



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Nicole Lawder MLA: To ask the Minister for the Arts

Ref: Public Art Vandalism

In relation to:

1. When was Arts ACT notified that the Big Little Man had been vandalised?
 - a) When will this be rectified?
 - b) How much will it cost the ACT ratepayer to fix, taking into account all areas of government included?
 - c) Has the culprit been charged?
2. In 2021, how many incidents of graffiti were there on our public art?
3. What was the financial cost to fix these incidents?
4. Are all public art pieces in the ACT covered by CCTV?
5. How many instances of vandalism/graffiti were followed by police investigations and/or criminal charges being laid?

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. artsACT had not been notified that *The Big Little Man* had been vandalised prior to it being raised by Ms Lawder.
 - a) It was inspected by artsACT within an hour of being notified and was cleaned the following morning, Friday 4 March 2022.
 - b) It cost artsACT \$250 excluding GST to have the artwork cleaned. No other areas of government were involved.
 - c) No, artsACT does not know who graffitied the artwork.
2. In 2021, there were three minor incidents of graffiti on public artworks managed by artsACT.
3. artsACT paid a total of \$600 excluding GST to have two of the artworks cleaned by specialist graffiti removal contractors. The graffiti on the other artwork was removed by an artsACT staff member.
4. No. One public artwork in the collection managed by artsACT has a CCTV camera trained on it for the sole purpose of asset surveillance. Other artworks are captured by the Public Safety Camera Network operated by Justice and Community Safety in the City. These cameras have a 360° rotating lens that is not fixed on one area or object.
5. In 2021, no instances of vandalism or graffiti of an artwork were followed by police investigations and/or criminal charges.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender Equality

Signature: 

Date: 18/3/22

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA