

Chief Minister Andrew Barr, MLA
Treasurer
ACT Government
Email: budgetconsultation@act.gov.au

18 March 2024

Families ACT endorsement of the Youth Coalition of the ACT's submission to the 2024-25 budget

Dear Treasurer,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our views and comments on where the ACT Government should focus its 2024-25 budget allocations.

Families ACT is a territory peak, not-for-profit, organisation which advocates and works for vulnerable and marginalised children, young people and families in the ACT and surrounding region to improve their physical, social and emotional wellbeing. We take a broad and inclusive view of what constitutes a family and strive to improve the wellbeing of all families in the region.

Our current advocacy focus areas are housing and homelessness, child protection reform and the services for children in their middle years.

We fully endorse the [Youth Coalition of the ACT's submission to the ACT Budget 2024-25](#) and in particular:

- **Child and youth mental health**, including (1) urgent and longer-term funding for key programs; (2) improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the ACT child and youth mental health system, and (3) mental health service capacity to support raising the Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility;
- **Adequately resourcing child, youth and family sector reforms;**
- **Investing in social and affordable housing.**

If you need further clarification of our position, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Mollison".

Will Mollison
Executive Officer
Families ACT