

19-429 Government Response to ACT Auditor-General’s Report – Referral processes for the support of vulnerable children (Report No. 7/2019)

Summary of impacts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ACT Auditor General’s Report – Referral processes for the support of vulnerable children (report No. 7/2019) contains findings and recommendations about referral processes, including monitoring and reporting, for vulnerable children across a select number of early childhood services provided by the Community Services Directorate and Canberra Health Services. • Opportunities to improve the effectiveness of referral processes for vulnerable children and their families are critical to ensuring they receive the support they need. • Implementing the proposed Government Response will enhance referral processes for the support of vulnerable children and their families.

Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - Positive.

Social

Community and Individual Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimising the take up of the first home visit and the health and development checks offered by the Maternal and Child Health service, as well as removing any potential barriers to accessing the service, is likely to have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of children and their families.
Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Auditor-General’s recommendations include strengthening of referral processes by improving administrative and procedural guidance and improving public reporting and accountability for the delivery of services to vulnerable children and families. • These recommendations are in line with review and reform procedures undertaken by the Canberra Health Services and the Community Services Directorate that seek to identify strategies to address any systemic barriers vulnerable families may be experiencing. • Identifying and removing any barriers will ensure universal services are easily accessible and equipped to effectively engage with these families.
Disadvantaged and vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government Response has outlined that vulnerable children and families are the focus of review and reform processes undertaken by both the Community Services Directorate and the Canberra Health Services. • A major component of the <i>Early Support</i> reform is to enhance system, practice and service responses for vulnerable families including holistic responses that work with children in the context of their families and minimise barriers to access and engagement. • Such changes are intended to support more families to have their needs met in the universal and early support service system.

Economic

Nil impact.

Environmental

Nil impact.

19-548 Remuneration of ACT Judicial Council community and legal profession members

Summary of Impacts

The Cabinet Submission proposes to refer the ACT Judicial Council (the Council) community representative and legal profession representative positions to the Remuneration Tribunal.

The proposal will have positive social impacts. The legal profession and community representative members deliver substantial benefit to the community by promoting the effective and impartial operation of the judiciary. The provision of remuneration for these positions will appropriately recognise the contribution that these individuals make to this important function.

Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - positive.

Social

Justice and rights

- The Council delivers substantial value and benefit to the Government and the community by promoting the effective, impartial and independent operation of the judiciary.
- Remuneration of the non-judicial members would recognise the significant time contributed by the legal profession and community members, reinforce the standing of the Council in the community and ensure that the Judicial Council continues to attract and retain members who are of a high standard.

Economic

ACT Government Budget

- Any remuneration to the Council members would be met by JACS. Accordingly, the Cabinet Submission does not have a budget impact and does not seek Cabinet's agreement to provide appropriation and/or to reduce forecast revenue.

Environmental

Nil impact.