



## Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

### **Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023** **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by: Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert

Reference: Hearing on 13 November 2023, Annual Report of Community Services Directorate

In relation to: Early Childhood Development and Playgroup for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Families

- (1) How do people get involved in the developmentally focussed supported playgroup for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, mentioned on p.87 of the Annual Report?
- (2) What developmental delays is the playgroup designed to address?
- (3) What have been the measurable outcomes of this playgroup so far?
- (4) Are there any plans to expand this offering?

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

- 1) The Deadly Kids playgroup is a universal playgroup offered by the Child Development Service. Any family with children under 6 years of age, who identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander can attend the playgroup. Child Development Service staff provide information regarding the playgroup directly to families who access other parts of the service, and flyers regarding the playgroup have been distributed to Child and Family Centres, Koori Preschools, Winnunga Nimmityjah, Gugan Gulwan and Yerrabi Yurwang.
- 2) The Deadly Kids playgroup is a universal playgroup designed as a soft entry point into Child Development Service for all families who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. If families or staff involved in the group identify concerns regarding any aspects of a child's development, the Early Childhood Teachers will facilitate referrals for further Child Development Service assessment and therapy services, as well other relevant community supports and programs.

- 3) This group is a universal program that focuses on offering activities that both promote development and celebrate culture. No outcomes are currently measured.
- 4) There are no plans at this time to expand the current offering.

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

Signature:

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Date:

27/11/23

By the Minister for Early Childhood Development, Yvette Berry MLA