

**Estimates Committee 2014**  
**Questions Taken On Notice**

( 10/06/2014 to 19/06/2014 )

Date: 10/06/2014

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: Child Protection Notifications

**From:**Ms Natasha Fyles to Hon John Elferink  
Department of Children and Families

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**3-3**

**Question:**

Of the 1107 child protection notifications that are currently in progress, what is the breakdown to category 1 which I think should be responded to within 72 hours, category 2, 3 and 4 is that correct?

**Answer:**

Answered On: 01/07/2014

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Date:** 10 June 2014 **Output:** Child Protection Services  
**Subject:** Child Protection Notifications  
**From:** Member for Nightcliff  
**To:** Minister for Children and Families (Hon John Elferink MLA)  
**Agency:** Department of Children and Families

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**Number:** 3.3

**Question:** Of the 1,107 Child Protection notifications that are currently in progress, what is the breakdown to category 1 which should be responded to within 72 hours, category 2, 3 and 4?

**Answer:**

The question refers to "categories which should be responded to within 72 hours". This is taken to refer to DCF's priority response times as published in the Child Protection Services Output Group.

There are four priority response categories which set out the time in which a Child Protection Investigation should commence. The priority response rating is determined at the time of intake based on the level of assessed risk. The 72 hour priority response category is the second priority response tier and relates to children under two years of age that are considered at risk. This year, DCF has met the set priority response times in 80 percent of category two priority response cases.

There is no direct link between the priority response categories and the completion of an investigation. All investigations are expected to meet professional standards and follow a set process. Often the most high risk cases (those that involve removal of the child and criminal prosecution) require detailed and time intensive investigative processes.