



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert : To ask the Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services

Ref: Budget Outlook, p. 128

Hearing Date: 20 July 2023

In relation to: Youth Justice: Throughcare Program

- (1) In the hearing, it was said that government has looked across both domestic and international jurisdictions to identify the best model for the new throughcare program. Which domestic and international jurisdictions' approaches have been reviewed and/or inspected?
- (2) In summary, what is the model of throughcare best suited to the ACT?
- (3) In the hearing, it was said that development of the new throughcare program is just starting and involves ACT Health and the Education Directorate. Who else is participating in these discussions?
- (4) How long is the planned development phase, and when do you expect the new throughcare program to be in place?
- (5) In the hearing, it was said that the evidence base for designing the new throughcare program is now in place. Can the minister please summarise the main points of that evidence base?

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

- (1) The Community Services Directorate has reviewed domestic throughcare programs and transition supports from the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA), Creating Futures (NSW), and Transition to Success (QLD).
- (2) The appropriate model of throughcare for the ACT will be co-designed with stakeholders in the development of the new youth justice strategy.
- (3) Consultation to support the development of a new youth justice strategy will include government and community stakeholders, as well as children, young people and families with lived experience of the youth justice system.
- (4) It is anticipated the new youth justice strategy, including a model of Throughcare, will be finalised by mid 2024.
- (5) The evidence base includes:
 - examples of therapeutic approaches in youth justice in Australia and internationally
 - recommendations from reviews of the youth justice system over recent years
 - listening to the voices of children, young people, families and service providers in the ACT through the co-design process for the new youth justice strategy.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature: 

Date: 17 August 2023

By the Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services, Emma Davidson MLA