

COMMUNITIES — RESPONSIBLE PARENTING AGREEMENTS

924. Ms L. Mettam to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) For the period 1 June to 31 August 2023, how many Responsible Parenting Agreements has the Department of Communities implemented?
- (2) How many of the Responsible Parenting Agreements listed in (1), originated from a referral from another State Government department, and how many were referred by each department?

Ms S.E. Winton replied:

The Department of Communities (Communities) advises:

Communities deliver a range of services in partnership with other government agencies and community services organisations to support families with complex needs. Programs from the Early Intervention and Family Support (EIFS) Strategy and Target 120 have increased targeted referrals for families with children and young people engaged in risk taking or challenging behaviour, or families requiring parenting support, therefore reducing the need for Responsible Parenting Agreements (RPA).

As intended, RPA's are only used on a last resort basis by Communities when every effort has been made to engage the parent/s on a voluntary basis in early intervention and support programs, and where it is in the best interests of the child.

- (1)–(2) During 1 June to 31 August 2023, there were four RPA's implemented. The four agreements did not originate from a referral from other State Government Departments.