



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

JEREMY HANSON MLA (CHAIR), MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MARK PARTON MLA,
SUZANNE ORR MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**



Asked by MS LE COUTEUR MLA:

Annual Reports - Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development - Output 9.7

In relation to the use of ACT Property Services properties by community groups:

1. What is ACT Property Group's policy for rents charged to community groups for use of Property Group buildings?
2. When did the process of moving groups off peppercorn rents begin and when is it due to be completed?
3. What percentage of tenants have been moved off peppercorn rentals?
4. Will all community groups face the same rent under the new policy?
5. Will some groups remain on peppercorn rents and if so, which ones?
6. Are rental discounts going to be buildings with limited uses such as special-purpose, heritage or older buildings?
7. Are rental discounts going to be provided for organisations that do their own building maintenance?
8. Does ACT Property consider the economic viability of a community organisation, or the value of its contribution to the ACT community, in making any decision to increase rent?

Mr BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The Community and Other Tenancies Application and Allocation Policy. The policy is available online www.apps.treasury.act.gov.au/act_property_group.
2. ACT Property Group (ACTPG) reviews all rental agreements to ensure consistency across the portfolio. ACTPG has been reviewing the peppercorn arrangements as licences are being prepared for renewal. This in some cases has identified financial hardship amongst some of the groups and has highlighted the need to review the current policy. ACTPG are undertaking this review in consultation with the Community Services Directorate.
3. Nil.
4. Yes, under the current policy.



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5. This will be considered under the review.
6. Rent levels will be considered in the review process including special situations such as heritage buildings, and whether the occupant contributes to maintenance.
7. As per the answer to Question 6 above.
8. All groups are to be treated in accordance with policy and this matter will be considered under the review.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

Signature: *Andrew Barr*

Date: 6-12-17

By the Treasurer, Andrew Barr MLA