



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

MEDIA RELEASE



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Residential Care system failing the most vulnerable

Stuart Grimley MP has raised concerns with the Government over the continuous problems and failings with the residential care system.

[The Victorian Ombudsman report released last week](#) unveiled complaints of alleged assaults of five children in residential care, who were exposed to drugs and abuse because of ongoing failures in the system.

As a former SOCIT Detective, Mr Grimley affirmed that in his service, he had investigated adult men providing drugs for younger residential care children in exchange for sexual favours.

In Parliament this week, Mr Grimley asked the Minister of Child Protection, Hon Luke Donnellan to outline what steps were in place to ensure this serious situation was being addressed.

The State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party highlighted the Victorian Commissioner for Youth People, Liana Buchanan comments "in the last decade the number of children in care has doubled but funding has not kept pace".

"Why have we not seen funding keep pace with the number of children in care and when will we see this funding increased?" Grimley asked.

DHHS has recorded over 600 Victorian children are reported missing each year from out-of-home care due to the horrific conditions some are living in.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"As a former police officer I have returned children to resi-care and charged adult men with taking advantage of vulnerable teenagers. This type of behaviour needs to stop.

The high-risk youth unit is targeting these situations, but there are still many instances where this is happening and the Government need to do more.

It's an understatement to say that there are many issues we are seeing from out-of-home care and residential care."

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