

FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE — MATILDA GARD SERVICES

26. Hon NICK GOIRAN to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence:

I refer to the government's commitments to support women and children impacted by family and domestic violence.

- (1) Is the minister aware that Matilda Gard Services is a place of refuge for women and children within the community?
- (2) Has the minister visited this refuge?
- (3) Is the minister aware that this facility in Guildford is at risk of discontinuing?
- (4) What steps will the minister take to ensure that this does not happen?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1) I am aware that Matilda Gard provides non-crisis accommodation services for women and children. I understand that the service has been supported via a memorandum of understanding with the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services.
- (2) No.
- (3) I am advised that the memorandum of understanding between Matilda Gard and the Women's Council for Domestic and Family Violence Services is being reviewed. The Department of Communities has never directly funded Matilda Gard.
- (4) I encourage Matilda Gard to have discussions with the Department of Communities about its plans for the provision of ongoing services and the state government's commitment to a 10-year strategy for reducing family and domestic violence.