



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 ON NOTICE

Ed Cocks MLA: To ask the Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety

Ref: Budget Statement B, Table 2, p. 261

In relation to: Public Sector Workers Compensation Fund

1. Regarding account ability indicator a, what is reason for the variation between the target and the estimated outcome?
 - a. What is the nature of these injuries?
 - b. Are any as a result of occupational violence?
 - i. If so, how many?
 - ii. If so, which workplaces?
 - c. What policies are in place to reduce the incidences of injury across the ACTPS?

Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The variation was caused by a higher than expected number of injuries resulting in one or more weeks of incapacity during 2021-22.

The increase was observed primarily in frontline service agencies impacted by the COVID-19 response, including the Education Directorate, Canberra Health Services, and the Justice and Community Safety Directorate.

- a. The injuries were predominantly (73 percent) physical in nature.
- b. Forty-five (18 percent) of injuries were attributed to occupational violence. Of these, 87 percent were from the Education Directorate, Canberra Health Services, and the Justice and Community Safety Directorates.
- c. The ACT Government has a suite of work health and safety policies in place to reduce the incidence and impact of injury including:
 - Work Health Safety and Wellbeing Policy
 - Emergency plans in the Workplace Policy
 - WHS Responding to Workplace Accidents/incidents policy
 - Work Health and Safety Risk Management policy
 - Work Health and Safety Managing Occupational violence policy
 - Work Rehabilitation Policy

Policies are supported by a suite of information, tools, resources and programs to support workplaces to implement policies.

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

Signature: 

Date: 13/8/2022

By the Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety, Mick Gentleman MLA