



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Chris Bourke MLA,
Nicole Lawder MLA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2013–14 (No. 2) and Appropriation (Office of the
Legislative Assembly) Bill 2013–2014 (No. 2)

Responses to questions taken on notice and supplementary questions



Simon Corbell MLA

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION

Question Taken on Notice



Dr Bourke - Asked the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development on 28 April 2014:

Dr Bourke: Who has the water been purchased from by ACTEW—irrigators?

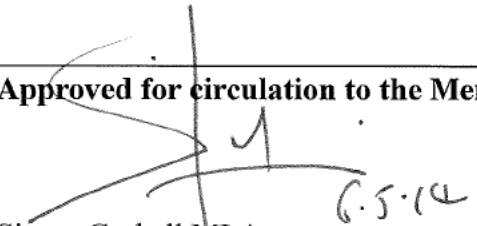
Mr Corbell: The water will have been purchased from existing entitlements in the basin. Exactly who the owners were I would have to take on notice. But it is most likely that it has been obtained from general purpose irrigation-type allocations and then surrendered to the commonwealth so it can be used for environmental watering purposes.

Mr Corbell - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As stated, ACTEW Corporation purchased general security water entitlements from willing sellers, irrigators, in the lower part of the Murrumbidgee valley.

The entitlements or licences will be surrendered to the Murray-Darling basin authority to manage the water for environmental watering purposes for the environmental assets of the Murray River valley.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.


Simon Corbell MLA
Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development

Date:.....

**Simon Corbell** MLA

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION**Question Taken on Notice**

Dr Bourke - Asked the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development on 28 April 2014:

Dr Bourke: 0.04 per cent is the ACT's contribution?

Mr Corbell: Yes.

Dr Bourke: What are the other states and, presumably, the commonwealth contributing? Obviously the rest, but do you know the proportions?

Mr Corbell: No, I do not have that information. I can provide it. Overall the allocation is 500 gegalitres. Obviously a large amount of that will be delivered by Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

Mr Corbell - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The volumes and proportions for water to be recovered for The Living Murray Initiative by the States is as follows:

<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>249 GL</i>	<i>49.8%</i>
<i>Victoria</i>	<i>214GL</i>	<i>42.8%</i>
<i>South Australia</i>	<i>35GL</i>	<i>7%</i>
<i>ACT</i>	<i>2GL</i>	<i>0.4%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>500GL</i>	<i>100%</i>





Simon Corbell MLA

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Queensland is not a signatory to The Living Murray Initiative and is not involved in the provision of water for The Living Murray Initiative.

The Commonwealth Government is not providing any actual water but is providing \$400million to support The Living Murray Initiative. The Living Murray Initiative has an investment target to provide for water recovery programs to be met by the Commonwealth and the States mentioned.

The investment target is:

<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>\$115m</i>
<i>Victoria</i>	<i>\$115m</i>
<i>South Australia</i>	<i>\$65m</i>
<i>ACT</i>	<i>\$5m</i>
<i>Commonwealth Government</i>	<i>\$400m</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$700m</i>

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Simon Corbell MLA

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development

6.5.14

Date:.....



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mr Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Ms Mary Porter MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Chris Bourke MLA, Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by Mr Smyth on 29 April 2014: Mr Barr took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript, TBA]

In relation to: Woden Bus Interchange

THE CHAIR: How much has been spent on Woden bus interchange to date?

Mr Barr: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

\$641,000 has been spent on preparation and approval of the Woden Bus Interchange Redevelopment Estate Development Plan and on the design of preparatory works.



Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *Andrew Barr*

Date: *5.5.14*

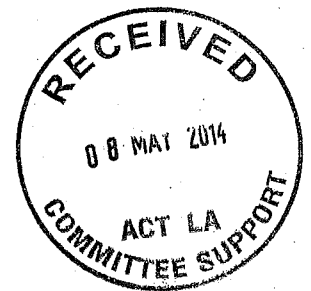
By the Minister for Economic Development, Andrew Barr MLA

MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY QUESTION

Date 297 April 2014

Question Without Notice - Taken On Notice Response by Minister



During the public hearing with Standing Committee on Public Accounts on 29 April 2014, as the Minister for Community Services, I agreed to provide a breakdown of the ACT concessions program for 2012-13 and 2013-14, and how the additional funding will be distributed across the concessions programs.

