

CHILD PROTECTION — COMPULSORY INCOME MANAGEMENT

106. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) During the months of March 2013, April 2013 and May 2013, how many individuals did the Department of Child Protection refer to Centrelink for compulsory income management, by district?
- (2) How many individuals with children have presented seeking financial assistance on two or more occasions to the department for the period 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, by district?
- (3) How many of these individuals have been assessed for the purpose of referral to the income management program, by district?

Hon Helen Morton replied:

- (1) The Department of Human Services (Centrelink) data shows that the Department referred the following number of clients to Centrelink in each of the following months, by district:

March 2013 — 53

Armadale — 5

Cannington — 2

East Kimberley — 6

Fremantle — 3

Joondalup — 2

Midland -18

Mirrabooka — 3

Peel — 1

Perth — 2

Rockingham — 7

West Kimberley — 4.

April 2013 — 25

Armadale — 5

Cannington — 3

East Kimberley — 3

Fremantle — 3

Joondalup — 2

Midland — 2

Mirrabooka — 0

Peel — 2

Perth — 0

Rockingham — 0

West Kimberley — 5.

May 2013 — 65

Armadale — 3

Cannington — 0

East Kimberley -27*

Fremantle — 2

Joondalup — 6

Midland — 12

Mirrabooka — 2

Peel — 0

Perth — 0

Rockingham — 10

West Kimberley — 3.

- (2) Between 1 March 2013 and 31 May 2013, 83 distinct individuals with children have presented, seeking financial assistance on two or more occasions, to the same district of the Department for Child Protection and Family Support. The breakdown by district is as follows:

Armadale — 1

Cannington — 2

Crisis Care — 10

East Kimberley — 2
Fremantle — 14
Great Southern — 2
Joondalup — 6
Midland — 4
Mirrabooka — 4
Murchison- 15
Peel — 13
Perth — 5
Pilbara — 1
Rockingham — 1
Southwest — 1
Wheatbelt — 2.

- (3) This information is on individual clients but the Department does not collect these statistics in a way that is reportable.

The Department's policy regarding compulsory income management requires caseworkers to consider referring clients when they present on multiple occasions for financial assistance within a short period of time and there are child neglect concerns.