

CHILDREN IN CARE — BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE

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

I refer to reported comments from a government spokeswoman that when efforts to provide other options to young people are exhausted, young people who are arrested, on remand or sentenced can be held at Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

- (1) Does this include children who are the responsibility of the Department of Communities?
- (2) If yes to (1), how many such children are currently at Banksia Hill?
- (3) Further to (2), what is the length of stay for the child currently resident for the longest period of time?
- (4) Further to (3), is the child resident at Banksia Hill because there are no vacancies at any residential or community care homes in our state?
- (5) If no to (4), why is the child resident at Banksia Hill?

**Hon SUE ELLERY replied:**

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) As at 10 June 2019, there are 27 children in the care of the chief executive officer of the Department of Communities currently in Banksia Hill Detention Centre.
- (3) As at 10 June 2019, the longest length of stay is 605 days.
- (4) No.
- (5) This is a young person who has been sentenced.