



STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INCLUSION

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA (Chair), Mr Jonathan Davis MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Peter Cain MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
QUESTION ON NOTICE

Nicole Lawder MLA: To ask the Minister for Women

Ref: 2021-22 ACT Women's Budget Statement

In relation to:

1. In the following financial years, how many procurement strategies have been awarded to contractors with Gender Equity Strategies?
 - a. 2017-2018;
 - b. 2018-2019;
 - c. 2019-2020;
 - d. 2021-2022.

YVETTE BERRY MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The ACT Government does not have mandatory reporting on Gender Equity Strategies and does not collect this data.

The ACT Government is committed to encouraging organisations to undertake best practice processes to improve outcomes for women and girls in the ACT. It is ACT policy to not enter into contract with a contractor named as a non-complying employer by the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*. ACT Government procurement policies include a requirement for a check to establish whether a tenderer is listed on WGEA's non-compliant organisations list before a tender is evaluated.

Under the *First Action Plan 2017-19* of the *ACT Women's Plan 2016-26* the ACT Government has committed to establish procurement strategies that prioritise contractors with Gender Equity Strategies.

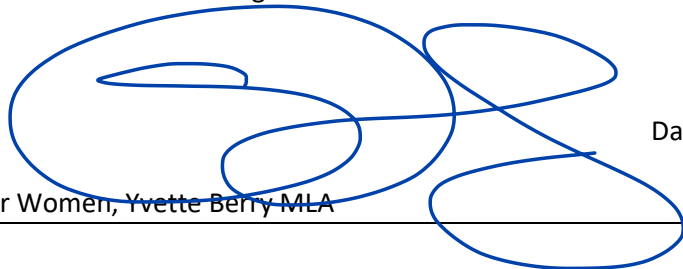
The Secure Local Jobs Code strengthens the ACT Government's procurement practices so that contracts are only awarded to businesses that meet the highest ethical and labour standards. Businesses need to complete a Labour Relations, Training and Workplace Equity Plan. The diversity component of the plan specifically seeks input on how the business will support employment participation of women, among other groups.

Under the *Second Action Plan 2020-22* of the *ACT Women's Plan 2016-26* the ACT Government has committed to a 10 per cent target for the proportion of women employed in the construction industry in the ACT and supports the achievement of this target by setting a requirement through the ACT Government procurement policies, including the Secure Local Jobs Code, to give greater

weighting to organisations who meet this target. Final reporting on the progress of this action is due at the end of 2022.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion

Signature:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and curves.

Date: 18/11/21

By the Minister for Women, Yvette Berry MLA

November 2021