery for adoption services and for court ordered information retrieval.

As at 31 March 2016, the revenue raised was \$17,592.

Questions relating to increases in fees and charges in the 2016-17 Budget should be referred to the Department of Treasury and Finance.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 19</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Internal Audits
<b>Question:</b>	How many internal audits and financial investigations were conducted in each agency in 2015/16.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, the Department of Children and Families conducted five internal audits and practice reviews. No financial investigations were conducted in this period.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 20</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Internal Audits
<b>Question:</b>	What were the terms of reference or focus for each relevant investigation?

**Answer:**

<b>Internal audit/investigation</b>	<b>Terms of Reference or focus</b>
Travel Review	To provide assurance that DCF is complying with the whole of government travel policy.
Grant Process – Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation	To provide assurance that past grant arrangements with Mabunji Aboriginal Resources Indigenous Corporation complied with legal requirements and DCF policy.
Review of the implementation of the 2015-17 Strategic Plan	To provide assurance that priorities identified in DCF's strategic plan are being progressed.
Practice Review – face to face contact with children in care	To provide assurance that contact with children in care is complying with DCF policy.
Practice Review – use of temporary child placement arrangements	To provide assurance that DCF's use of temporary child placement arrangements is complying with legislation and DCF policy.

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<b>Question No:</b>	Global 21
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Internal Audits
<b>Question:</b>	Please provide detail of any fraud, anomalies, breaches of financial legislation or Northern Territory Government policy and procedures exposed by the audits and financial investigations.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, no internal audits exposed any fraud, anomalies, breaches of financial legislation or Northern Territory Government policy and procedures.

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<b>Question No:</b>	Global 22
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	Legal Costs
<b>Question:</b>	Please detail the cost in 2015-16 of legal services provided by private legal firms to each agency and authority for which you are responsible.

**Answer:**

As at 31 March 2016, Legal Services Expenditure was \$0.54M including:

- \$0.34M in Darwin;
- \$0.12M in Katherine; and
- \$0.08M in Alice Springs.

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<b>Question No:</b>	<b>Global 23</b>
<b>From:</b>	Mr Michael Gunner, Leader of the Opposition
<b>To:</b>	Global Question to all Ministers (Minister for Children and Families)
<b>Question Heading:</b>	NGO Funding
<b>Question:</b>	Would you please advise what grant, program, project and operational funding will be provided to non-government and external organisations, including contractors, this financial year and what funding will be provided in 2016-17.

**Answer:**

**Table 1: Funding for services delivered by Non-Government Organisations**

Funding for Service Delivery through Non-Government Organisations	2015-16	2016-17
	\$M	\$M
Grants	29.13	30.03