

EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION SERVICES

705. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Disability Services:

I refer to the minister's advice on 24 March 2015 in tabled paper 2698 that the waitlist of children seeking commission-funded early childhood intervention services in the Perth metropolitan area will decrease from 169 children in the next few months, as children seeking early intervention were offered places vacated by children moving to school-age services.

- (1) How many children are now on the waitlist for commission-funded services?
- (2) How many additional places have now been created using the \$1 million growth funding committed for early childhood intervention services?
- (3) How many children are now on the waitlist for commission-funded services in —
 - (a) metropolitan areas; and
 - (b) country areas?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of the question.

- (1) We have approximately 172 children in the metropolitan area currently waitlisted for early intervention services. Service providers are currently in contact with families to allocate 75 vacancies that have arisen from recent growth funding. I note that the information I provided in answer to the previous question on 24 March stated that this would happen in the following months, so we are coming to the end of that process now.
- (2) Seventy-two additional early intervention places were created with the \$1 million growth funding issued in May 2015.
- (3) The current waitlist for commission-funded early childhood intervention services is as follows —
 - (a) Four in metropolitan areas.
 - (b) Five in country areas.