

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities

Question No: SQ16-000162

Topic: Child Protection

Hansard page: Written

Senator Carol Brown asked:

Has the Department been asked to do or undertaken of its own instigation any work to scope or explore options for National Database? If yes, what is the status of this work?

Answer:

The Department has not undertaken any specific work on options for a National Database. However, as noted in the Department's response to Question on Notice SQ16-000161, Strategy 3 of the Third Action Plan under the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children is "Organisations responding better to children and young people to keep them safe".

Action Area 3.2 is to address barriers to information sharing to allow easier information exchange within and across jurisdictions for government and non-government agencies where there are concerns about child wellbeing. Signature Action 3.2.1 is to share jurisdictional approaches to develop a best practice model of information exchange.

The Department is represented on the Strategy 3 Working Group, and will actively engage in the work of the Group to improve the exchange of information where there are concerns about child wellbeing.