



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 175

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Paech to Minister for Child Protection, Hon Robyn Cahill OAM MLA:

Child protection

1. Is the Government intending to undertake a review of the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007? If so, what are the terms of reference and scope for the Government's plan to review the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007?
2. If the Government is intending to undertake a review of the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007, can the Minister share the list of stakeholders who have been or will be consulted as part of this review?
3. Can the Government please provide the evidence which has been relied on to inform the decision to undertake a review of the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007?
4. Can the Minister please provide the number of children and young people in out-of-home care during 2024-25 disaggregated by age:
 - i. 0-2
 - ii. 2-4
 - iii. 5-9
 - iv. 10-14
 - v. 15-17
5. Can the Minister please provide the number of children and young people in out-of-home care as at 30/09/2025 disaggregated by age:

- i. 0-2
- ii. 2-4
- iii. 5-9
- iv. 10-14
- v. 15-17

6. Can the Minister provide the following information:

As at 30/09/2025, what is the number of children and young people in out-of-home care who have a leaving care plan, disaggregated by:

a) Age

- i. 15
- ii. 16
- iii. 17

b) Gender

c) Aboriginality

- i. Aboriginal
- ii. Non-aboriginal
- iii. Unknown

d) Disability

- i. Disability
- ii. No disability

7. Can the Government provide the following information:

As at 30/09/2025 how many children and young people in out-of-home care do not have a care plan, disaggregated by:

a) Age groupings

- i. 0-2
- ii. 2-4
- iii. 5-9
- iv. 10-14
- v. 15-17

b) Gender

c) Aboriginality

- i. Aboriginal

- ii. Non-aboriginal
 - iii. Unknown
- d) Disability
- i. Disability
 - ii. No disability
- e) Reason why they do not have a plan

8. From the 2024-25 budget, can the Minister provide the following information on out of home care service funding:

Out-of-home care	Expenditure
Purchased home based care	
Kinship care services	
Foster care services	
Foster and Kinship Care Association NT	
Total	

9. From the 2025-26 budget, can the Minister provide the following information on out of home care service funding:

Out-of-home care	Expenditure
Purchased home based care	
Kinship care services	
Foster care services	
Foster and Kinship Care Association NT	
Total	

10. How many children and young people have been engaged with the Circuit Breaker program during 12/12/2024 to 30/09/2025? Could the data be disaggregated by:

- a) Age
- b) Region
- c) Type of engagement (for example returned home, located responsible adult, sourced temporary accommodation)
- d) Outcome of engagement (case management, referral to specialist service, family responsibility agreement etc)

11. How many children and young people were referred to specialist services? Could the Minister provide the data disaggregated by:

- a) Age
- b) Gender
- c) Aboriginal/non-Aboriginal
- d) Reason for referral
- e) Outcome of referral (for example case closed, matter subsumed into an open child protection case etc)

12. How many children and young people engaged through the Circuit Breaker program during 12/12/2024 to 30/09/2025:

- a) Had no prior child protection notifications
- b) Were subject to prior child protection notification
- c) Were subject to prior child protection substantiations
- d) Were under care and protection orders
- e) Were under prior care and protection orders
- f) Were under prior care and protection orders and also had youth detention orders

13. How many children and young people have been provided a 'safe place' to sleep through the Circuit Breaker program during 30/09/2024 to 30/09/2025? Could the Minister please provide the data disaggregated by bed nights, region and age of the child.

14. Through Circuit Breaker, how many children and young people have been placed on Intensive Case Management support due to their risk of becoming involved with child protection or youth justice? Could the data be disaggregated by:

- a) Age
- b) Reason for referral
- c) Status of referral (for example open case, case closed due to...)

15. According to the Government's media release of 7 September 2025, the Circuit Breaker program is helping with early intervention and prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence. What child-specific domestic and family violence programs, supports or interventions have been offered, undertaken or completed by children and young people who are engaging in or at risk of engaging in domestic, family and sexual violence behaviour during 30/09/2024 to 30/09/2025?

ANSWER

Thank you for your Written Question No. 175 to the Legislative Assembly.

The information you have requested is available in the Department of Children and Families' Annual Report and through the Estimates process, which provide comprehensive detail on the matters raised.

As you are well aware, certain information relating to the individual circumstances of children in care cannot and will not be provided. This is to ensure the privacy, safety, and wellbeing of those children is protected at all times.