

STATE BUDGET 2013–14 — DEPARTMENT FOR CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

389. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Child Protection:

When the minister knows that the number of children and young people coming into care is increasing and the demand for child protection services is increasing, why has the minister failed yet again in the 2013–14 state budget to increase the number of child protection workers in her department?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for asking that question. It gives me the opportunity to make the statement again that the rate at which children are coming into care is dropping. The actual rate at which children are coming into care is dropping. I am absolutely assured by the people in the Department for Child Protection and Family Support that the workforce that is required to manage those services is adequate and will continue to be so.