



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: ACT Public Sector Standards Commissioner

In relation to: Possible Investigation

Hearing: 4 August 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 94-95

Transcript provided: 5 August 2026

Answer Due: 12 August 2026

Commissioner Metcalfe took on notice the following question(s):

MR EMERSON: Okay. Did the Public Sector Standards Commissioner ever become aware of a recommendation to investigate Ms Cross for misconduct?

Mr Metcalfe: We will need to take that on notice, Mr Emerson, firstly to check and secondly, our normal practice is not to discuss cases publicly, so I will need to check on that as well.

MR EMERSON: Okay. With that question—

THE CHAIR: Sorry are you taking on notice or claiming privilege?

Mr Metcalfe: I have taken my response on notice, chair, yes.

THE CHAIR: Notice, okay. All right.

[...]

MR EMERSON: I just want to put in with the questions on notice if it is okay. Thank you for that explanation. It has been—my understanding is that in case—I have been asking questions about—I understand it has been taken on notice, but that an external investigation occurred, recommended allegations be investigated as misconduct by the Public Sector Standards Commissioner, and then a senior official wrote asking for that to be paused for three months due to welfare concerns, as you have signalled might be a possibility and during that period Ms Cross took a voluntary redundancy.

So, if you are able to correct the record if I have got any of those facts wrong in the question you take on notice, or in fact, why do not I just ask. Do you think that is correct?

Mr Metcalfe: We will take that on notice, thank you.

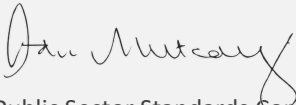
Andrew Metcalfe: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Public Sector Standards Commissioner is unable to comment on, confirm or deny matters relating to any identifiable individual.

The Public Sector Standards Commissioner does not provide details of individual complaint, misconduct or investigation matters. Information relating to complainants, respondents, witnesses, findings or sanctions may involve personal information and is subject to privacy, confidentiality and, where applicable, statutory secrecy obligations. Limited information may be provided at a general, aggregate or de-identified level where appropriate.

As a general matter, the Public Sector Standards Commissioner has no role in decisions regarding separation payments and is not consulted on or advised of such matters.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026-2027

Signature: 

Date: 11/08/2026

By the ACT Public Sector Standards Commissioner, Andrew Metcalfe