Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance

Extracts of minutes of proceedings

Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 1* – Wednesday, 4 March 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 12.33 pm.

2. Election of Deputy Chair

2.1. Mr Braddock moved that he be appointed Deputy Chair of the Committee. There being no further proposal, Mr Braddock was declared elected as Deputy Chair.

3. Resolution of establishment

3.1. The Committee noted the resolution of establishment.

4. Conflicts of interest

4.1. No conflicts of interest were raised.

5. Standard resolutions

5.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to adopt the following general resolutions:

5.1.1. The Committee authorises the Secretary to write on its behalf to informally request supplementary documents or ask follow-up questions as part of an inquiry.

5.1.2. Pursuant to Standing Order 241(d) the Committee authorises the Chair to provide public briefings on matters related to an inquiry. Party political comments are not permitted. The Chair will provide as much notice as possible of any engagement.

5.1.3. The privilege statement providing for witness and committees privilege is to be incorporated at the beginning of the transcript for all Committee hearings.

5.1.4. Pursuant to Standing Order 241, the Committee authorises for publication all Ministerial and Statutory Officer responses to questions taken on notice and questions on notice received, unless there is a request for confidentiality.

5.1.5. The Committee authorises its Members to nominate one or more employees in their office to access Committee documents.

6. Meeting arrangements

6.1. The Committee deliberated on a regular meeting time.

6.2. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to set its regular meeting time as 9.30 am on non-sitting Wednesdays, commencing 11 March 2026.

7. Inquiry commencement

7.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] that submissions for the inquiry close on 13 April 2026, and that a public hearing be scheduled for 22 April 2026 from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm.

7.2. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to endorse the media release as amended.

7.3. The Committee considered the list of stakeholders provided by the secretariat, and suggested additions.

7.4. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to approve the letters inviting the Minister for Finance, Treasurer, and ACT Auditor-General to make a submission to the inquiry.

8. Potential private briefing

8.1. The Committee deliberated on holding a private briefing with ACT Auditor-General ahead of the public hearings on 22 April 2026.

8.2. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] that the Chair write to the ACT Auditor-General inviting them to attend a private briefing during one of the Committee's regularly scheduled meeting times.

9. Other business

9.1. No further business was raised.

10. Next meeting

10.1. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 11 March 2026
Time: 9.30 am
Location: Kiribati Room

10.2. The Committee noted that the Chair may cancel the next meeting if there are no items of business.

11. Close

11.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.58 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 2* – Wednesday, 1 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. **Commencement**

    1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.34 am.

2. **Conflicts of interest**

    2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. **Confirmation of minutes**

    3.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to adopt the minutes of Meeting 1 – 4 March 2026.

4. **Correspondence**

    4.1. The Committee noted the following item of inward correspondence:

    4.1.1. Received 17 March 2026, email from Mr Peter Bradbury regarding contents of the March Quarter 2025 consolidated financial reports.

    4.1.2. The Committee requested the secretariat confirm if Mr Bradbury intended his email to be received as a submission to the inquiry.

    4.2. The Committee noted the following items of outward correspondence:

    4.2.1. Sent 5 March 2026 letter to the Treasurer inviting a submission to the inquiry.

    4.2.2. Sent 5 March 2026 letter to the Minister for Finance inviting a submission to the inquiry.

    4.2.3. Sent 5 March 2026 letter to the ACT Auditor-General inviting a submission to the inquiry.

    4.2.4. Sent 5 March 2026, email to Mr Peter Bradbury inviting a submission to the inquiry.

    4.2.5. Sent 5 March 2026, email to Master Builders ACT, Property Council ACT and Canberra Business.

    4.2.6. Sent 17 March 2026, letter to the ACT Auditor-General inviting them to attend the private briefing on 1 April 2026.

