



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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

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

QoN No - 54

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Asked by Elizabeth Kikkert: To ask the Assistant Minister for Seniors, Veterans, Families and Community Services

Ref: Community Services, Budget Statement G, p. 14, output class CSD 1.3 Strategic Policy

In relation to: Strategic Policy New Initiatives

1. What are the new initiatives mentioned note 2 to Table 5?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The new initiatives mentioned in note 2 to Table 5 of the Community Services, Budget Statement G, relate to Raising the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility and amendments to the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

The ACT Government committed to raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility in the Parliamentary Governing Agreement for the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

A number of reforms currently underway will require amendment to the *Children and Young People Act 2008*, including raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility, embedding a model for external review of child protection decisions and implementing a charter of rights for families involved in child protection.

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

Signature:

Date:

18/12/21

By the Minister for Families and Community Services, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA