

LEGISLATIVE RETURN



SUBMITTED BY: Minister Frost

1. On October 29, 2018 Ms. White
- asked the following oral question at page(s) 3221 ² of *Hansard*
- submitted the following written question – WQ No. _____
- gave notice of the following motion for the production of papers – MPP No. _____
- RE: Children in Care ²

OR

2. This legislative return relates to a matter outstanding from discussion related to:
- ~~group home staffing levels~~
- On October 29, 2018 at page(s) 3221 of *Hansard*

The response is as follows:

To provide some clarification regarding comments made in this House regarding group home staffing levels pertaining to providing additional “staff support in the evenings and weekends to ensure that and every youth is provided case management support when they need it”.

We have hired evening supervisors and work to never schedule anyone alone. Health and Social Services is committed to scheduling all group homes with a minimum of two Residential Care Workers and this practice continues today. When a shift vacancy occurs due to an unexpected absence, the supervisor on duty immediately initiates a series of steps. This is a fluid process where the supervisor is taking a number of factors into consideration, such as: day of the week; time of the shift; number of children/youth at the home; risk level of the children/youth; ratios at the home and the other five homes, and prioritizing available resources as other homes may have a greater need.

Supervisors use a Risk Assessment tool to determine risk. This tool is mostly used when not filling the vacancy would result in a Residential Care Worker working alone in a home.

While this is what we strive for, there are circumstances beyond our control, when people call in sick on short notice and coverage cannot be found, or when there are no youth in a home. This is realistic within the operational context.

Over the last eight months, the percentage of times that staff have worked alone has been 3.4 percent.

Nov 8, 2018
Date

[Signature]
Signature