



**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 – 33 HCW

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

Ref: Youth Justice, Budget Outlook, p. 403, Budget Statement G, p. 10, output class CSD 2.3 Child and Youth Protection Services

In relation to: Franklin House/Residential Property for Young People on Community-Based Orders

1. This budget mentions ‘additional staff at Bimberi for induction and training in preparation for deployment to Franklin House’.
  - a. Is this the ‘residential property for young people on youth justice orders’ that the government promised for 2020–21?
  - b. If not, what is Franklin House?
2. Is the residential property for young people on youth justice orders operating now, and if not, why not?
3. In February, I raised concerns about making sure that this residential property was culturally appropriate for First Nations young people, including in its staffing.
  - a. What steps has the government taken to make sure this is the case?
  - b. Does it have Aboriginal staff? Aboriginal community engagement?
4. Who has (will have) access to this facility and how does (will) it operate?

EMMA DAVIDSON MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

1.
  - a. This is a residential property to support young people subject to youth justice orders.
  - b. See above response.
2. As a result of COVID-19 and weather causing delays to construction the house is not currently operational. The house is due to be operational by January 2022. Work is underway to finalise renovations to ensure it is fit-for-purpose house, training staff, update existing policies and procedures, and fit out the property, acquiring soft furnishing and other items such as vehicles, office equipment, ICT. Due to the

Territory wide lockdown the construction work was placed on hold and recommenced the week of 27 September 2021.

3.
  - a. Bimberi Residential Services (BRS) currently provides residential care through Narrabundah House Indigenous Supervised Residential Facility (Narrabundah House). Narrabundah House is a 24-hour, seven days per week, residential facility in the community for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander males aged between 15 and 18 years of age, who are on community-based youth justice orders.  
  
Franklin House, when operational, will use the same model as Narrabundah House, however it will not specifically target Aboriginal young men.
  - b. Narrabundah House is supported by a Governance Committee which includes an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community representative. This Governance Committee will also support Franklin House.
4. Franklin House is a community residential service for young people on youth justice orders and will operate similarly to Narrabundah House. Young people on community-based youth justice can be referred to Franklin House by their Child and Youth Protection Services (CYPS) case manager. The service will offer accommodation and support to a small number of young people.

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

Signature: 

Date: 9 NOV 2021

By the Assistant Minister for Seniors, Veterans, Families and Community Services, Emma Davidson MLA