



STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION  
MICHAEL PETERSSON MLA (CHAIR), JONATHAN DAVIS MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), PETER CAIN MLA

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

Elizabeth Kikkert: To ask the Minister for Early Childhood Development

Ref: Early Childhood Development, Budget Statement G, p. 21, output class CSD 2.1 Child and Family Centres, output class CSD 2.2 Child Development Services

In relation to: Accountability Indicators for Child and Family Centres and the Child Development Service

1. What caused the decline in Parenting Assistance Sessions as indicated in Table 17: Accountability Indicators Output 2.1?
2. What caused the decline in hours of service provided to clients of Child Development Services as indicated in Table 18: Accountability Indicators 2.2?

YVETTE BERRY MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The reduction in Parenting Assistance sessions is due to the impact of COVID-19 in this period. During this time, West Belconnen Child and Family Centre was relocated to the Weston Creek area for eight months, reducing the ability to run locally based sessions. All centres reduced their number of sessions in line with COVID-safe practices.
2. The reduction in hours of service provided to clients of Child Development is attributed to a number of staff vacancies over the reporting period and changes in service delivery, as controls to limit client numbers in waiting spaces and treatment areas were implemented to align with COVID-safe practices.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:

Date:

03/11/21

By the Minister for Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry MLA