

**Social Affairs Department**  
**Quarterly Statistical Bulletin**  
**Quarter 2 2021**

**Introduction**

This quarterly statistical bulletin aims to present the statistics of the Social Affairs Department for the second quarter of 2021. 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

<b>Categories</b>	<b>Total Q2</b>
<b>Sexual related cases</b>	
Sexual abuse (confirmed)	32
Alleged sexual abuse(Under investigation)	13
Sexual play	4
Sexual exposure	1
Alleged Sexual exposure	1
<b>Other Abuse</b>	
Physical	13
Alleged physical abuse	8
Neglect	4
Threatening violence	2
<b>Total Q2</b>	<b>78</b>

*Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section*

In comparison to quarter 1, the number of reported cases of abuse increased by 21, with the most substantial increase recorded in sexual abuse cases and alleged physical abuse cases.

Table 2: Number of referral cases in Q2

	<b>Total Q2</b>
<b>Family tribunal referrals</b>	
Custody, access & maintenance	52
<b>Supreme court</b>	
Adoption	2
Guardianship	1

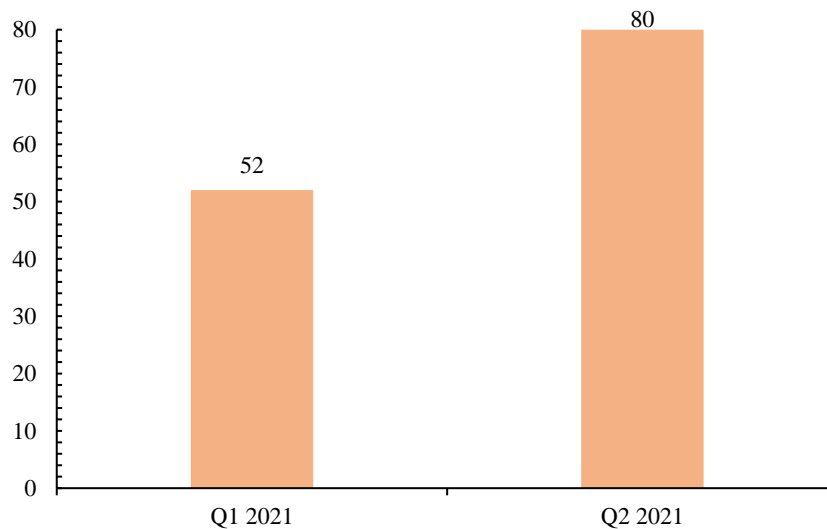
*Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section*

When compared to quarter 1 cases from the family tribunal increased by 22. Whilst cases from the supreme court remained more or less the same with 1 additional case for adoption.

### 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 2021 and Q2 2021



*Source: Legal Services & Child Protection section*

The number of cases referred through the helpline increased by 28 in the second quarter of 2021 when compared to the first quarter.

## 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	1
Emotional abuse	3
Deviancy	8
Semi orphan benefit	2
Housing issue	5
Alcohol	1
Elderly neglect	1
Alleged elderly neglect	1
Homeless	8
Access	1
Spousal conflict	13
Family conflict	25
Approved scheme benefit	1
Mental health	2
Drug related issues	1
Maintenance	1
Elderly physical abuse	1
Custody	1
Elderly emotional abuse	2
Elderly housing	4
Elderly hygiene	1
Vagrant adult	4
Sexually active	1
Financial issues	1
Supervision	1
<b>Total Q2</b>	<b>103</b>

The total number of cases reported at the Community Social work section during the second quarter increased by 7. More categories of cases were reported in quarter 2 compared to quarter 1.

## 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 2021)

<b>Months</b>	<b>Admission</b>
April	2
May	5
June	1
<b>Total admission</b>	<b>8</b>

The number of admissions declined by 6 when compared to quarter 1. A total of 3 clients were aged between 30-39 years old and 2 clients were 19 years of age.