



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2011-2012

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Meredith Hunter MLA (Deputy Chair)

Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA, John Hargreaves MLA, Caroline Le Couteur MLA

COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS SURVEY

1. Name of organisation Grandparent & Kinship Carers (ACT) Inc & Foster Carers Association
ACT Inc
2. Name of contact person & telephone and email contact details MARION LE, AM
3. Please list, in order of priority, your three main areas of concern regarding the ACT 2011-2012 Budget?
 1. No direct funding to Kinship & Foster Carers e.g. for respite and advocacy
 2. Lack of funding to support children in care of kin but not under the Care & Protection System- there are many children in the care of elderly relatives who are struggling without any support because they have the children under informal arrangements or through Family court Orders and therefore do not qualify for support through DCHS
 3. Unanswered questions in relation to past budget allocations

Comment There appears to be a lack of direct consultation with the two umbrella organisations and a lack of understanding of the needs of children and carers in the ACT & Regions. There is also no specific research directed at the ACT & Regions which gives a clear picture of the situation here in relation to children in fulltime care and the carers who are caring for them.
4. Did you provide a budget submission to the Government?
 Yes (go to question five) No (go to question six)
5. Do you think that the Budget has addressed the issues raised in your submission?
 Yes No Comment
6. What are your views on the Budget in relation to your priority areas listed in question three?
Comment It is clear that the government is committed to children
7. Are there any particular issues you would like to bring to the Committee's attention?
 Yes No
8. Please provide a brief outline of the issue/s, in order of priority. **As above**
[Please append your organisation's budget analysis if available]
9. Does your organisation want to attend a hearing on 13May 2011?

- Yes
 No

If you have indicated yes, the Committee Office will contact you by COB Tuesday 10 May to confirm details. (Please note however, that the Committee may not be able to hear from all groups).

Please return by 12.00 noon, Monday 9 May 2011

Thank you
