

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr. Gary Higgins to the Minister for Territory Families:

Tennant Creek Services – Child Protection

1. How many Territory Families staff are located in Tennant Creek?

The Barkly Office has the following positions for Child Protection:

- Manager;
- Team Leader;
- two Aboriginal Community Workers;
- seven Child Protection Professionals;
- Case Support Worker; and
- Administration Officer.

The Youth Outreach and Re-engagement Team and a Project Officer for Domestic Violence are also co-located with the Child Protection Team.

2. What is the average caseload per Territory Families staff member located in Tennant Creek?

As of 31 December 2017, 42.6 was the caseload ratio.

3. How many investigations are currently being undertaken pursuant to section 35 of the Care and Protection of Children Act in Tennant Creek?

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4. In the last 12 months, how many open investigations were there in Tennant Creek, how many of those have been completed and how many resulted in action being taken for the wellbeing of children?

From 1 February 2017 to 31 January 2018, 766 notifications proceeded to investigation which requires Territory Families to take the necessary action to ensure the wellbeing of children.

5. **As of 15 February 2018 how many Youth Outreach and Re-engagement Officers (YOREOs) were permanently stationed in Tennant Creek and what were their duties?**

There are currently two YOREOs and a Senior YOREO permanently based in the Barkly Office. YOREOs work closely with child protection and the Northern Territory Police to identify and work to quickly resolve emerging concerns for youth issues in Tennant Creek.

YOREOs work with 'at-risk' youth to engage them in positive behaviours through individualised case management services, diversionary activities, and outreach programs to ensure youth and families are supported to address at risk behaviours and engage in prosocial activities. Senior YOREOs also undertake Community Youth Justice Functions.

6. **Was the mother of the child who was assaulted on 15 February 2017 the subject of a Territory Families investigation as of that date?**

No. Territory Families ceased involvement in December 2017 as support services were in place.

7. **Was the mother of the child who was assaulted on 15 February 2017 the subject of any other interventions by Territory Families on that date?**

No.
