



Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Mrs Kikkert MLA

Reference: Hearing on 4 November 2022, Output Class 1.5 Safer Families, CSD Annual Report 2021-22, p 83.

In relation to: Service for children under 12 years who are victims of domestic and family violence.

1. I understand that the Australian Childhood Foundation will be delivering a new domestic and family violence service for children under the age of 12, and that this service commences Term 1 of next year. Will there be an independent evaluation conducted on this service to assess its effectiveness and inform its future? If so, who will be conducting the evaluation; if not, how will this service be evaluated?
 - a. How has the ACT government promoted this service, and given the longstanding demand for a children's domestic violence service, how are participants for the pilot period selected? Are they referred from women's refuges, given that the service model involves the children and their mothers in a parallel groupwork?

Minister Berry: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. Yes. The pilot will be independently evaluated from its inception to assess its effectiveness and inform its future. The Office of the Coordinator-General for Family Safety (OCGFS) is currently in the process of undertaking a procurement process to engage a provider for the evaluation.
 - a. The Australian Childhood Foundation and the ACT Government have met with agencies engaging with women and children victim-survivors to promote the new children's service. This has been through direct consultation, as well as hosting an online presentation about the model on 23 November 2022 for service providers. Referrals will be accepted from all agencies in the sector. Information about referring clients and referral forms have been sent directly to sector stakeholders, including women's refuges.

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

Signature:

Date:

06/02/23

By the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Yvette Berry MLA