

**2018**

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AGEING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
REPORT NO 3**

**REPORT ON ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS 2016-2017**

**Presented by  
Mr Andrew Barr MLA  
Chief Minister**

## **Introduction**

On Thursday, 26 October 2017, the 2016-17 annual and financial reports of all ACT Government agencies were referred to the relevant standing committees of the Assembly for inquiry and reporting.

Annual reports referred to the Standing Committee on Health, Ageing and Community Services (the Committee) were the:

- ACT Health Directorate, including the ACT Local Hospital Network Directorate;  
and
- Community Services Directorate.

## **Response to Committee Recommendations**

### **Recommendation 1**

3.12 The Committee recommends that the Health Directorate consider the findings in the Auditor-General's ACT Government strategic and accountability indicators report.

#### **Government Response - Agreed**

The Health Directorate has considered the Auditor-General's report and will review and update strategic priorities and performance indicators in line with updated guidance material, once it has been released by the Government.

### **Recommendation 2**

3.13 The Committee recommends that the Health Directorate include information relating to the contracting of Visiting Medical Officers in Annual Reports annually.

#### **Government Response - Agreed in principle**

The Health Directorate will reinstate the inclusion of information relating to the contracting of Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) in the Annual Report annually. The level of detail included in the Annual Report will be subject to further advice / interpretation of the *Health (Visiting Medical Officer Core Conditions) Determination 2016* and any clauses or conditions within the Core Conditions Agreement which may prevent the Directorate from publishing certain information (i.e. payments made to individual VMOs).

### **Recommendation 3**

3.38 The Committee recommends that the Minister for Mental Health and Minister for Health and Wellbeing ensure that any recommendations that apply to the detention of young people, or people with a mental illness, arising from the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory be considered for application in the ACT.

#### **Government Response – Agreed**

The Blueprint Taskforce will consider any relevant recommendations from the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory. The need to better support young people with disability and mental health concerns who come into contact with the youth justice system has been identified as an emerging challenge for consideration by the Blueprint Taskforce.