5. **Inquiry**

    5.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to receive and publish the following submissions:

    5.1.1. Submission 1: [redacted]

5.1.2. Submission 2: Robert Herrick

5.2. The Committee deliberated on the timing of public hearings. The Committee **resolved** [CARRICK] to hold a second public hearing on 23 April 2026 from 11:00am to 12:30pm.

5.3. The Committee deliberated on witnesses to invite to the public hearing.

6. Auditor-General private briefing

6.1. The Committee received a private briefing from the following representatives of the ACT Audit Office:

6.1.1. Mr Ajay Sharma PSM, ACT Auditor-General

6.1.2. Mr Tim Larnach, Acting Assistant Auditor-General, Financial Audits

6.1.3. Ms Rosario San Miguel, Audit Principal, Financial Audits.

7. Other business

7.1. No further business was raised.

8. Next meeting

8.1. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 15 April 2026
Time: 9.30 am
Location: Kiribati Room

9. Close

9.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 11.00 am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 3* – Wednesday, 15 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.37 am.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Confirmation of minutes

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to adopt the minutes of Meeting 2 – 1 April 2026.

4. Inquiry

4.1. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] to receive and publish the following submissions:

4.1.1. Submission 3: Ian Hubbard

4.1.2. Submission 4: Yarralumla Residents Association

4.1.3. Submission 5: ACT Government

4.1.4. Submission 6: ACT Auditor-General

4.1.5. Submission 7: Master Builders Association of the ACT

4.1.6. Submission 8: Peter Bradbury

4.1.7. Submission 9: Mr Ed Cocks MLA

4.2. The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Ed Cocks MLA requesting an extension to 8am Wednesday, 15 April 2026.

4.3. The Committee discussed correspondence from Ms Melanie Wilde requesting an extension to Monday, 20 April 2026.

4.4. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] to grant Melanie Wilde an extension until 5.00pm on 20 April 2026.

4.5. The Committee requested the secretariat arrange a private meeting on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 from 12.00pm to 12.15pm to consider Ms Wilde's submission.

4.6. The Committee considered the draft public hearing schedule.

4.7. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] to endorse the public hearing schedule, as amended.

4.8. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] to endorse the media alert announcing the public hearing, as amended.

4.9. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] that any changes to the public hearing schedule or media alert required due to witness unavailability be approved out of session.

4.10. The Committee **resolved** [MORRIS] to endorse the public hearing invitations to the Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Auditor-General and Mr Ed Cocks MLA.

5. Correspondence

5.1. The Committee noted correspondence from Mr Peter Bradbury, received 1 April 2026, confirming he did not intend for his earlier correspondence, received 17 March 2026, to be considered as a submission to the inquiry.

6. Other business

6.1. No further business was raised.

7. Next meeting

7.1. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for:

Date: Tuesday, 21 April 2026
Time: 12.00 pm
Location: MS Teams

8. Close

8.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 10.19 am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 4* – Tuesday, 21 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA

Apology: Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 12.02 pm.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Inquiry

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to receive and publish the following submissions:

3.1.1. Submission 10: Melanie Wilde

3.2. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to receive Submission 1 from [redacted] as a confidential submission.

3.3. The Committee noted correspondence received 20 April 2026 from Melanie Wilde.

4. Other business

4.1. No further business was raised.

5. Next meeting

5.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a public hearing for the Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 22 April 2026
Time: 9.30am
Location: Prince Edward Island Room

6. Close

6.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.15 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 5* – Wednesday, 22 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.31 am.

2. Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance – public hearing

2.1. The following witness came to the table and was examined:

- Mr Ed Cocks MLA.

2.2. Evidence completed, the witness withdrew.

2.3. The Committee went into private session at 10.03am.

2.4. The Committee resolved **[CARRICK]** that Mr Ed Cocks MLA not attend the remainder of the hearing as a visiting member.

2.5. The public hearings recommenced at 10.10am.

2.6. The following witnesses came to the table and were examined:

- Ms Rachel Steephen-Smith MLA, Minister for Finance
- Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development (CMTEDD) officials:
  - Mr Russ Campbell, Under Treasurer
  - Ms Michelle Dowdell, Deputy Under Treasurer
  - Ms Chantel Potter, Acting Executive Group Management, Procurement ACT.

2.7. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

2.8. The following witnesses came to the table and were examined:

- Mr Chris Steel MLA, Treasurer
- CMTEDD officials:
  - Mr Russ Campbell, Under Treasurer
  - Ms Michelle Dowdell, Deputy Under Treasurer
  - Mr Scott Austin, Executive Group Manager, Finance and Budget
  - Ms Natasha Bourke, Executive Branch Manager, Financial Reporting and Frameworks Branch.

2.9. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

3. Next meeting

3.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a public hearing scheduled for:

Date: Thursday, 23 April 2026
Time: 11.00am
Location: Prince Edward Island Room

4. Close

4.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.02pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 6* – Thursday, 23 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 11.00 am.

2. Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance – public hearing

2.1. The following witnesses came to the table and were examined:

- ACT Audit Office:
  - Mr Ajay Sharma PSM, ACT Auditor-General
  - Mr Brett Stanton, Assistant Auditor-General, Performance Audits
  - Mr Tim Larnach, Assistant Auditor-General, Financial Audits.

2.2. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

2.3. The following witness came to the table and was examined:

- Mr Peter Bradbury, private capacity

2.4. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

2.5. The following witnesses came to the table and was examined:

- Master Builders Association of the ACT:
  - Ms Anna Neelagama, Chief Executive Officer
  - Mr Scott Harris, Director, Workplace Relations and Policy

2.6. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

2.7. The following witness came to the table and was examined:

- Mr Robert Herrick, Personal capacity and representative of the Yarralumla Residents Association.

2.8. Evidence completed, the witnesses withdrew.

3. Next meeting

3.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a private meeting scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 29 April 2026
Time: 9.30 am
Location: Kiribati Room

4. Close

4.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 1.30 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 7* – Wednesday, 29 April 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mrs Deborah Morris MLA, Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.42am.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Confirmation of minutes

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to adopt the minutes for:

- Meeting 3 – 15 April 2026
- Meeting 4 – 21 April 2026
- Meeting 5 – 22 April 2026
- Meeting 6 – 23 April 2026.

4. Inquiry

4.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to receive and publish the supplementary Submission 10.1 Ms Melanie Wilde.

4.2. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to receive and publish a copy of Mr Bradbury's opening statement.

4.3. The Committee noted the email received 23 April 2026 from Mr Peter Bradbury regarding evidence provided by the ACT Auditor-General during the public hearing.

4.4. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to publish the email from Mr Ajay Sharma PSM, ACT Auditor-General regarding Mr Bradbury's email of 23 April 2026 and authorised the secretariat to publish if publication consent granted by the Auditor-General.

4.5. The Committee noted the timelines for development and presentation of the inquiry report, and to provide recommendations by 8 May 2026 to the secretariat.

5. Other business

5.1. No further business was raised.

6. Next meeting

6.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a private meeting scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 13 May 2026
Time: 9.30am
Location: Kiribati Room

7. Close

7.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 10.03am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 8* – Wednesday, 13 May 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair) [Teams], Mrs Deborah Morris MLA [Phone], Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.43am.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Inquiry

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to receive and publish the following supplementary submissions:

3.1.1. Submission 2.1 Mr Robert Herrick

3.1.2. Submission 8.1 Mr Peter Bradbury

3.1.3. Submission 9.1 Mr Ed Cocks MLA

3.2. The Committee discussed the inquiry and proposed findings and recommendations. The Committee agreed that the Chair's report plan would make a suitable start point for preparing the report.

3.3. The Committee noted the indicative timelines for development and presentation of the inquiry report.

3.4. Secretariat to follow up on outstanding answers to questions taken on notice and questions on notice.

4. Other business

4.1. No further business was raised.

5. **Next meeting**

5.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a private meeting scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 20 May 2026
Time: 9.30am
Location: Kiribati Room

6. **Close**

6.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 9.58am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 9* – Wednesday, 20 May 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair) [Teams], Mrs Deborah Morris MLA [Phone then in-person], Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

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1. **Commencement**

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.43am.

1.2. Mr Braddock took the Chair at 10.35am.

2. **Conflicts of interest**

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. **Confirmation of minutes**

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to adopt the minutes for Meeting 7 – 29 April 2026 and Meeting 8 – 13 May 2026.

4. **Inquiry**

4.1. The Committee discussed the indicative timeframe for development and presentation of the inquiry report inquiry and proposed findings and recommendations:

4.1.1. 28 May 2026 – Last opportunity to request an extension from the Assembly

4.1.2. 29 May 2026 – Chair's draft report circulated

4.1.3. 3 June 2026 – First report consideration

4.1.4. 4 June 2026 – Second report consideration

4.1.5. 9 June 2026 – Dissenting reports due

4.1.6. 10 June 2026 – Report due to be tabled in the Assembly.

4.2. The Committee discussed proposed additions from Mrs Morris and the Chair to the report findings and recommendations.

4.3. The Committee requested the Secretariat follow up on outstanding answers to questions taken on notice and questions on notice.

5. Other business

5.1. No further business was raised.

6. Next meeting

6.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a private meeting scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, 3 June 2026
Time: 9.30am
Location: Kiribati Room

7. Close

7.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 10.44am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 10* – Wednesday, 3 June 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

Apology: Mrs Deborah Morris MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.34am.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Confirmation of minutes

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to adopt the minutes for Meeting 9 – 20 May 2026.

4. Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance – report consideration

4.1. The Committee deliberated the Chair's draft report.

4.2. The Committee held over formal consideration to a private meeting on Friday, 5 June 2026.

5. Other business

5.1. No further business was raised.

6. Next meeting

6.1. The next meeting of the Committee is a private meeting scheduled for:

Date: Friday, 5 June 2026
Time: 2.00pm
Location: Teams

7. Close

7.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 10.53am.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 11* – Friday, 5 June 2026

Members present: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair) and Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

Apology: Mrs Deborah Morris MLA

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1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 2.05pm.

2. Conflicts of interest

2.1. No new conflicts were declared.

3. Confirmation of minutes

3.1. The Committee **resolved** [BRADDOCK] to adopt the minutes for Meeting 10 – 2 June 2026.

4. Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance – report consideration

4.1. The Committee considered the report paragraph by paragraph:

Pages i to vi – agreed to
Pages vii to ix – agreed to, new Recommendation 1 as addition
Paragraphs 1.1 to 1.9 – agreed to
Paragraphs 2.1 to 2.113 – agreed to, as amended at 2.2, 2.4, 2.12, 2.13, new recommendation 1 inserted, 2.25, 2.34, 2.67, 2.86, 2.87
Findings 1 to 7 – agreed to
Recommendations 1 to 11 – agreed to, amended recommendation 5, new recommendation 7 inserted
Paragraphs 3.1 to 3.21 – agreed to, recommendation 10 amended
Paragraphs 4.1 to 4.16 – agreed to, amended at 4.1, 4.6
Appendices A to D – agreed to, Appendix D as amended

4.2. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to adopt the report, as amended.

4.3. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] that the Secretary be authorised to make minor formatting and typographical changes to the report to prepare it for printing, after its adoption by the Committee but prior to its presentation.

4.4. The Committee noted the draft Chair's speaking notes for tabling the report.

4.5. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to endorse the draft media release for report tabling, as amended

5. Other business

5.1. No further business was raised.

6. Close

6.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 3.15pm.

All minutes are signed by the Chair, except for Meeting 11, which is certified correct by the secretary.

[CERTIFIED CORRECT]

KLangham

Ms Katie Langham
Committee Secretary
9 June 2026