

CHILD PROTECTION — MISSING CHILDREN STATISTIC

1268. Hon Nick Goiran to the minister representing the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the answers to questions taken on notice during the 2021/22 Annual Report Hearings of the Standing Committee on Estimates & Financial Operations, and I ask:

- (a) noting the answer to question (3), that five missing children is not the record number reported to police on any given date, what is the record number; and
- (b) Further to (1), when did this occur?

Hon Jackie Jarvis replied:

Children and young people may move between living arrangements, which are recorded by case management in the child or young person's placement type.

If a 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. The Department of Communities (Communities) and Police work to contact and locate the child and ensure their safety.

Many of these children are teenagers. Every child still has access to the same supports that would be made available to them if they were residing in their approved placement.

From December 2021, Communities advises:

- (a) Eight.
- (b) 10 and 11 November 2022.