



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

**Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

ELIZABETH KIKKERT MLA: To ask the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Ref: Output Class 1.5 Safer Families, Community Services Directorate (CSD) Annual Report 2020–2021

In relation to the report, *We Don't Shoot Our Wounded...* (2009)

1. The report, *We Don't Shoot Our Wounded...* was published in 2009. During annual reports hearings on 4 March 2022, The Minister suggested that one of the possible reasons the report was not responded to until 2019 was that it was a 'report that developed outside of the government.' What other reasons could have contributed to the decade-long delay?
2. Can the Minister please provide a list of reports produced that are relevant to family and domestic violence, and funded by the ACT government since 2009?

**MS BERRY:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. In 2019, the ACT Government made a joint Ministerial Statement to acknowledge and respond to '*We Don't Shoot Our Wounded*'. As part of this statement, the ACT Government apologised for the delay and silence, recognising the significant distress, anger and frustration this inaction caused the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

While the delay in responding to '*We Don't Shoot Our Wounded*' is acknowledged, the ACT Government has made a strong commitment to working with ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representative bodies, including the Domestic Violence Prevention Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group, on areas of future work from the report and beyond. Government has also committed to community-led actions to address family violence to be progressed under the *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028*.

As an initial step, the 2019-20 Budget committed \$354,000 over three years to deliver family-centred responses for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families impacted by family violence.

2. In 2015, the *Domestic Violence Prevention Council (DVPC) Report on Domestic & Family Violence, including Sexual Assault, in the ACT* was provided to government. This report was the outcome of the 2015 DVPC Extraordinary Meeting to identify the key issues in the ACT relating to domestic and family violence, including sexual assault.

In 2016, the ACT Government received three reports with recommendations for improving service responses to domestic and family violence:

- *Report of the Inquiry: Review into the System Level Responses to Family Violence* in the ACT by Mr Laurie Glanfield AM;
- *Findings and Recommendations from the Review of Domestic and Family Violence Deaths in the ACT* by the Domestic Violence Prevention Council; and
- *The ACT Domestic Violence Service System Final Gap Analysis Report* undertaken by the Community Services Directorate.

In 2017 the '*Change our Future. Share What You Know*' report on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Domestic and Family Violence Community Forum was provided to the ACT Government.

The *Our Booris, Our Way* review was also provided to Government in 2017. This report examined the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in our child protection system.

The *DVPC Report from the Extraordinary Meeting* was provided to Government in 2018 and made recommendations relating to the needs of children and young people.

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

Signature:



Date:

18/04/22

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