

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2015 - 16, 10 February 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000203

**OUTCOME:** 0 – Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** AIHW Work on Child Protection and Youth Justice

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 40, 10 February 2016

**Senator:** Brown, Carol

**Question:**

- a) When can we expect the AIHW publication about child protection and youth justice which was mentioned in the Canberra Times newspaper of 10 February 2016 to be released?
- b) Which datasets does this research utilise?
- c) Was the work that you have done on this report undertaken for another organisation, or was it self-initiated?
- d) Can you provide information on other research that you are currently undertaking on any of the child protection issues?

**Answer:**

- a) The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) publication *Young people in child protection and under youth justice supervision 2013–14* was released on 10 February 2016. The report presents information on young people aged 10–17 who were involved in the child protection system and under youth justice supervision in 2013–14. The report is available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129554445> An accompanying methodological report was also released and is available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129553379>
- b) *Young people in child protection and under youth justice supervision 2013–14* was based on data from the Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set and Child Protection National Minimum Data Set (CP NMDS). These data sets are collated annually by the AIHW using administrative data supplied by the state and territory departments responsible for child protection and youth justice, in accordance with a set of nationally agreed definitions.

- c) This project was originally funded on a cost-share basis by the former Standing Council on Community and Disability Services Advisory Council (SCCDSAC) under the auspices of the Council of Australian Governments. Following the disbanding of the SCCDSAC, the Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators (AJJA) have agreed to continue to fund the production of this report on an annual basis for the next three years (July 2015–June 2018). The AJJA has representatives from each Australian state or territory department responsible for the delivery of youth justice services.
- d) The AIHW's main report on child protection services is the annual *Child protection Australia* series. This report contains comprehensive information on state and territory child protection and support services, and the characteristics of Australian children within the child protection system (covering investigations, care and protection orders and out-of-home care). The 2013–14 report is available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129550762> The next report will be released in April 2016.

The AIHW has also been recently involved in three other reports related to child protection.

- In October 2015, the AIHW released a report on the academic performance of Australian children in the care of child protection services in 2013. The findings are based on the linkage of data from the CP NMDS and the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy. The *Educational outcomes for children in care: linking 2013 child protection and NAPLAN data* report is available at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129552937> This project was funded by the SCCDSAC.
- In March 2016, the AIHW will release a bulletin providing an overview of results from a 2015 national pilot data collection on the views of children and young people in out-of-home care. It presents new data for eight indicators under the *National Standards for Out-of-Home Care*, allowing reporting against these indicators for the first time. Data will be presented on over 2,000 children aged 8–17 years who were under the care of the Minister or Chief Executive in the eight states and territories. This project was funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.
- Work is currently underway at the AIHW to analyse the characteristics of young people seeking specialist homelessness services and identify any differences in demographics, service needs and outcomes based on interactions with youth justice supervision and/or child protection services. It is anticipated that a report will be released in the second half of 2016. This work was funded by the Housing and Homelessness Data Network, which includes government representatives from housing and homelessness sectors in each jurisdiction.