

BUSY BEES, BALDIVIS — SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS

**1075. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Child Protection:**

I refer to the article in the *Sound Telegraph* titled “Busy Bees Baldivis facing multiple cases of child sexual abuse”.

- (1) When was this matter first brought to the attention of the minister?
- (2) Is the department investigating this matter?
- (3) Has the minister visited the childcare centre in question?
- (4) Has the minister met with any of the families of the children?
- (5) What support is being offered to the children who have been sexually abused?
- (6) What measures have been put in place to protect other children from this abuse?

**Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:**

On behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Child Protection, I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided by the Minister for Child Protection.

- (1) On 25 October 2021.
- (2) Yes. An education and care regulatory unit investigation is ongoing.
- (3)–(4) No.
- (5) The Department of Communities works with families to assist them to access appropriate counselling services as and when required. Any child interviewed in respect of sexual harm whom the Department of Communities deems would benefit from additional counselling or support is referred to the Parkerville advocate co-located within the multi-agency investigation and support team.
- (6) The approved provider for the centre has an obligation under the national law for the safety and wellbeing of children in their care. Information has been provided to the education and care regulatory unit on actions that the approved provider will have taken in response to this matter. As the investigation is ongoing, it is not appropriate that any further comment be made on the matter.