It should be noted that the actual expenditure outcome for 2012-13 was \$44,372,000 and that the \$7,478,000 provided in the Second Appropriation includes \$3,255,000 in accrued expenses from 2012-13. When this accrual is removed from the \$51,585,000 provided in the Appropriation Bill (No.2) the increase in 2012-13 actual to 2013-14 revised budget is in the order of 9%, that is, \$44,372,000 to \$48,330,000.

The breakdown of programs for 2012-13 and 2013-14 is listed in the table below.

	2012-13	2012-13	2013-14
	Budget \$000's	Actual \$000's	Budget \$000's
Utilities Concessions	21,300	22,346	24,438
General Rates Concessions	7,593	7,801	8,305
Transport Concessions	11,510	12,432	13,682
Spectacles Concessions	1,205	1,684	1,842
Funeral Concessions	50	109	63
Total	41,658	44,372	48,330
Accrual			3,255
Total 2013-14 appropriation (including 2012-13 accrual)			51,585

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Andrew Barr MLA

Minister for Community Services

Date:.....7.5.2014.....



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

BRENDAN SMYTH MLA (CHAIR), MARY PORTER AM MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), CHRIS BOURKE MLA, NICOLE LAWDER MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by MR SMYTH on 29 April 2014: The Chief Minister took on notice the following question:

Ref: Proof transcript—Public hearing 29 April 2014, page 41.

In relation to: **The Downward Movement in Employee Expenses in 2014-15**

What is the reason for the downward movement of \$0.611m in employee expenses between the 2013-14 Estimate Outcome and 2014-15 Estimate. Does the movement forecast a reduction in FTE?

MS GALLAGHER: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The downward movement of \$0.611m mainly relates to the cessation of the Centenary of Canberra budget initiative in which 12 FTE were budgeted for in 2013-14 for the final year of the initiative. This is partially offset by an increase in the Clerical EBA in 2014-15 relating to the second and third tranche of the agreement (1 July 2014, 1.5% and 1 April 2015, 1.5%).



Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts Inquiry into Appropriation Bill(s) 2013-14 (No.2).

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

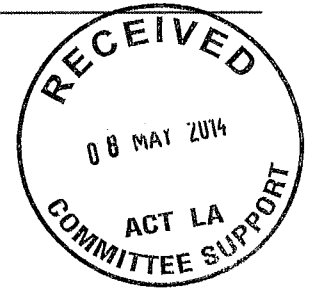
Date: 6.5.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
INQUIRY INTO REFERRED APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)



ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Mr Smyth on 29 April 2014: Minister for Health took on notice the following question(s):

In relation to: Staging and Decanting Projects.

Mr Smyth: Could you take on notice those technical adjustments, the revised funding profiles, and detail which ones have started?

Ms Gallagher: For all of the Health Infrastructure Program?

Mr Smyth: Yes please.

Ms Gallagher: Under the technical adjustments revised funding profiles?

Mr Smyth: Yes please. There is an enormous amount of money shifted from 2013-14 to 2014-15. It might be a question for Mr Foster: is it the timing and payments or have the projects not commenced?

Ms Gallagher: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Program changes and/or the timing of payments has resulted in the re-profiling of some Health Infrastructure Program (HIP) Projects from 2013-2014 to 2014-2015, as outlined below:

Health Infrastructure Program - Project Management

This Project commenced in 2012-13 and during that year some funds were re-profiled forward to 2014-15. This adjustment returns some of the funds back to 2013-14 to cover HIP project team salaries and operational costs as well as Shared Services Procurement Fees and additional consultant/contractor costs that are needed to run the HIP program.

Tuggeranong Health Centre - Stage 2

This Project progressed more quickly than planned when forecasting the cashflow in the 2013-14 Budget and therefore this adjustment returns funding to 2013-14.

Staging and Decanting and Continuity of Services

This Project (total value \$19.43 million) commenced in 2012-13 and this adjustment transfers funding from 2014-15 to 2013-14 to reflect the latest advice on planned expenditure.

Clinical Services and Inpatient Unit Design and Infrastructure Expansion

This 2013-14 Project has commenced although expenditure is expected to be much lower than first planned

Works associated with the Emergency Department expansion are dependent on the scope and program identified following the outcome of the proof of concept due in late 2014. Re-profiling is also due to the planned change in the way contracts are to be let with the decision to combine various works packages into one contract under the new form of contract (GC21).

Staging and Decanting - Moving to our Future

This Project has commenced, however not as quickly as first planned.

The re-profiling is due the change in the way contracts are to be let. The decision to combine various works packages into one contract under the new form on contract (GC21) is reflective of this re-profiling.

Continuity of Health Services Plan- Essential Infrastructure

Head contractor award delayed until March 2014.

University of Canberra Public Hospital (Design)

This phase of the University of Canberra Public Hospital Project has been delayed as a result of various scope negotiations. The Principal Consultant request for tender release subject to approval of Land Acquisition deed with University of Canberra (UC). As a result the funds have been moved out from 2013-14.

Clinical Services Redevelopment – Phase 3

This Project has commenced however, the re-profiling reflects revised estimates of completion of various projects for unforeseen and emergent issue and Campus Infrastructure. The timing of other projects and works undertaken has an impact with the slight delay in expenditure.

Central Sterilising Services

This project has been deferred pending a feasibility study currently underway to assess options to contain the cost within budget allocation.

Northside Hospital Specification and Documentation

This Project has commenced however there has been some delay as a result of various scope negotiations. The Principal Consultant request for tender release subject to approval of Land Acquisition deed with UC.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Residential Alcohol and Other Drug Rehab Facility

This Project has commenced, however the re-profiling is a result of the revision to project scope and the outcome of ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal decision on Lease Variation Development Application.

Linear Accelerator Procurement and Replacement

This Project is close to completion, however the re-profiling is necessary to allow for the timing for the supplier to complete provisions for backup power for the Linear Accelerator Bunkers.

Provision for Project Definition Planning

This Project is close to completion, however the re-profiling reflects the latest estimate for payment of the balance of the works and services being delivered in this Project. The timing of other projects and works undertaken has an impact on the timing of expenditure.

New Multi-storey Car Park TCH

This Project is close to completion, however there are some minor final works to the entrance to be completed alongside other projects.

Clinical Services Redevelopment - Phase 2

This Project has commenced and the majority of these funds relate to works associated with Southern Precinct Infrastructure Early Works, Integrated Cancer Care Centre, Centenary Hospital for Women and Children and are expected to be utilised in 2013-14 with a small amount re-profiled to 2014-15 to cover the timing of accounts from contractors.

Mental Health Young Persons Unit

This project is currently on hold.

Integrated Cancer Centre- Phase 2


This Project has commenced, however damage from flooding inside the Building has caused delays. The re-profiling reflects timing of finalisation of invoices received.

Building Upgrades

- Electrical/Fire/ Safety Upgrades
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning System Upgrades
- Medical Facilities Upgrades
- Facilities Improvement to Laboratory and Outpatients Area
- Upgrades of Medical and Administrative Offices

All of these capital upgrade projects have commenced, however they were delayed while final approval of works programs was obtained.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: 

Date: 8.5.14

By the Minister for Health, Ms Katy Gallagher MLA



Shane Rattenbury MLA

MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES
 MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS
 MINISTER FOR HOUSING
 MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
 MINISTER FOR AGEING

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO



Answer to Question Taken on Notice

Mr Brendan Smyth MLA asked the **Minister for Corrections**, during the Inquiry into referred supplementary Appropriation Bills 2013–14 (No. 2), and taken on 1 May 2014:

In relation to projections from the Walker Report

THE CHAIR: Do we know whether on the previous work the government used his low, medium or high projections last time?

Mr Rattenbury: I do not know, I am afraid, Mr Smyth.

THE CHAIR: Could you take that on notice, please?

Mr Rattenbury: I think so. It would be subject to whether I have access to the information. If it was a previous cabinet decision, I will not have access to that information.

THE CHAIR: But the department will have the documents.

Mr Rattenbury: Yes, I will endeavour to provide you with the best answer we can.

Minister – the answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The report entitled *Proposals for Future ACT Correctional Facilities* included detainee forecasts prepared by John Walker. Although these forecasts included a number of projections, they did not include low, medium or high projections in the sense that the 2014 forecasts do.

However, it should be noted that the forecasts finally used by government did not align with the Walker forecast incorporated in the above report.

Approved for circulation to the Member

Shane Rattenbury MLA
 Minister for Corrections

Date: 10/5/14

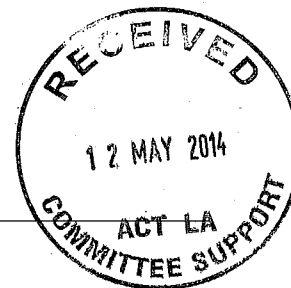
When reflecting on the early forecasting data, it is important to remember that reliable forecasting is inherently difficult as forecasters are unable to predict what changes might occur in regard to population trends, community factors and significant events, legislation trends and sentencing trends that develop after the forecasting has been completed.



Shane Rattenbury MLA

MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES
 MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS
 MINISTER FOR HOUSING
 MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
 MINISTER FOR AGEING

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO



Answer to Question Taken on Notice

Mr Andrew Wall MLA asked the **Minister for Corrections**, during the Inquiry into referred supplementary Appropriation Bills 2013–14 (No. 2), and taken on 1 May 2014:

In relation to building in jails

THE CHAIR: Is there an operational cost? In effect, you will be running a secure zone within a prison. You have said that there will be additional officers required to man the sally port et cetera. What is the operational cost and how will you cover that?

Mr Rattenbury: Do you want us to take that on notice, Mr Smyth?

THE CHAIR: If you need to take it on notice, yes.

Minister – the answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Government has included an allowance in the funding for operational costs during the Delivery Phase of the Alexander Maconochie Centre additional facilities project to provide for additional Corrections staff during the construction period.

Funding for 6 FTEs totalling \$1.654m over two years has been allowed for in the project estimates to cover additional Corrections operational staff and associated costs.

Approved for circulation to the Member

Shane Rattenbury MLA
 Minister for Corrections

Date: 9/5/14



Joy Burch MLA

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MINISTER FOR WOMEN
MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR GAMING AND RACING



MEMBER FOR BRINDABELLA

Mr Brendan Smyth MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

Dear Mr Smyth

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2014 seeking further information in relation to your Committee's Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2013-14 (No. 2).

As advised at the Committee's hearing on 28 April 2014, the ACT Government had allocated initial capital funding of \$7.46 million in the 2013-14 year to commence the construction of the new Coombs Primary School.

The allocation of funding in Appropriation Bill 2013-14 (No. 2) is necessary to allow the Territory to enter into contracts with a contractor to commence construction work in mid- to-late 2014. This would allow the school to be completed ready for the start of the 2016 school year.

Against the initial allocation of \$7.46 million, the major expenditure will be the prepayment to the contractor at the commencement of the project. It is anticipated that this will be approximately \$3.0 million. This is a provision in the contract.

The early works construction activities that will also be funded from the initial allocation of \$7.46 million include:

- Site establishment, including site fencing, sheds, amenities and temporary power;
- Bulk earthworks and establishment of the building platforms;
- Detailed excavation for footings and in-ground services;
- Pouring of footings and concrete slabs;
- Installation of in-ground services;
- Erection of wall frames and roof structure and roof sheeting; and

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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- Erection of block and masonry walls.

Other costs that will be incurred include payments to consultants including the cost planner, programmer and commercial advisors to the Territory as well as the Principal's Authorised Person (PAP). The PAP is an external consultant that will manage the contract on behalf of the Territory during the construction phase of the project.

I trust that this information is helpful to your Committee.

Yours sincerely



Joy Burch MLA
Minister for Education and Training

42
May 2014



Andrew Barr MLA

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER

MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

MINISTER FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND EVENTS



MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

Mr Brendan Smyth MLA
Chair – Standing Committee on Public Accounts
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
Canberra ACT 2601

Standing Committee on Public Accounts - Inquiry into the *Appropriation Bill 2013-2014 (No. 2)* and the *Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2013-2014 (No. 2)*


Dear Mr Smyth ^{Brendan}

Thank you for your letter of 5 May 2014 seeking clarification of the total amount being appropriated to agencies in relation to revised wage parameters.

I wish to correct the record and advise that the impact of the revised wage parameters for the *Appropriation Bill 2013-2014 (No. 2)* is \$15.665 million. The Tabling Statement referenced this amount as \$15.738 million, which is the total amount of the two supplementary appropriation bills.

In relation to point 2 in your letter querying the amount of \$15.726 million drawn from Table 1 on page 6 of the Supplementary Budget Papers, you should note that the total figure for revised wage parameters includes an appropriation of \$12,000 in Expenses on Behalf of the Territory appropriation to the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate. These amounts total \$15.738 million which, as mentioned above, is the total amount being appropriated in the two Bills.

Yours sincerely


Andrew Barr MLA
Treasurer

6 MAY 2014

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY