



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 Office of the Coordinator-General for Family Safety

1. Page 73 of the CSD Annual Reports 2020-21 state that the Office developed ‘new ways of working to provide support earlier, reduce barriers to access, respond to diverse needs and hold perpetrators to account.’ Can the Minister please detail these developments?

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

1. Pages 73 – 75 of the Annual Report provide further information on these developments, including:
 - Information on new ways of working to provide support earlier, which is outlined in the overview of supporting pregnant women at risk (page 74). The health justice partnerships provide integrated health and legal assistance to families before or immediately after the birth of a new child, which is recognised as a period of heightened risk for domestic and family violence. Co-locating lawyers within health care settings means women can access support earlier, before reaching crisis. The health justice partnerships have received ongoing funding through the 2021-22 ACT budget.
 - Reducing barriers to access, such as additional frontline service funding (page 73). This additional investment supports frontline services to assist more clients, including addressing heightened complexities experienced because of COVID-19.
 - Responses to diverse needs are outlined across pages 73-75; and incorporate work with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference

Group of the Domestic Violence Prevention Council to implement the recommendations from the *We Don't Shoot Our Wounded* report. Other responses to the diverse needs of the community include strengthening responses to children and young people which is detailed in response to QoN56.

- Information on holding perpetrators to account, which is detailed in perpetrator responses (p 73). The Men's Behaviour Change Practice Standards were published in October 2021 and are available on the Community Services Directorate [website](#).

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

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and curves, positioned over the signature line.

Date: 21 March 2022

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