

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Moss to the Minister for Children and Families:

Foster carer and Kinship care places

- 1. Can you advise how many foster carer places of care existed as at 31 March 2016?**

As at 31 March 2016, there were 227 foster places of care.

- 2. Can you advise how many kinship care places of care existed as at 31 March 2016?**

As at 31 March 2016, there were 201 kinship places of care.

- 3. Can you please advise how much increased funding was received to increase foster carer recruitment since 2014, how the funding was allocated and what has been the outcome?**

In 2014-15 and 2015-16, the Department of Children and Families received \$500,000 to conduct a campaign to attract, recruit and retain foster and kinship carers.

This funding has been allocated to the enhancement of the carer community website, more engagement events and activities with existing carers, the launch of kinship carer Talking Posters in five remote communities and in seven different languages, and the formation of a dedicated carer recruitment team to ensure timely processing of applications. The Department also provided sponsorship for the National Foster Carer Conference to be held in Darwin, in June 2016.

Funding outcomes include improved systems and processes for training, engaging and supporting carers, including stronger presence and communication within remote communities.