



**ACT**  
Government

Justice and Community Safety

**ACT Corrective Services**

Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Email: [LACommitteeLegal@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:LACommitteeLegal@parliament.act.gov.au)

Dear Ms Barry

### **Legal Affairs Inquiry Transcript Review**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 10 December 2025 providing the opportunity to review the proof copy of the transcript for the Legal Affairs Inquiry into Annual Reports 2024-25 from 17 November 2025.

I have reviewed the transcript and wish to provide the following clarifications:

- The \$15 per week I referenced during the hearing (p.58) refers to the unemployment allowance received by detainees who are not employed. While they may use this allowance to purchase phone credits, it is not provided specifically for that purpose.
- During the COVID-19 pandemic, detainees received a \$20 per week COVID call credit, introduced when physical visits ceased. This credit remained in place after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted to help offset call costs but was discontinued when calls were temporarily made free of charge in May 2024, ahead of the implementation of the interim Detainee Telephone System (DTS), which went live on 5 December 2024.
- In relation to my comment on the previous cost per minute of phone calls, I stated "I think it was 44c". This figure was correct for weekday calls to mobile phones prior to May 2024. However, rates varied depending on the time and destination of the call, for example:
  - Weekend mobile calls were 28 cents per minute.
  - Local landline calls were 35 cents per minute (weekdays and weekends).

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Leanne Close <sup>APM</sup>

Commissioner

ACT Corrective Services

15 December 2025