



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Children, Youth and Families

In relation to: Therapeutic Support Panel and Advice

Hearing: 12 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 5

Transcript provided: 18 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

THE CHAIR: Maybe it is a question on noticed. I am curious about this halt in February of this year. We have got this fantastic mechanism here, which I am really— you know, and I think most committee members are really supportive of the existence of the panel. Whether your advice has been sought at any point since February about any specific cases, whether or not something should be referred to the panel—like, not something, someone should be referred to the panel.

Mr Barker: Okay, yes.

THE CHAIR: Do you care to take that?

Mr Barker: Yes, absolutely. I can take the question on notice.

THE CHAIR: Not whether the advice was provided, but whether it was sought. Thank you. Would you describe it as being used as a last resort, the Therapeutic Support Panel?

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Therapeutic Support Panel (the Panel) is co-located with Children, Youth and Families Practitioners.

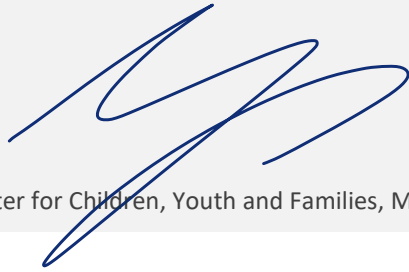
Since February 2025, advice has been sought informally with the team. Advice is usually sought to confirm if a young person has been referred or an active client.

The Panel assesses therapeutic needs, provides advice on therapeutic treatment and support, and assists children and young people at risk of or engaging in harmful behaviours. The Panel's role is to inform how resources and supports can be best utilised as part of a therapeutic plan.

OFFICIAL

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping loops and strokes.

Date: 24.11.12

By the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA