



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QToN No. 3

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA (Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

**Inquiry into Auditor-General's Performance Audit Reports January 2022 – June 2022**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**8 December 2022**

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Asked by Elizabeth Kikkert MLA on 8 December 2022: Mr Damian West took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard [uncorrected] Proof Transcript 8 December 2022, Page 23]

In relation to: Outcomes for allegations 2017-19 and 2019-20

**THE CHAIR:** Yes, of course. And so, if you look at the table it kind of flows from 2017 to 2019 then to 2019-20, that all of those allegations have not been provided with any sort of outcome, I am just like curious what happened to those reports where they fell in your directorate? And if so, it would be good to get an update on it and if it did not, then we need to follow up on what happened to those allegations with the relevant directorate.

**Dr West:** We are happy to take that on notice.

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

Not all allegations of fraud are referred to the Public Sector Standards Commissioner (PSSC) for investigation. This is due to matters where an employee is summarily terminated from their employment for serious misconduct or where an employee has left the service prior to the detection of the alleged fraud. In both scenarios an independent misconduct investigation is not required.

The data sourced to compile Table 1-1 was taken from directorate annual reports for the associated years. Due to the lapse of time since these annual reports were compiled and the organisational restructure undertaken between ACT Health and Canberra Health Services over this period 'Health' were unable to accurately confirm the outcome for three of the four matters reported. The fourth matter reported in 2017-18, was referred to the PSSC for investigation. This allegation was substantiated.

In 2018-19 'Health' referred three allegations of fraud to the PSSC for a misconduct investigation as mentioned in the in Table1-1 of Auditor-General Report. All three allegations were substantiated.

In relation to the ACT Education Directorate, checks back to 2012-13 indicate all reporting has been in narrative form with no information provided on the types of internal fraud reported. This is likely due to the small number of matters reported and their sensitive nature.

The ACT Education Directorate notes the figure in this table for 2017-18 appears to be incorrect when compared to the ACT Education Directorate annual report. The 2017-18 ACT Education Directorate annual report specifies two instances of possible fraud (not four) being investigated within the Directorate in this reporting period.

The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) records indicate that no fraud related referrals to the PSSC were received from the ACT Education Directorate during FY 2017-18.

The PSU records indicate that the PSSC received one fraud related referral from the ACT Education Directorate during FY 2018-19. Misconduct was substantiated in this matter.

The PSU records indicate that the PSSC received one fraud related referral from the ACT Education Directorate during FY 2019-20. This misconduct process was not completed.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: 

Date: 15.12.22

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA