

COMMUNITY SERVICES — GRANDCARERS SUPPORT SCHEME

1522. Hon Donna Faragher to the minister representing the Minister for Community Services:

- (1) I refer to the Grandcarers Support Scheme, how many grandcarers received a payment in the following years:
  - (a) 2021–22; and
  - (b) 2022–23?
- (2) how many grandcarers applied but did not receive a payment in the following years:
  - (a) 2021–22; and
  - (b) 2022–23?

**Hon Jackie Jarvis replied:**

As part of the 2021–22 State Budget, the State Government implemented its 2021 election commitment delivering over \$1.5 million annually to increase support payments for grandcarers through the Grandcarer Support Scheme. Through the delivery of this commitment, West Australian grandcarers have benefitted from a significant boost to the payments they receive, with eligible grandparent carers annually receiving \$1,000 for each child in their care; up from the previous rate of \$400 for the first grandchild and \$250 for each additional grandchild.

The Department of Communities advises:

- (1) The following number of payments were made to grandcarers:
  - (a) 1,575 payments
  - (b) 1,730 payments
- (2)
  - (a) 302
  - (b) 290

Note: These applicants were ineligible to receive a payment for reasons including the grandchild being 18 years or over; receiving other support payments, not being the full time primary carer for their grandchild.