



Caveat Brief

Ref: FILE2025/30025

To: Minister for Education and Early Childhood

CC:

From: Executive Group Manager, Education and Care Regulation and Support

Subject: Communication to affected parties of [REDACTED] offending

Cleared By: Executive Group Manager, System Policy and Reform

Summary

On 15 June 2022, you were informed of the ACT Regulatory Authority issue of Prohibition for [REDACTED] – FILE 2022/5670. The ACT Regulatory Authority issued the prohibition of [REDACTED] without show cause based on the unacceptable risk of harm to children.

On the afternoon of Friday 27 May 2022, the Authority issued a prohibition notice to [REDACTED] on the basis of verbal information provided to the Authority from ACT Policing's Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Team (SACAT).

The Authority liaised with WWVP Unit, Access Canberra, and proactively shared details of the Prohibition with them. The Authority proactively shared all available evidence obtained from the provider with SACAT via Reportable Conduct information sharing provisions under *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

As the matter was being investigated by ACT Policing to determine who the affected parties were, the Authority were advised by ACT Policing that other agencies were unable to share information to other parties, as any communications may prejudice ACT Policing's Investigation. Any communication to affected parties including families in attendance at the Service should come from ACT Policing as the party taking the matter to court.

The Authority issued an outcome letter to the provider at the end of the investigation advising that there was no evidence to support any offence against the approved provider.

Detail

On 22 April 2022, the approved provider of Ducklings Early Education notified the Authority of a parent complaint alleging that their child told them that an educator called [REDACTED] had pinched him on the penis on 21 April 2022. The child was four years-old.

The Authority commenced an investigation into the matter on 2 May 2022, having considered the provider's internal investigation and other material. The provider had suspended [REDACTED] in the meantime and reportable conduct and CYPs reports were made.

During the Authority's investigation the provider terminated [REDACTED] employment. The provider's internal investigation found that the allegation was not sustained. This outcome was reported to the Ombudsman's Office under the reportable conduct provisions.



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Information obtained by the Authority during the investigation identified that the parent had complained to the police about the alleged incident.

On 24 May 2022, the Authority contacted SACAT to advise that the Authority held information and enquired as to the status of any criminal investigation which may be underway.

SACAT advised they were investigating and had taken witness statements from two children attending the centre. At the time SACAT advised verbally that [REDACTED] would be likely be summonsed for common assault charges. The Authority issued a request to ACT Policing for information sharing under section 863b of the *Children and Young People Act 2008* on 26 May 2022.

On 27 May 2022, the Authority spoke again to the investigating officer to clarify the status of the charges and the Authority's preference to obtain an overview of the conduct and evidence.

The investigating officer affirmed that SACAT would probably arrest [REDACTED] if it was learnt that he was working in an ECEC service. At that point, on the basis of the verbal information provided by SACAT, [REDACTED] presented an unacceptable risk to children and a prohibition was issued that afternoon.

On 3 June 2022, the Authority issued an information request under s863B of the *Children and Young People Act 2008* to Access Canberra's WWVP Risk Assessment and Investigations unit. A response was received on 7 June 2023 advising the criminal matter is still pending in court and that it is not feasible for Access Canberra to share the information with CECA as it might prejudice ACT Policing's ongoing investigation.

On 8 June 2022, the Authority followed up on the s863B information sharing request with ACT Policing with no response received.

As the matter was an ongoing police matter, the Authority was advised that no information could be released or shared with any potential affected parties that may prejudice the police investigation.

In June 2023 [REDACTED] faced trial, charged with indecently touching three children, but was cleared of charges in relation to one child and the jury was unable to reach a verdict on charges related to another child. [REDACTED] was sentenced to 18 months jail and would be eligible for parole after 12 months.

On 10 July 2025, The Nightly online news website ran an article about this case, claiming [REDACTED] remains in custody at the Alexander Maconochie Centre despite having served his sentence. CECA does not have any further information about this matter.

Media articles at the time

November 2023 – Region Canberra - <https://region.com.au/man-who-sexually-abused-four-year-old-at-daycare-given-18-months-jail/724332/>

November 2023 – ABC Canberra - <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-22/act-former-canberra-childcare-worker-sentenced/103134746>

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Action Officer: Nicole Moore

Date: 10 July 2025