



Government of **Western Australia**
Department for **Child Protection**
and **Family Support**

Care Arrangement Support Cost Trial

Purpose

- ✓ Recap on the implementation plan of the Needs Assessment Tool (NAT) and Care Arrangement Referral (CAR).
- ✓ Understand the relationship between the NAT and the Care Arrangement Support Cost (CASC)
- ✓ Explain and understand the pilot of the Care Arrangement Support Cost resource framework and the timeframes.



Reform Actions



10. Implement new out-of-home care resource framework.
11. Pilot NAT with CASC cost framework (children in high needs programs).(Phase 1)
12. Explore integration of NAT with CASC cost framework for other children. (Phase 2)

Recap of the NAT

- ✓ Consistently identify and assess the complex and changing needs of children in care across the dimensions of well being
- ✓ Track needs and outcomes over time
- ✓ Support improved matches of children's needs with suitably skilled carers
- ✓ Apply resourcing model to apportion resources to children based on their individual needs



NAT - Questions

Safety

- Self Harming Behaviours
- Sexual behaviours
- Offending behaviour
- Violent or aggressive behaviour
- Fire setting behaviour
- Suicidal behaviours
- Substance Use
- Absconding behaviour
- Property damaging

Care Arrangement

- Excessive carer travel

Health

- Mental health issues
- Physical disability or medical needs
- Development concerns

Education

- School behaviours
- Attendance
- Educational development

Social and family relationship

- Relationship with parents
- Relationship with siblings

Recreation and leisure

- Social inclusion and participation

Emotional and behavioural issues

- Self esteem, identity and emotional wellbeing

Identity and culture

- Connection with culture

The Needs Assessment Tool (NAT)

Needs Assessment Tool

[Save](#) | [360-Degree View](#) | [Care Planning](#) | [CIP](#) | [Person Details](#) | [Help](#)

Person ID 453215	Address 7 South Rd, Shoalwater, WA, 6169, AUS
Surname OSTRICH	Phone Number
Forename Ollie	Gender M
Date of Birth(K) 1/7/2008	ATSI Neither Aboriginal nor TSI
Age 8 Y	CaLD No
Current Status PPC s37	Interpreter
Phase of Care Temporary	

Dimensions | **Approved NATs**

Creation Date: 27/10/2016 10:23 **Status:** Work in Progress **Last approved NAT:** 27/10/2016 10:05

[Review NAT](#) [View Draft Report](#) [Endorse/Approve](#)



[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

Safety

In the last 12 months has Ollie displayed any of the following behaviours?

Question	Response
Self harming behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Suicidal behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Sexualised behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Substance use	<input type="text"/>
Offending behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Absconding behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Violent or aggressive behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Fire setting behaviour	<input type="text"/>
Property damaging behaviour	<input type="text"/>

▼ Evidence to support the Needs Assessment

How the NAT is informed?

Discussion with:

- The child.
- The child's carer.
- A community services sector case manager (if the child's care arrangement is being provided by a community sector organisation).
- Other members of the child's care team, for example:
- Parents and birth family.
- Aboriginal Practice Leader and Aboriginal community members.
- Professionals working with the child including teachers, health professionals and others.

Documentation:

- Viewpoint and Quarterly Care Reports (QCRs).
- Medical assessments and treatment plans.
- School reports or reports from other government agencies.
- Carer reports.
- Annual care plans or cultural identity plans.

Benefits

Child



- Highlights key information to inform care planning decisions.
- Consistent mechanism to identify needs of children, supporting easier tracking of a child's changing needs.
- Provide more informative information in care arrangement referrals to support more effective and successful matching of children with carers.
- In time, support more accurate and equitable allocation of resources to meet a child's specific needs.

Care Team



- Identification of key child information for the child's care team to consider in care planning decisions .
- Supporting members of a child's care team (including health, education and other professionals) to identify and plan for their role in the child's life.
- Support a child's care team to track a child's needs and the benefit of different interventions over time.

OOHC system



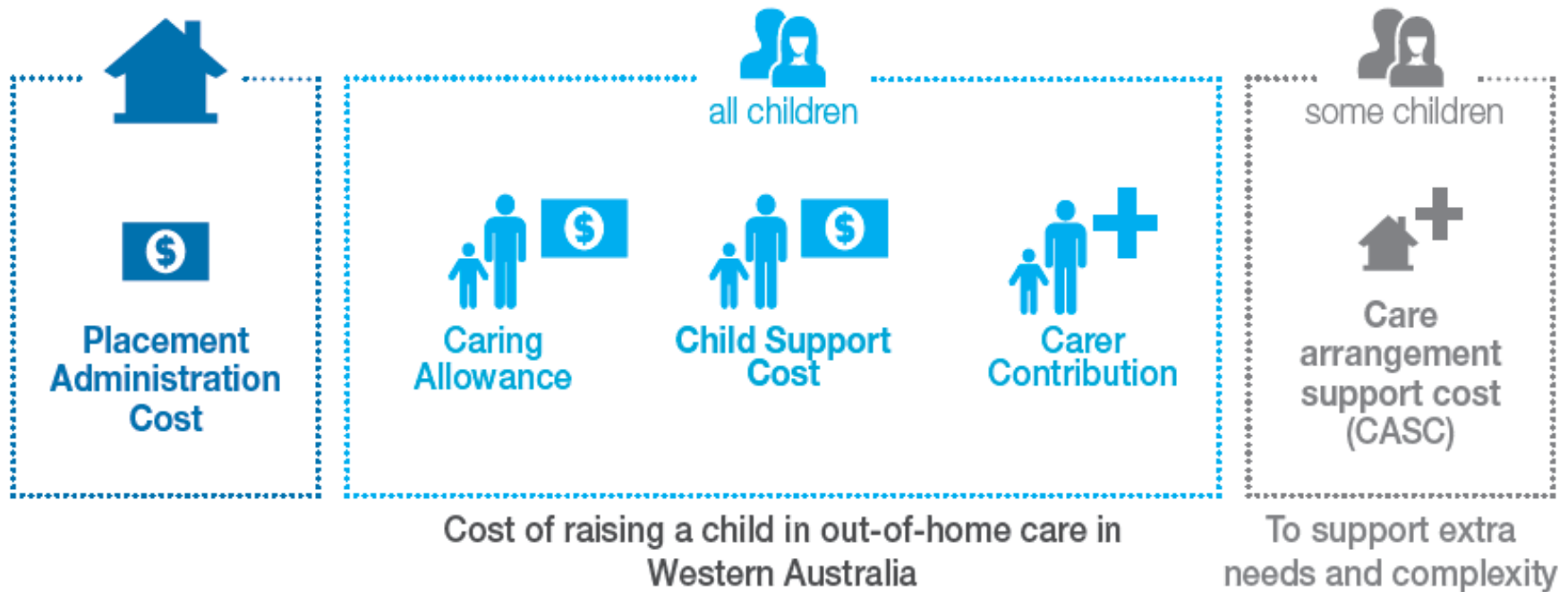
- Identify and track the complexity of needs of children in out-of-home care.
- Aid future resource allocation and service system design to better meet the needs of children in out-of-home care.
- In time, support more equitable resource allocation to children based on their needs.

Care Arrangement Support Cost (CASC)

- The new out of home care funding model will be more accurately aligned with the typical cost of raising a child in out of home care.
- In consultation with the sector and engaging Price Waterhouse Cooper, the CASC cost model was developed.
- The CASC is the additional cost used to support a child in their care arrangement, based on the child's particular complexity and need.
- Each child's level of CASC funding will be derived from the outcome of the Needs Assessment Tool combined with a set of standard service responses and costs.



Care Arrangement Support Cost (CASC)



Purpose of the CASC Trial

- Identify a cross sample of current care arrangements which will include Fremantle and West Kimberley District's and the Disability, Specialised and Transitional High Needs programs.
- Use the NAT outputs for this cohort to test the CASC resource framework to establish if the funding levels are appropriate and sustainable
- Develop a consistent quoting template to include a breakdown of services provided, care types and costs.
- Working towards reporting processes which demonstrate progress, outcome measures and financial accountability
- Develop and maintain an effective communication strategy with the district offices and the community service sector organisations to share learnings, develop quality practice and establish robust referral processes.



Outcomes of the CASC Trial

- Success of the integration of the NAT outputs to the CASC resource framework
- Testing the use and effectiveness of a consistent quoting template
- Analysis of the community service sector organisations' capacity to provide a care arrangement that matches the NAT outputs and CASC resource
- Analysis of the discrepancies of quotes and the reasons for this
- Review of the referral processes and policies 6 months post implementation



CASC Trial Timeframes

- November 2016 communication with the District's and Community sector Organisations.
- 1st December 2016, Needs Assessment Tool (NAT) and Care Arrangement Referral (CAR) will “go live” in Assist.
- The trial group (Fremantle, West Kimberley, Disability, Transitional High Needs and Specialised Fostering) will have all NAT's completed by 31 December 2016.
- All other children in care to have NAT's completed by 28th February 2017.
- 19th December 2016 to end January 2017 completed NAT's and costing framework to be sent to agencies for their completion
- February – March 2017 analysis of information to occur.
- April 2017 feedback to District's and Community sector Organisations.

Expectations of Community Sector Organisations

- Currently funded organisations within the Disability, Transitional High Needs and Specialised Fostering programs will be provided with the outcome of the Needs Assessment Tool relating to children and young people in their care once they are completed.
- A costing template against the NAT outcomes will also be provided (as per example provided).
- Organisations are asked to complete the costing template in line with the child or young person's NAT within their current individual contracted budget.
- Organisations are asked to provide funding levels and a description of service against each dimension.
- This exercise needs to be completed by 31st January 2017.

Questions

