



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Nicole Lawder MLA,  
Meegan Fitzharris MLA

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Inquiry into 2013–14 Annual reports

Chief Minister's portfolio  
Regional Development portfolio

Responses to questions taken on notice at public hearing of 10 November 2014

Q To N # 1 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Nicole Lawder MLA,  
Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

What is the staffing allocation/breakdown for 6<sup>th</sup> Minister?

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

The staffing allocation for the sixth Minister is as follows:

- 1 x Senior Adviser L2
- 2 x Senior Adviser L1
- 2 x Adviser L1 (upper)



Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*  
By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher

Date: 25.11.14

Q<sub>T</sub> # 2 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Mr Dozpot:


In relation to:

Digital Canberra Action Plan: How many people have used the CBRfree Wi-Fi Network since its launch?

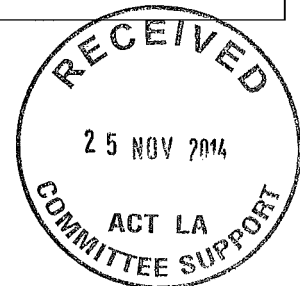
Chief Minister: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The CBRfree Wi-Fi Network was officially launched on 30 October 2014. From the launch date until 11 November 2014 there have been 69,397 CBRfree Wi-Fi sessions and 13,252 unique users.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:   
By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

Date: 25.11.14



QTON # 4 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister

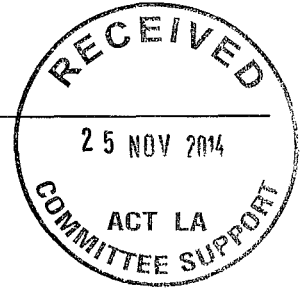


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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**



Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

Life cycle of the Skywhale – i.e., confirm number of flights the balloon can fly – in terms of flight integrity of the balloon.

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

Based on advice that I have received the Skywhale has a life expectancy of approximately 100 flights.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:

Handwritten signature of Katy Gallagher.

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

Provide a list of whole of government communications, including outcomes.



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

The ACT Government uses a broad range of 'traditional' communication tools to engage effectively with the ACT community, including face-to-face community meetings, letter box drops, hard-copy newsletters, focus groups, the 'Community Noticeboard', a variety of survey methodologies and 'Chief Minister Talkback'.

Most recently the focus has been on the further development of on-line and social media tools to communicate with the community.

Specific new whole of government digital initiatives include:

- **ACT Government Digital Mail Service**  
The emailing outreach service commenced in February 2014 to provide government information in a more timely and targeted way. To date, 27,500 recipients have opted-in to receive information via this service. A digital version of the Our City, Our Community newsletter was distributed via email for the first time in October 2014. Weekly newsletters are also now being distributed via this means to ensure that information is both current and timely.
- **Canberra Digital Community Connect (CDCC)**  
Uses the NBN to provide opportunities for community groups to run online events that people can view and participate in from home. The Gungahlin Library is equipped with video broadcast equipment to live stream events through the Government's 'Canberra Live' website.
- **Twitter Cabinet**  
The sixth Twitter Cabinet was conducted in September 2013. It proved a successful means to engage the community using social media, attracting 708 tweets in an hour. The first Twitter Cabinet was held in September 2011.

- **Mobile Canberra App**

In early 2014 the Mobile Canberra app was launched to help residents and visitors locate city amenities. The locally produced app uses GPS technology and ACT Government data to provide information on more than 9,800 local amenities.

- **Time to Talk Canberra**

The Time to Talk Canberra website, upgraded in 2013 to reflect the increased use of social media platforms, continues to be the central location for the community to provide feedback on government projects and reforms. The site currently receives about 2400 unique visits per month.

The overall outcome of this diverse and broad-reaching methodology is to communicate and engage effectively with all Canberrans in relation to programs, projects, reforms and initiatives that affect them, and to involve them in a pro-active way in the decision-making process. This is in keeping with the Government's open government policy of promoting greater transparency, openness and collaboration in the decisions we make and the work we do.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:



Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTON # 6 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**



Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

Evaluation of Centenary of Canberra - to be undertaken until 2020 – where will results be published?

