

## Community Services Directorate

Achievements since 13 May 2011

| Type of achievement                   | Name of achievement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>Major reports released</b>         | <p>ACT Prevention of Violence against Women and Children Strategy launched this week</p> <p>The Consultation Report on the Discussion Paper: <i>Towards a Diversionary Framework for the ACT which was publicly released by the Minister for Community Services on 23 June 2011.</i></p> <p>The Community Services Directorate Reconciliation Action Plan 2011-2013 and the Employment Strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People were launched in NAIDOC Week on 7 July 2011.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Major reports responded</b>        | <p>ACT Government made a submission to the Productivity Commission's Draft Report on Disability Care and Support in May 2011. The Government supported the intent of the draft report to improve funding and access to disability services and for eligibility and service delivery to be streamlined across Australia.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Legislation introduced</b>         | <p>None.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Key announcements</b>              | <p>Northbourne Design Competition - On 30 May 2011 a design competition was launched to engage an architectural firm to redesign the Northbourne Flats (public housing along Northbourne Avenue) in Braddon and Turner.</p> <p>Central Access Point officially opened 5 July 2011, co-locating three major housing and homeless services at Housing ACT's headquarters in Belconnen: Housing ACT's Gateway Services, where people can apply for public or community housing, as well as two specialist homelessness services – First Point and the Supportive Tenancies Service.</p> <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body - New Members of the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body announced on 18 May 2011. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body members met with Cabinet Ministers on 2 August 2011.</p> <p>Establishment of the Youth Justice Implementation Taskforce in August in response to the review of youth justice in the ACT by the Human Rights Commission.</p> |
| <b>Key consultations/round tables</b> | <p>A survey was launched in July seeking the views of people over the age of 60 on the age-friendliness of Canberra. The ANU Centre for Mental Health Research is conducting the survey on behalf of Community Services Directorate.</p> <p>On Thursday 19 and Friday 20 May the Disability Respite Services Stakeholder Reference Group held four workshops about different aspects of disability respite services in the ACT: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Respite, Centre-based Respite, After School and Holiday Care; and Flexible and Innovative Models of Respite.</p> <p>National Multicultural Festival 2012 National Multicultural Festival Community consultations have now commenced. The first community consultation forum was held on 13 July 2011 and the next forum will be held on 27 July 2011.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Type of achievement                          | Name of achievement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                        |
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|                                              | <p>The forum "Working with Bimberi Youth Justice Centre" was held on 6 July 2011, run in conjunction with the Youth Coalition of the ACT. The forum was highly successful with over 40 non government agencies and government representatives coming together to discuss involvement with Bimberi and Community Youth Justice clients.</p> <p>The Youth Advisory Council held a forum on Body Image on 24 May 2011 at the Tuggeranong Youth Centre with the Butterfly Foundation co-facilitating. Thirty Two (32) young people from the community participated at the forum.</p> |                                                        |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Started? Yes/No</b>                                 |
| <b>Key budget items which have commenced</b> | From July 1, the maximum subsidy level on all ACT Taxi Subsidy Scheme vouchers increased by 32%. A scoping project commenced into the introduction of an electronic card to replace the current paper based system.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Yes, from July 1.                                      |
|                                              | Therapy assistants in schools pilot program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Yes, Minister Burch launched the program on August 15. |
|                                              | Advocacy for Inclusion have been offered funding to develop and deliver a training kit to assist people with Intellectual disability to self advocate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | Women With Disability ACT received funding to increase advocacy in relation to systemic issues which impact particularly on women such as health, domestic violence and housing.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | The After school care for students with a disability scoping study has been completed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes, Minister Burch will announce outcome this week    |
|                                              | Commencement of the Common Ground feasibility study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | Expansion of the Street to Home Program, which provides outreach services to rough sleepers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | Work Experience and Support Program (WESP) expansion. The program helps migrants and refugees gain workplace experience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | Single Case Management for youth justice clients - a single case management service for ACT youth justice commenced last week and represents an important change to youth justice practice to ensure continuity of relationships with young people in the justice system                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Yes                                                    |
|                                              | Early Childhood Scholarships to support the upskilling of childcare workers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Yes. Consultation paper has been provided for public   |

| Type of achievement                                                                                                                     | Name of achievement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                 |
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| <p><b>Major events attended</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Director-General/<br/>Deputy Director<br/>General</li> </ul> | <p>Minister:<br/>The Chief Minister launched the Canberra Women’s Radio Program, Canberra Multicultural Service on 8 August 2011.</p> <p>Launch of the Early Morning Centre expansion: On July 6 Minister Burch officially launched the refurbished Uniting Care Early Morning Centre facilities in Civic, which provide essential services to homeless people. The 2010-11 ACT Budget allocated \$750,000 for the work.</p> <p>Minister Burch attended the Indigenous Affairs Ministerial Roundtable Meeting on 19 August 2011, her first as Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.</p> <p>D-G/DD-G: other than those attended by the Minister<br/>Over 400 Canberra families attended the 2011 School Leavers Expo on 26 July 2011 which provides information on the broad range of employment, vocational and educational opportunities and supports that are available to school leavers with disability in the ACT.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                 |
| <p><b>Other major Directorate achievements</b></p>                                                                                      | <p>Northbourne Redevelopment - A number of Public Housing sites along Northbourne Avenue were identified for possible redevelopment. The redevelopment of these sites will result in the breakdown of concentrations of disadvantage, the development of a range of high quality sustainable public and private housing and the location of residential density on transport routes.</p> <p>Under Nation Building the following Housing development sites were officially opened since May 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rivett – 53 units</li> <li>Florey – 34 units</li> <li>Chapman – 31 units</li> <li>St Margaret’s Ross Walker lodge in Hackett – 5 residences for persons with disabilities</li> </ul> <p>Care and Protection Services Staffing – UK recruitment. As at 6 June 2011, 52 applicants have been found suitable for employment and been offered a position with Care and Protection Services. The first recruit has arrived in Australia and will commence work in September.</p> <p>Sites suitable for childcare facilities in Giralang and McKellar sold.</p> <p>Development Application for Flynn Childcare Centre called in by Acting Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development to allow the refurbishment of the former school site to be completed in time for childcare centre to commence operating in Term 1 of 2012.</p> |                                 |