

## **Estimates Committee 2003**

### **Questions Taken On Notice**

( 01/10/2002 to 01/10/2004 )

Date: 06/27/2003 Output:  
Sub Output:  
Subject: Foster parent payments in the Northern Territory compared with other jurisdictions

**From:** Ms CARTER to Honourable Jane AAGAARD  
Minister for Health and Community Services

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**Question:** 7-8  
Could the Minister provide and table details in respect of foster parent payments in the Territory compared with other jurisdictions?

**Answer:**  
Answered On: 06/27/2003  
Answer: Details of Foster parent payments in the Northern Territory compared with other jurisdictions are attached

## The Foster Care Estimates (FCE) compared to the Standard Subsidy

### Levels for all States by age of the child (2000) (\$ per week)

Note: These figures are indicative only and must be read with regard to the impact of contingency payments

Age	TAS	WA	NT	SA	VIC	ACT	QLD	NSW	FCE
0- 1	70	79	97	85	85	92	76	175	157
2	70	79	97	85	77	92	93	175	-
3	70	79	97	85	77	92	93	175	156
4	70	79	97	85	77	92	93	175	-
5			1.01	91	77	105	93	175	-
6	70	79	101	91	77	105	114	175	168
7	71	79	101	91	77	105	114	175	-
8	71	7	120	98	93	123	114	171	-
9	71	79	120	98	93	123	114	175	
10	72	79	120	98	93	123	114	175	197
11	72	79	120	98	112	123	138	175	-
12	83	79	136	118	112	141	138	175	
13	83	118	136	118	157	141	138	175	
14	90	118	136	118	157	141	138	175	242/248'
15	90	118	163	145	157	171	138	175	-
16	90	118	163	145	157	171	129	175	-
17	90	18	163	145	157	171	129	175	-

**Notes:** All dollar amounts rounded. (1) Amount of \$242 applies to a boy aged 14. Amount of \$248 applies to a girl aged 14.

**Source:** For all States subsidy amounts, Bray, 2001:34

For this standard subsidy States expects carers to pay for

- : housing, (FCE costed this at between \$34.87 and \$45.16 according to child's age);
- food (FCE costed this between \$29.55 and \$68.56 according to the child's age);
- energy (FCE costed this at \$3.87); and the
- bulk of ongoing clothing, (FCE costed this between \$12.79 and \$22.84 depending on child's age).

Some States expect other items to be paid for out of the Standard Subsidy. In some circumstances States may make additional payments when a cost is incurred (contingency payments). However it should be noted that most of these are discretionary payments, and the report found payment both arbitrary and slow.