



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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 - 35

Asked by Jo Clay MLA: To ask the Minister for Families and Community Services

Ref: Families and Community Services

In relation to:

The 2021-22 Women's Budget Statement states that "The ACT Government developed the Gender Impact Analysis Tool to support analysis of the impact of programs and services on women, men, and gender diverse individuals in the ACT". (Key Milestones, p2)

1. How has the Community Services Directorate used the Gender Impact Analysis Tool to ensure that a gender lens is placed on the programs, policies and services delivered under the Families and Community Services portfolio?
2. How many times has the Gender Impact Analysis Tool been applied to programs, policies and services under the Families and Community Services portfolio?
3. What has the Gender Impact Analysis shown?
4. If this analysis has not occurred, why has this not been done? What are the forward plans to ensure this can be done within this term of government?
5. What percentage of Families and Community Services CSD staff have been trained in using the Gender Impact Analysis Tool?
6. Who is providing the training for using the tool in CSD?
7. Do Families and Community Services CSD Staff undertake any Gender Awareness Training? If so, what percentage of staff have undertaken the training? Who provides this training?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The Gender Impact Analysis tool was developed by the Community Services Directorate (CSD) following a commitment in the First Action Plan 2017-19 of the ACT Women's Plan 2016-26. The tool is available to all ACT Government employees and assists to apply a gender lens to programs, policies and services.

Considering gender in policy development is part of the Triple Bottom Line (TBL) assessment,

which is required to be prepared for certain Cabinet business.

The TBL template includes mandatory consideration of gender impacts as the first of the social impacts, with reference to the Gender Impact Analysis Tool if significant gender impacts are identified. Summaries of TBLs are released under Open Access requirements and would include a gender impact if it has been identified in the TBL summary.

All business cases prepared for the 2021-22 ACT Budget, including any under the Disability Portfolio, were required to consider gender impacts. The business case template refers drafters to the Gender Impact Analysis Tool for submissions where more detailed gender analysis is required.

2. The use of the Gender Impact Analysis Tool is not tracked across the Service.
3. The use of the Gender Impact Analysis Tool is not tracked across the Service.
4. The ACT Budget 2021-22 commits \$3.2 million over four years to proceed with the next stage of the Wellbeing Framework, including to support the development of an evidence base of wellbeing data in the ACT and to enable more effective targeting of Government policies, including through reporting on the wellbeing of specific groups and work towards progressing gender responsive budgeting.

The Government is in the process of bringing Wellbeing Impact Assessments (WIAs) into Cabinet processes following their use in the 2021-22 Budget. The Gender Impact Analysis Tool informed development of the WIA template. The WIA process is designed so that wellbeing impacts – including gender impacts – are considered early and help inform policy/program development and decision-making. CMTEDD and the Office for Women in CSD are working on how gender impacts can best be considered as part of the WIA process in the future.

5. The Gender Impact Analysis tool is designed to be used without the need for training. It includes detailed instructions in the template. It also includes contact details for the Office for Women who can assist further.
6. The Gender Impact Analysis Tool is designed to be used without the need for training.
7. Respect, Equity and Diversity (RED) training is mandatory for ACT Government employees and includes gender equity.

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

Signature:



Date:

11 / 11 / 21

By the Minister for Families and Community Services, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA