

Obj file ref:

The Hon Helen Dalton MLA
Chair, Committee on Children and Young People
NSW Parliament
Macquarie Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

By email: childrenyoungpeople@parliament.nsw.gov.au

22 July 2024

Dear Ms Dalton

2024 Review of the Annual Reports and other matters of the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People and the Office of the Children's Guardian

I refer to my letter of 19 July 2024, and provide this further response to a question on notice not addressed in my letter of 19 July.

Questions on notice from the Hon. Emily Suvaal

In regard to the supplementary questions that you've provided answers to for the Committee, was there a reason that this information wasn't provided initially at the outset when we asked for the use of consultants for the Children's Guardian?

By way of background, in the March public hearing we took a question on notice from Dr Amanda Cohn as follows:

Could you outline each occasion that the department engaged an external consultant and what the purpose of that was?

Our response to this question on notice was provided in writing on 20 April 2024, and outlined the consultants engaged in the 2021-22 financial year, and the 2022-23 financial year. This information was provided on the basis that we understood the Committee's interest was in the review of the 2021-22 and 2022-23 Annual Reports of the Children's Guardian. In this letter, we also made an offer to provide the details of consultants engaged in the 2023-24 financial year, "if the Committee would find it helpful".

On 20 June 2024, we received correspondence setting out a "further supplementary question", which related to the details of the consultants engaged in the 2023-24 financial year, their fee, and the work they were engaged for. This information was provided on 1 July 2024.

I trust that the above advice reassures the Committee that at no stage was I unwilling to provide the information pertaining to consultants engaged during the 2023-24 financial year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any of the information in this correspondence.

Yours sincerely



Steve Kinmond OAM
NSW Children's Guardian