



Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Elizabeth Kikkert MLA: To ask the Minister for Early Childhood Development

Reference: Early Childhood Development, CSD Annual Report 2022, p. 84

In relation to: Health Justice Partnership in Child and Family Centres

1. Considering that four years ago, when the minister was asked in Question Time about the 'next steps' for the Health Justice Partnership pilot, she stated that 'we will always look for ways we can build future capability in our ... child and family centres' (Hansard, 27 Nov. 2018), why is this successful program operating now in just one child and family centre (and the one chosen as the pilot site)?
2. Considering that the success of this program depends in large part on its embeddedness, with onsite lawyers attending staff meetings, delivering training, and being able to assist clients quickly before the window of opportunity closes, what onsite services do the Partnership lawyers provide in Belconnen and Tuggeranong Child and Family Centres?
3. Considering that one year ago, when the minister was asked in Question Time what would come from the increase to the Safer Families Levy, she stated that the increase would 'fund a range of expanded programs' and mentioned the Health Justice Partnership (Hansard, 9 Nov. 2021), when can we expect this program to be expanded to Belconnen and Tuggeranong Child and Family Centres?

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

1. The Health Justice Partnership Services (HJP) is currently delivered at Gungahlin Child and Family Centre, the Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre and West Belconnen Child and Family Centre.
2. The onsite services provided by the Partnership lawyers are legal services. As part of those services they may meet with clients, attend staff meetings, provide training, attend playgroups and provide guidance and advice to staff and families at the Child and Family Centres.
3. As for question 1.

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

Signature:

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Date:

18/11/22

By the Minister for Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry MLA