



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

QoN No - 49

Asked by Elizabeth Kikkert: To ask the Minister for Families and Community Services

Ref: Child and Youth Protection Services, Budget Statement G, p. 24, output class CSD 2.3 Child and Youth Protection Services

In relation to: More Support for Out of Home Care

1. What was the \$625,000 for 'More support for the Out of Home Care system' in the last financial year intended for?
2. Why was this money unspent last year?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The \$625,000 for 'More Support for the Out of Home Care system' had a two-fold purpose. This funding was used as part of the establishment and ongoing costs for a therapeutic residential care program. The second component was for the operational costs for the redesign and post strategy evaluation of the *A Step Up for Our Kids* out of home care strategy.
2. The underspend in the therapeutic residential care program can be attributed to a delay in the establishment of this service and the program not being occupied at the rate anticipated, hence resulting in an underspend. The post strategy evaluation also incurred a delay in establishment.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature:

Date:

17 / 11 / 21

By the Minister for Families and Community Services , Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA