



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Elizabeth Kikkert MLA: To ask the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Ref: The Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Budget Statement G, p.4 (CSD)

In relation to: *The Health Justice Partnership*

Date (Question Lodged by Member): 30/08/2022

Date (Question Sent to DLO): 05/09/2022

1. **To date, how many families have been supported by Health Justice Partnerships so far, and will this Budget increase any capacity to support families who are at risk of domestic and family violence?**
 - a. **What proportion of families who have engaged with the Health Justice Partnership subsequently escalated into crisis?**
 - b. **What other metrics determine the level of success of the Health Justice Partnership, and what has been the outcome so far?**
 - c. **Can the Minister please provide details on how many families were supported by each Health Justice Partnership (Legal Aid, Women's Legal Centre, Gungahlin Child and Family Centre).**
2. **Are there any plans to create more Partnerships with other child and family centres and legal organisations? If so, how many and which organisations are being considered for partnership?**

30 August 2022

Minister Berry: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The Health Justice Partnerships have supported over 1000 clients from 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2022. The 2022-23 Budget does not provide additional funding to increase capacity. Funding for the partnerships was increased in 2020-21 and again in 2021-22 to support referrals from the emergency department in Calvary Public Hospital Bruce and Canberra Hospital.
 - a. The information to answer this question is not available.
 - b. The ACT Government does not hold these types of metrics in relation to the Health Justice Partnerships. However, a 2019 internal review of the health justice partnership found it was able to provide legal support to people who otherwise may not have entered the service system or received help for their multiple, intersecting legal issues. The review found that health professionals reported an increased understanding of domestic and family violence and were more confident speaking to their patients about it. The ACT Government is currently funding an external independent review of the partnerships to determine effectiveness and outcomes.

- c. From 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2022 the Women's Legal Centre health justice partnerships assisted 404 clients and the Legal Aid partnership has assisted 648 clients.
2. An external independent review of the Health Justice Partnerships will inform the future of the services.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:

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

Date: 09/09/22

By Minister Yvette Berry [Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence]

