



Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022 **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by Peter Cain MLA on 8 November 2022: Leesa Croke took on notice the following question:

Reference: Hansard [uncorrected] proof transcript 8 November 2022, Page 106

In relation to:

MR CAIN: So the question—this line of questioning that appeared in estimates and also, was raised, I believe, in the Assembly, have you been impacted, at all, in your review of the FOI administration following those two events? The estimates questioning and Assembly settings?

Mr Steel: I think the question was actually about some specific recommendations from—

MR CAIN: The Deloitte recommendation.

Mr Steel: —the Deloitte review and how we are considering—continuing to consider those in our work on the FOI legislation.

Ms Croke: We are looking at the recommendations of that Deloitte review. What we are also considering, and I think this is a related issue, is under the open access scheme how else we can make executive—sorry, not executive, but government documents, briefing material, more readily available and we are working through a program of different ideas there.

One of the things that we have recently done is we use a website called ACT memory where executive document release—documents are not available there. So we are looking at a range of different options to be more transparent and I am happy to provide more detail about those.

MR CAIN: And you provide that to the committee—take it—

Ms Croke: I can take that on notice, yes, we could provide that summary.

Chris Steel MLA : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

To support greater access to ACT Government information, the Territory Records Office and Cabinet and Government Business have collaborated to provide access to Executive Documents, released under the *Territory Records Act 2002*, through the ACT Memory database.

ACT Memory was launched in April 2022, and provides a searchable database of information about publicly available ACT Government archives. At its launch the database included details of 12,000 archival records, covering areas such as ACT arts, sports and festivals, heritage matters, conservation and wildlife, and energy policy. Also available are full digital copies of ACT Fire Brigade Occurrence Books dating between 1924 and 1969.

Since its launch, ACT Memory has also become the home of publicly released Executive documents, which are available for public access after 10 years. To date 131 executive documents have been made available through ACT Memory, dating from 2010 and 2011.

ACT Memory is available via the ArchivesACT website at www.archives.act.gov.au.

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

Signature:



Date:

15 / 11 / 22

By the Special Minister of State, Chris Steel MLA