



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA
(Deputy Chair), Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

QUESTION ON NOTICE

ELIZABETH KIKKERT MLA: To ask the Minister for Families and Community Services

Ref: Budget Statement G, pp. 23-24 (Community Services Directorate)

In relation to: Residential Care

Date (Question Lodged by Member):

29/08/2022 Date (Question Sent to

DLO): 31/08/2022

1. It was stated in hearings that an updated model of residential care will include regular, intensive, and high-intensive options. Can the minister please provide the important characteristics of each?
2. How many children and young people are currently in residential care, and of these, how many would need placement in a) regular, b) intensive, and c) high-intensive residential care according to the incoming model?
3. What is the estimated out-of-home care day cost for each of these options?
4. It was stated in hearings that sometimes residential care is used to keep sibling groups together. In the past financial year, how many sibling groups were placed in residential care, how many were placed in residential care for this reason, how many siblings were in each group, and what was the age range for each group?
5. Has a provider been selected for residential care? If so, who, and if not, when do you expect the selection to be made and announced?

29 August 2022

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

1. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was released on 3 May 2022 seeking specialist therapeutic residential care services extending across a continuum of care including transitioning young people to adulthood and independence. The intention of the RFP was not to prescribe specific therapeutic residential care models or services, however the Territory provided the following broad service definitions for guidance purposes only.

It is anticipated that these broad service types may differ subject to the proposed solution and model of services tendered by the different service providers.

Service	Broad Definition
Residential Care	24/7 therapeutic residential care providing temporary, short-term, and long-term accommodation and support for up to 4 children and young people.
Sibling Groups	24/7 therapeutic residential care providing temporary, short-term, and long-term accommodation and support to siblings so they can live together.
Intensive Residential Care	24/7 therapeutic residential care providing temporary, short-term, and long-term accommodation and support for up to 2 children and young people.
Supported Living	Therapeutic residential care comprising accommodation, case management and support for young people aged 16- to 18-year-olds up to their 19 th birthday at entry to prepare and transition to independent living, self-reliance, and adulthood. Living arrangements may include lead tenant households, supported tenancies, and supported shared housing. This service assumes a staffed (on site) accommodation component.
Other (Extraordinary Care Response)	Specialised therapeutic residential care providing temporary, short-term, and long-term accommodation and support, which also requires extraordinary responses for children and young people with extremely high complex needs.

2. As of 1 September 2022, there were 38 children and young people in residential care and 18 young people in the Community Adolescent Program.

An assessment about residential care needs will be made once a provider has been identified.

3. The estimated cost per day of the options within the model of residential care is subject to the outcome of the current procurement process.
4. Information on sibling groups placed in residential care during the past financial year cannot be shared as the low number risks identifying individuals.
5. The procurement process to select a residential care provider will be finalised as soon as possible. An exact timeline cannot be provided while the assessment is underway.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:



Date: 7/9/22

By Minister Stephen-Smith, Minister for Families and Community Services