

**CHILDREN IN CARE — DEATHS**

3262. Hon Colin Tincknell to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the deaths of children in the care of the Department for Child Protection, and I ask:

- (a) how many children died while in the care of the CEO during each of the following years:
- (i) 2016;
  - (ii) 2017;
  - (iii) 2018;
  - (iv) 2019; and
  - (v) 2020 to date; and
- (b) in relation to (a)(i) to (v), what was the month and the attributed reason for each death?

**Hon Sue Ellery replied:**

- (a) The number of children who died while in the care of the CEO by year is as follows:
- (i) 2016: 2
  - (ii) 2017: 7
  - (iii) 2018: 3
  - (iv) 2019: 3
  - (v) 2020 to date: 1
- (b) In relation to (a), the following table shows the month and the Coroner's findings for each death where these have been delivered.

Year	Month	Coroner's Findings
2016	January	Aspiration of vomit, with microscopic early pneumonia, in a child with a history of cerebral palsy and epilepsy
	November	Natural Causes
2017	April	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	April	Suicide
	April	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	May	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	August	Natural Causes – renal failure
	August	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	November	Natural Causes – complications of metastatic neuroblastoma
2018	March	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	July	Natural Causes – aspiration pneumonia leading to multi-organ failure in a child with a complex medical history including cerebral palsy
	September	Accident – aspiration pneumonia, with terminal palliative care in a child with complex medical co-morbidities
2019	February	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	May	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
	July	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>
2020	February	<i>Findings not yet delivered</i>