

Jeanette Radcliffe
Secretary
Standing Committee on Community Affairs
The Senate
community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Radcliffe

Inquiry into out-of-home care

I am writing to you in response to your correspondence dated 30 April 2015, in relation to the Standing Committee on Community Affairs inquiry into out-of-home care (OOHC). The ACT Government welcomes the Standing Committee's consideration of what is one of the most complex areas of service delivery for government.

The ACT Government is undertaking significant reforms to out-of-home care which are being implemented as part of the recently released *A Step Up for Our Kids: Out of Home Care Strategy 2015-2020*.

In response to your request for data about OOHC, I advise that information is available in the Productivity Commission *Report on Government Services 2015*, specifically in the child protection chapter, and the Community Services Directorate Annual Report.

I also advise the ACT Government provided a submission to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse on Issues Paper 4: Preventing Sexual Abuse of Children in Out-of-Home Care. Submissions are available on the Commission's website.

I await the outcome of the Committee's consideration of this matter with interest.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Howson
Director-General
20 May 2015