

Social Affairs Department
Quarterly Statistical Bulletin
Quarter 2 2020

Introduction

This quarterly statistical bulletin aims to present the statistics of the Social Affairs Department for the second quarter of 2020. Information is gathered from the Legal Services and Child Protection section, Community Social Work section and the Night shelter.

Social Services

Legal Services & Child Protection Section

The Child protection unit deals with any cases related to children aged between 0-14 years old. As part of the investigating process and intervention plan, the unit undertakes home and school visits as well as counselling sessions.

The Legal Services Unit's main responsibility is to handle cases referred by the Supreme Court and Family Tribunal for investigation and submission of reports to address children related issues of custody, access, maintenance, adoption, guardianship and mediation for reconciliation in divorce matters.

Table 1: Number of abuse cases reported in Q2

Categories	Total Q2
Sexual related cases	
Sexual abuse (confirmed)	34
Alleged sexual abuse(Under investigation)	19
Sexual play	1
Other Abuse	
Physical	35
Alleged physical abuse	7
Alleged Neglect	1
Total Q2	97

Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section

- Most of the cases (71%) reported were related to sexual and physical abuse of children. Compared to the first quarter of 2020 an increase of 18 was recorded in the total number of cases reported. The most substantial increase (16) was observed in the number of alleged sexual abuse cases reported. This followed by an increase of 10 in the number of confirmed sexual abuse cases reported.

- 77 cases were reported in the same period in 2019. This shows an increase of 20 in the number of cases reported in the second quarter of 2020.

Table 2: Number of referral cases in Q2

	Total Q2
Family tribunal referrals	
Custody, access & maintenance	35
Supreme court	
Adoption	4
Attempted reconciliation	1

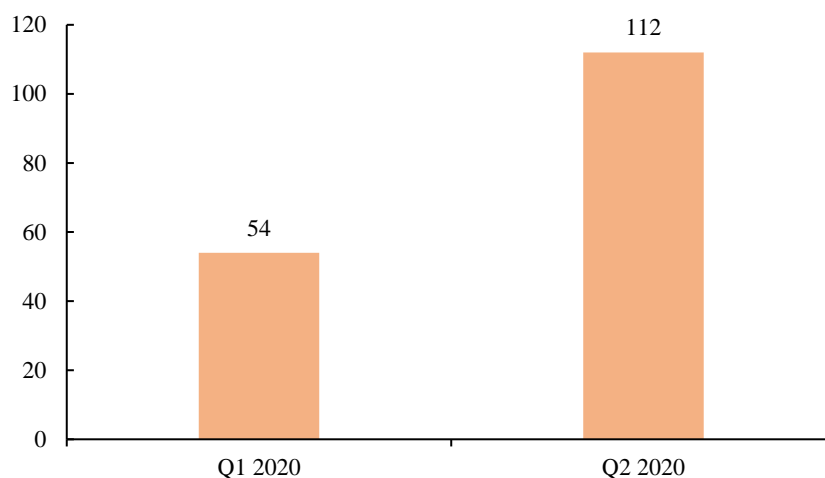
Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section

- On a quarter on quarter comparison, the number of referred cases from the Family tribunal declined by 28 compared to quarter 1 of 2020. Compared to the second quarter of 2019 cases declined by 8.
- The number of cases referred by the Supreme court remained unchanged from the first quarter of 2020. Compared to the same period last year, referrals from the Supreme court decline by 2.

Children’s Helpline

Social Services introduced the 3-digit helpline operated on a daily basis up to 11.00pm. The helpline is manned on a rotational basis by social workers of the two main sections, Community Social Work Section and Legal and Child Protection Section.

Figure 1: Number of cases referred through helpline in Q1 2020 and Q2 2020



Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section

- A total of 112 cases was referred through the helpline in the second quarter of 2020. This represents an increase of 58 when compared to the first quarter of 2020.
- In comparison to quarter 2 of 2019, an increase of 64 cases has been recorded.

Community Social Work Section

Community social work promotes the wellbeing of the community. It encompasses a variety of components focusing on economic needs, educational concerns, family challenges, collaborative and creative solutions at community level. It further emphasizes on advocacy, analysis planning and implementation of activities to support families and alleviate the difficult situation they are going through.

Table 3: Number of cases reported at the Community Social Work section in Q2

Categories	Total Q2
Neglect	13
Delinquency	4
Alleged neglect	22
Alleged Emotional abuse	2
Deviancy	7
Semi orphan benefit	3
Housing issue	10
Alcohol	1
Alleged physical abuse	1
Behavioral Issue	1
Elderly neglect	9
Homeless	13
Access	2
Family conflict	46
Domestic Violence	1
Approved scheme benefit	5
Mental health	2
Drug related issues	1
Elderly financial abuse	4
Alleged Elderly physical abuse	1
Alleged elderly financial abuse	1
Elderly emotional abuse	4
Elderly hygiene	2
Teenage pregnancy	1
Sexually active	1
Domestic Conflict	24
Placement	1
Total Q2	182

Source: Community Social work section

- The total number of cases reported at the Community Social work section during the second quarter totaled 182. With most cases reported for family conflict.
- Compared to the first quarter cases **reported increased by 119**. Compared to the same period last year, an increase of 45 in reported cases was recorded.

Night Shelter

The mission of the night shelter is to cater for those individuals identified as being homeless due to their dysfunctionalities. The main aim is to provide psychosocial support and skills thus promote reintegration within their families and society.

Table 4: Night shelter admissions (Q2 2020)

Months	Admission
April	11
May	2
June	3
Total admission	16

Source: Night Shelter

- The number of admissions increased by 7 when compared to quarter 1. A total of 7 clients were above the age of 50 and 6 were between 20-39 years of age.