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

Inheriting agencies for the longer-term key performance indicators (KPIs) will include information on the KPIs outlined in the Centenary of Canberra Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework in annual reports.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTAJ #7 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**



Asked by Mr Dozpot:

In relation to:

Digital Canberra Action Plan: How many participants have attended the Digital Business Capacity Building Workshops?

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

There have been eight Digital Business Capacity Building Workshops to date, with a total of 216 business representatives attending.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTON # 8 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Doszpot:

In relation to: iConnect Program

Developing iConnect—amount of current year funds spent to date



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

From 1 July 2014 to 30 October 2014 approximately \$478,000 of current year funds was spent, comprising service delivery channel analysis, enterprise architecture, business analysis and program management for iConnect.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTON # 9 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister

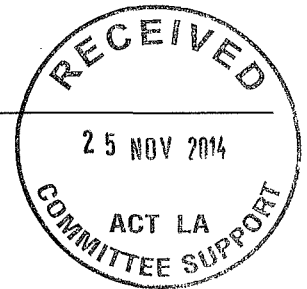


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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]



Asked by Ms Lawder:

In relation to:

Canberra International Film Festival – were there any reductions/concessions due to Harvey Weinstein not showing up due to ill health?

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

Yes, there was a \$12,500 reduction in the 2013/14 payment to the Canberra International Film Festival (CIFF) due to the cancellation of Harvey Weinstein.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher

QTON # 10 -10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Nicole Lawder MLA,  
Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**



Asked by Nicole Lawder MLA:

In relation to:

Advice provided on issues relating to the liability for the remediation of contaminated land and the ongoing management and liability of asbestos in the territory –

“When was this advice given, and who prepared the advice ?”

Katy Gallagher MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

Advice was given by the ACT Government Solicitor, during the reporting period, on 16 October 2013 and 9 April 2014.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25. 11. 14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTDW # 11 - 10 Nov 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by MS LAWDER:

In relation to:

Snapshot of the ACT Public Service Workforce (June 2014) – Table 4 – pp.34-35 – annual pay rate column – can a break down for staff at the Capital Metro Agency be provided for below \$100,000 and above \$100,000?

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

I refer the Member to the table below:

Table 1: Breakdown of Annual Pay Rate – Capital Metro Agency

FTE Salary Range	Staff Count
Below \$100,000	8
Above \$100,000	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>



Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*  
By the Ms Gallagher MLA, Chief Minister

Date: 25.11.14

QTON # 12 - 10 Nov 14  
Min for Regional Dev



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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Nicole Lawder MLA,  
Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

Eligibility for NSW children in Canberra pre-schools.



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

ACT residents have priority for enrolment and placement in ACT public schools.

Most ACT schools have a priority placement area (PPA) and those schools give priority to the placement of children living in its PPA. The Directorate determines and regularly reviews PPAs. PPAs may be one suburb, part of a suburb, or a group of suburbs. In some instances certain suburbs may be included within the PPA of two or more public schools.

A school may accept students from outside its PPA subject to the school's limit and capacity.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:

Date:

25.11.14

By the Minister for Regional Development, Katy Gallagher



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FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**

Asked by Jeremy Hanson MLA:

In relation to:

Commencement of legal action against the territory in relation to homes in the ACT affected by Mr Fluffy loose fill asbestos insulation -

“What is the exact number of cases filed ?”

Katy Gallagher MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

One in the ACT Supreme Court.



Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *K. Gallagher*

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA

QTON # 14 - (10 Nov) 14  
Chief Minister



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Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2013–14 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 10 November 2014]**



Asked by Mr Smyth:

In relation to:

Evaluation of the Centenary of Canberra continuing to 2020 in accordance with the framework – how will that be conducted and how much will be spent each year to evaluate the effect of the centenary?

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

Inheriting agencies for the longer-term key performance Indicators (KPIs) will include information on the KPIs outlined in the Centenary of Canberra Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework in annual reports. There is no further funding allocated to Centenary evaluations.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: 

Date: 25.11.14

By the Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA