

CHILDREN IN CARE — WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

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

I refer to the answer to question without notice 754 answered on 31 August 2022.

- (1) Have the four children recorded in the placement type “unknown—in contact” been found?
- (2) How many children who are in the care of the CEO have their whereabouts currently recorded as —
 - (a) a missing person; or
 - (b) “unknown—in contact”?
- (3) Further to (2), how many have been reported to the Western Australia Police Force as a missing person?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

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

Children and young people may move between living arrangements, which are recorded by case management in the child or young person’s placement type. A child is recorded in a placement type “unknown—in contact” when the young person is unwilling to disclose their location but is still in contact with their caseworker or other safety networks that keep in contact with them. If the child cannot be located or contacted, they are recorded in placement type “missing child” and a missing persons report is submitted to the Western Australia Police Force. Every child still has access to the same supports that would be made available to them if they were residing in their approved placement.

As at 13 October 2022 —

- (1) Yes.
- (2)
 - (a) One.
 - (b) Two.
- (3) One.