



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Elizabeth Lee MLA on 30 August 2022: Dr Damian West took on notice the following question(s):

In relation to: 2021 ACT Public Service staff survey question - Have you witnessed corruption.

MS LEE: In terms of the answer to that question, where it was six per cent of the ACT Public Service, MPC yesterday confirmed that, I think, their result was four per cent. Do you have an update on the directorate or agency that was higher than six per cent?

Dr West: I do not have that with me, but that is something that I could take on notice. It is important to understand this is a perception of concerns rather than a matter that has been validated. One employee or several employees could be reporting on or reflecting on a single event.

MS LEE: I understand, but the question is fairly straight and quite clear. It says, "Have you witnessed corruption?" as opposed to, "Do you have a concern about it?"

Dr West: Yes, indeed. Again, people's interpretation of what corruption is or corrupt conduct is varies dramatically. Depending on their experience and what they have seen, they internalise it differently. The idea of asking these questions is to give us insight into where we might focus further attention or training, education and policies. It does not necessarily flow through when you look at referrals to the Public Sector Standards Commissioner. Matters of integrity are not high in the numbers that flow through to him for review and investigation.

Andrew Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

Analysis of data received through the 2021 ACTPS Employee Survey in relation to employees interpretation of having experienced corruption showed the following Directorates/Agencies as having recorded a higher than 6% figure:

- CSD
- Education
- Suburban Land Agency
- JACS
- Office of Legislative Assembly

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: **6.9.22**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA