

CARE PLANNING

**855. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:**

I refer to the work of the Care Plan Review Panel reported on at page 66 of the “2016–2017 Final Report” for the former Department for Child Protection and Family Support.

- (1) What were the circumstances of the one hearing resulting in the department’s care planning decision not being upheld?
- (2) Further to (1), what remedial steps have been taken in the case as a result of the panel’s decision?
- (3) Further to (2), have any system-wide remedial steps been implemented as a result of the lessons from that decision?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) The department was giving consideration to the relocation of the children interstate to a placement with the maternal grandmother. The plan was not upheld as the Care Plan Review Panel, upon consideration of all relevant information, considered the plan not to be in the best interests of the children. They had no attachment to the maternal grandmother and the maternal grandmother had not demonstrated sufficiently her commitment to meeting the children’s ongoing care needs. Additionally, the Care Plan Review Panel considered the existing placement to be a secure, loving, stable environment that provided optimum care.
- (2) No remedial action was required. The Care Plan Review Panel decision is aligned to the department’s permanency planning policy to make timely decisions that promote planning for a child’s stability from the time a child enters the CEO’s care.
- (3) Nil required.