



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA: To ask the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Ref: Budget Statements G, p. 22

Hearing Date: 28 July 2023

In relation to: Progress on the Eminent Panel

- (1) This budget provides \$1.799 for establishing an Eminent Panel (in addition to \$1.116 million set aside in the 2022-23 Budget Review). How much of the funding from the Budget Review has been spent, and what was accomplished with it?
- (2) What progress has been made to date on establishing the Eminent Panel?
- (3) Considering that the forward estimates show only \$96,000 for this initiative in 2024-25 and none thereafter, what is the planned timeline for this initiative over the course of this year, including when the Panel will be in place, etc.?

MINISTER STEPHEN-SMITH: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1) The allocated funding for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years were for the establishment of the Eminent Panel, including part-time income for the panel members, community consultation, policy, and stakeholder engagement. To date, no funding has been used for the establishment of an Eminent Panel.
- (2) The ACT Government is considering the most appropriate, culturally safe mechanism to progress planning on the Eminent Panel. The approach is being considered in discussion with key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders.
- (3) Given the availability of funding from 2022-23, it is anticipated sufficient funding will be available to progress this work. A revised timeline will be developed in conjunction with the community and any additional costs will be subject to usual government budget processes.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "R. Stephen-Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Date:

17 / 8 / 23

By the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA