



## Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

### **Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023** **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

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Asked by Ms Nicole Lawder MLA on 21 November 2023: Mr Stathis took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 21 November 2023 [PAGES 5-6]

In relation to: Integrated Services Response Program

**Mr Stathis:** Yes. I have got some more information on that. All our assessments are actioned within 14 days, so we will make an assessment within 14 days. Typically, we provide a response within two to three days.

**THE CHAIR:** Okay.

**MS LAWDER:** You are saying there has never been a case where it has gone more than 14 days?

**Mr Stathis:** We will make an assessment in that time. It may then take longer for us to put services and supports in place, because as the minister said—

**MS LAWDER:** Sorry, what was the 14 days that you just referred to?

**Mr Stathis:** We will look at the referral and make an assessment on need, and then we will start working towards actioning that, depending on what our other caseload is, and, as I said, based on need of the particular person in crisis.

**MS LAWDER:** There has never been a case where the assessment has taken longer than 14 days?

**Mr Stathis:** I would need to find that out.

**Ms Wood:** I do not think we could say there has never been a case where the assessment took longer. As the minister said, the program has recently had some additional investment, so it was smaller, and it has some additional resources. I think historically we could not necessarily say there has never been a case, but that is what we aim for to work through as quickly as we can.

**MS LAWDER:** Perhaps you could provide some data on that.

**Ms Wood:** We can provide some data over the last 12 months. The program has existed for some time. I do not think we could go all the way back, but we can certainly provide some data on that 14-day period.

Ms Emma Davidson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

For the 2022-23 financial year, the average time taken to assess a referral to the Integrated Services Response Program was 3 business days. No assessment timeframes exceeded 14 days over this period.

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

Signature: 

Date: 30/11/23

By the Minister for Disability, Ms Emma Davidson MLA