

CHILD PROTECTION — CHILDREN IN CARE

1361. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the minister representing the Minister for Early Childhood Education; Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Community Services:

I refer to Section 3.3.3 of the Department of Communities Casework Practice Manual, “Legal rights of children and caseworker responsibilities”, and I ask:

- (a) how many assessments for potential Criminal Injuries Compensation claims for children in the care of the Chief Executive Officer have been undertaken;
- (b) how many children in the care of the Chief Executive Officer have made a Criminal Injuries Compensation claim resulting from an offence that occurred during their time in care;
- (c) how many children in the care of the Chief Executive Officer have been awarded Criminal Injuries Compensation as a result of injuries suffered during their time in care;
- (d) how many children who have left the care of the Chief Executive officer have made a Criminal Injuries Compensation claim resulting from an offence that occurred during their time in care; and
- (e) how many children who have left the care of the Chief Executive Officer have been awarded Criminal Injuries Compensation as a result of injuries suffered during their time in care?

Hon Jackie Jarvis replied:

The Department of Communities advise:

- (a) 416 requests for Criminal Injury Compensation (CIC) assessments were submitted in 2022.
- (b) 0 in 2022. In circumstances where a claim arises during a young person’s time in care, Communities refers the young person to an independent law firm for legal advice. The independent firm provides advice to the young person including criminal injuries compensation claims.
- (c)–(e) Communities is not able to provide the requested data; Communities does not have access to the outcome of matters once the matters are referred to an independent law firm unless the child is still in care at the time of any award.