



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr (Deputy Chair), Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
Friday, 29 October 2021

Asked by NICOLE LAWDER MLA on 20 OCTOBER 2021: TARA CHEYNE MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 29 October 2021, PAGE 15]

In relation to:

MS LAWDER: Yes, if I could just quickly. It said that the money is for the refurbishment of floor coverings, furniture, and fixtures. But the arts centre in, I think, 2018 said that the theatre is in need of major upgrades and renovation in order to remain safe and operable into the future. And they said for all these activities to continue to take place and ensure public and occupational health and safety, the facility requires an urgent upgrade. And it includes not just furniture and fixtures and floor coverings, but things—you know, sound system and backstage refurbishments. So I guess my question remains, is \$2 million over four years going to be enough to achieve these goals of addressing their health and safety issues?

Ms Cheyne: Yes. Thank you, Ms Lawder. So in preparing this budget, been re-engaged with the Tuggeranong Arts Centre, including on how to upgrade in a way that means the space is still useable. And so we look forward to continuing to engage with them. I do believe that the \$2 million is enough, based on that engagement, particularly in those priority areas regarding safety. Perhaps I will take on notice the detail about the backstage works.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The \$2 million allocation for the upgrade of the Tuggeranong Arts Centre theatre space in the 2021-22 budget will address building fabric and asset deterioration as well as health and safety issues.

While the final scope of work for the theatre upgrade will be determined in consultation with the building occupants following the preparation of a detailed design and cost plan for the work, indicative plans include an allowance for new theatre seating, fixtures and floor coverings as well as new sound and lighting systems for the theatre space. There is also an allowance for the replacement of upper-level balustrading and minor electrical system improvements to ensure compliance with current design safety standards.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy Gender and Economic Equality

Signature: 

Date: 5/11/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA