

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
ANSWERS TO 2021-22 BUDGET ESTIMATES - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARING

Department of Communities

Hon Nick Goiran MLC asked:

11. I refer to page 513, Budget Paper 2, Volume 2, which details the total appropriations for the Department of Communities, and I ask:

- (a) How many child protection workers, by FTE, were employed by the Department in 2020-21;
- (b) How many child protection workers, by FTE, are budgeted for 2021-22;
- (c) How many caseworkers had caseloads over the recommended limit of 15 for any day during 2020-21;
- (d) How many caseworkers had caseloads over the exceptional maximum limit of 18 for any day during 2020-21;
- (e) How many of those caseworkers have ceased working for the Department; and
- (f) How many of the caseworkers who had caseloads above 15 lodged a worker's compensation claim?

Answer:

(a) As at 30 June 2021, there is 1043.8 FTE Child Protection Workers.

(b) As at 1 July 2021, 1,140.88 FTE is budgeted.

(c) The number of caseworkers holding caseloads over the recommended limit of 15, as per the monthly Workload Management Report, were:

July	89
August	69
September	68
October	71
November	69
December	70
January	91
February	86
March	83
April	80
May	73
June	85

Minister's initials



(d) The number of caseworkers holding caseloads over the exceptional maximum limit of 18, as per the monthly Workload Management Report, were:

July	6
August	6
September	3
October	7
November	3
December	2
January	12
February	8
March	8
April	3
May	6
June	7

(e) 14; employees resign for a variety of reasons and correlation should not be drawn between caseload and the reason why these employees left the Department.

(f) 6; These claims relate to other matters and not to caseload numbers or pressures.

Minister's initials



