

CHILDREN IN CARE — WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

1109. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the answer to question without notice 1067, answered on 27 October 2022.

- (1) Has the child recorded as a missing person been found?
- (2) If yes to (1), for how many days was the child recorded as missing?
- (3) If no to (1), for how many days has the child been recorded as missing?
- (4) 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”?
- (5) Further to (4), 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’s or young person’s placement type. A child is recorded in a placement type “unknown—in contact” if 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 person’s 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.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) It was 17 days.
- (3) Not applicable.
- (4)
 - (a) There are five.
 - (b) There are eight.
- (5) There are five.