



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

Addressed to: Attorney-General

Redirected to:

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 31-32]

In relation to: Waitlist for Restorative Justice Unit

Hearing Date: 30 July 2024

QTON lodgement date: 31 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 5 August 2024

DR PATERSON: How many young people and the sort of rates of young people going through restorative consults or mediation processes, and is that increasing? How are you sort of measuring the impact of that?

Mr Rattenbury: Perhaps we will go to Mr Dening for that detail.

Mr Dening: Richard Dening, Senior Director of the Restorative Justice Unit, and I have read and acknowledge the privilege statement. Anecdotally, I can share that there has not been an increase in referrals for young people. I would say they are kind of continuing on historical levels, and so we are continuing to work with police around those referrals, continuing to work with the Children's Court to make sure that those referrals can come through.

If there are barriers to referrals, that we are talking about those and addressing those. We have received that feedback from police that the waitlist was proving to be somewhat of a barrier, and so we are hopeful that this new investment in additional convenors will mean that there are more convenors who can pick cases up as they come in, work with those young people, work with their families, work with the people who have been harmed by their actions to take them through to a conference, if that is what will meet the needs of the person who has been harmed by the offence.

The budget also included some money for an administration officer, and that will ensure that those convenors can spend as much time as possible doing that work and as minimal time as possible on the administrative components, which, of course, are important, and that is why it

is really critical that we also have investment in the database arrangements, because of course that is part and parcel of doing business in these times, I suppose.

DR PATERSON: How many young people are on the waiting list currently?

Mr Dening: I would have to take that question on notice, I am afraid.

DR PATERSON: Are you able to take it for young people but also for any domestic or sexual violence issues as well?

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

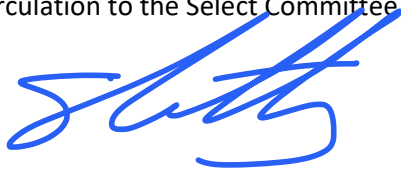
As of 31 July 2024, there are 29 referrals on the waitlist involving 37 offenders. Of those 37 offenders, there are 18 young people (49%).

Of the 29 referrals, there are 3 referrals which include a domestic and family violence offence, and none that include a sexual violence offence.

(Please note that referrals can contain multiple offenders and offences).

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date:

6/8/24

By the Attorney-General, Shane Rattenbury MLA