

QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE

Legislative Council

ASKED BY: Hon Meg Webb MLC

ANSWERED BY: Hon Minister Jo Palmer MLC

QUESTION:

My question is to the Honourable Leader of the Government:

In relation to a news article published in the Examiner newspaper on the 22nd of October 2025 regarding the operations of JCP Youth, which included the following statements regarding the organisation's collation of a database:

"We patrol through the CBD, we have hotspot patrols around the northern suburbs, we identify what young people are out on the street," and, "Information on young people is then logged into a software program to enable JCP Youth's staff to monitor where, when and with whom they saw a young person"; can the government:-

1. Confirm whether these patrols are operating under the Beast program, and if so, is this activity included as part of the Funding Agreement provision?;
2. Clarify the legal basis for JCP Youth to be broadly recording young people 'out on the street' if it is not being done under a government funded program?;
3. Detail how many participants of the Beast program, that come under the 54 full time placements, are recorded on the database?;
4. Clarify whether JCP Youth has provided any information to the Government in regards to this database, and if so whether any of that information collection, retention and sharing with government adheres to Schedule 1 - Personal Information Protection Principles - of the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*?;
5. Provide full details of the software program used, and the type of information being recorded, by JCP Youth about young people as part of this surveillance activity, including:?
 - a. any stated purpose for that information collation;
 - b. the duration for which the information is kept;
 - c. any data management, access restrictions and protections applied to the database and its contents;
 - d. who has access to this software program and information it contains on young people, including their personal details and their location; and
 - e. how access to data and information contained on this program is managed, recorded and audited?

ANSWER:

Thank you Honourable member for the question.

Question 2:

Clarify the legal basis for JCP Youth to be broadly recording young people 'out on the street' if it is not being done under a government funded program?

- Broadly recording young people's movements is not a requirement of the agreement between JCP Youth and DECYP.
- Under its funding agreement with DECYP, JCP Youth is required to adhere to relevant legislation including the Personal Information Protection Act.
- The Department has contacted JCP Youth for further information and I have requested the Department provide me with an update as soon as the information is available.

Update as at 28 November 2025

- Under JCP Youth's funding agreement, participants referred by DECYP are recorded in JCP Youth's case management system also called a 'database'.
- Information collected by JCP Youth is managed with respect, ensuring participants' safety, privacy, and informed involvement.
- I am advised JCP Youth operates within the legal framework of the Commonwealth *Privacy Act 1988* and the Tasmanian *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*, as well as the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023*.
- Requests for information about JCP Youth's activities outside of the government funding agreement should be directed to JCP Youth.

Question 3:

Detail how many participants of the Beast program, that come under the 54 full time placements, are recorded on the database?

- Under JCP Youth's funding agreement, DECYP referred participants are required to be recorded in JCP Youth's case management system, otherwise called a database.

Update as at 28 November 2025:

- I am advised JCP Youth's partnership with the department to deliver the BEAST Program is a multi-year model of 54 full-time placements distributed across the term of the funding agreement, being three years.
- I am further advised for the 2025 program year, there are currently 18 active placements, and all 18 participants are recorded within JCP Youth's secure case management system (database).
- Each record includes consent documentation, progress notes, assessments, and engagement history, consistent with government and legislative compliance frameworks and retention schedules.

Question 4:

Clarify whether JCP Youth has provided any information to the Government in regards to this database, and if so whether any of that information collection, retention and sharing with government adheres to Schedule 1 - Personal Information Protection Principles - of the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*?

- Under its funding agreement with DECYP, JCP Youth is required to adhere to relevant legislation including the *Personal Information Protection Act*.

Update as at 28 November 2025

- I am advised the JCP Youth data collection and retention practices are designed to comply with Australian and Tasmanian privacy laws, including the principles under Schedule 1 of the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.
- I am further advised information shared with the department is limited to what is necessary for program oversight and is managed in accordance with the department's privacy and security requirements and the *Personal Information Protection Act*.

Question 5:

Provide full details of the software program used, and the type of information being recorded, by JCP Youth about young people as part of this surveillance activity, including:?

- a. any stated purpose for that information collation;
 - b. the duration for which the information is kept;
 - c. any data management, access restrictions and protections applied to the database and its contents;
 - d. who has access to this software program and information it contains on young people, including their personal details and their location; and
 - e. how access to data and information contained on this program is managed, recorded and audited?
- Under JCP Youth's funding agreement with DECYP every encounter with DECYP referred participants is required to be logged in the JCP Youth case management system, which stores information for seven years and includes a reporting function.
 - The Department has contacted JCP Youth for further information and I have requested the Department provide me with an update as soon as the information is available.

Update as at 28 November 2025

- I am advised JCP Youth uses a secure, cloud-based case management platform as the central system for recording, sharing, and managing participant information in a safe and efficient way.
- This platform is specifically designed for the human services sector and complies with Australian privacy, child protection, and data management legislation. I am advised the platform meets stringent data protection and security standards, including role-based access controls, multi-factor authentication, and audit logging to safeguard sensitive information.
- I am advised the system is a proven, evidence-based solution widely adopted across multiple jurisdictions in supporting collaborative case management, care planning, and the protection of vulnerable children and families. In using this platform, JCP Youth ensure that information is managed ethically and securely, enabling transparency, accountability, and best-practice service delivery.

- I am advised the data and information JCP Youth collects includes:
 - Participant demographics and contact details
 - Emergency and medical information
 - Case notes, engagement logs, and incident reports
 - Consent forms and legal documentation
 - Program attendance, goals, and outcomes
 - Photos or videos where consent has been provided
- Regarding the purpose for information and data collection, I am advised JCP Youth collect this information for the sole purpose of:
 - Delivering safe and effective youth development programs
 - Monitoring participant wellbeing and progress
 - Meeting child safety, legal, and reporting obligations, and
 - Ensuring accountability to funding bodies and partners
- In regard to the retention and storage of data and information, I am advised JCP Youth works according to specific disposal schedules, including:
 - **General participation/administrative records:** (for example, program attendance, non-sensitive notes, correspondence). JCP Youth retains this information for at least 7 years after the participant is closed.
 - **Case-management and support notes:** (for example, behavioural and risk assessments, mental-health or offending-behaviour details) JCP Youth retains this information until the participant reaches the age of 25.
 - **Highly sensitive records:** (for example, where there has been serious offending, detention or secure care, or child-protection involvement) JCP Youth retains this information as per schedule for children's records which might mean indefinitely or until the participant is at the age of 25 then archive or review for permanent retention.
- I am further advised access to the JCP Youth database (or case management system) is role-restricted and audited. Only authorised

staff, such as program facilitators, team leaders, and senior management, may access participant information relevant to their role. Each user is assigned an individual login and multi-factor authentication. The system logs and records every access event for audit and compliance purposes.

- I am advised JCP Youth's Privacy and Consent Agreement, signed by all participants, parents and/or guardians outlines the data collection, use, disclosure, and protection practices applied by JCP Youth.

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED



Hon. Minister Jo Palmer
Minister for Children and Youth

Date: 3 December 2025