# Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

### **2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and CommunitiesQuestion No: SQ15-000969

# **Topic: Third Action Plan of the National Framework for the Protection of Australia's**

## Children

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### Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:

I was listening to *Law Report* the other day and they were talking about the new pilot program in Victoria, the Family Drug Treatment Court. It specifically relates to children who are at risk of going into out-of-home care or have already gone into out-of-home care. Is that on your radar and are you in any way involved in looking at that approach?

#### Answer:

The Department is not involved with the pilot program. State and territory governments have statutory responsibility for the care and protection of children in their own state, including responsibility for the operation of their own child protection services such as the management of the foster care system.