



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by: Ms Suzanne Orr MLA

Addressed to: Rod Griffiths, President, Conservation Council ACT

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript page 66

Hearing Date: 22 July 2024

QTON lodgement date: 23 July 2024

Answer Due Date: 29 July 2024

Question:

MS ORR: Can I just get a quick overview from each of you as to what requirements and obligations you have under your current funding arrangement? Because Ms Mance, I think you made reference you had to attend six forums a year, so those sorts of things. So, what it is you are currently funded to do now?

Ms Mance: I think we are funded for, I guess, a moderate amount of activities that we have to do under our contract. But I guess it is a case of like what impact do you want the environmental organisations to have? Because if we reduced our services back to the minimum then the organisation would be a shell. And what we would be providing to government would be well under what we need in the current climate crisis and what we are being asked to do in terms of bringing expertise and the voice of community to government.

So that minimum standard does not kind of really—

MS ORR: Yes, that is not really—sorry, Ms Mance, that is not really the question and the direction I was trying to get at. What I am trying to get an understanding here of is you are saying there is more funding needed there. I am not quite sure what has been funded now and how big the gap is. I am also trying to get a little bit of an understanding to—and this is sort of my follow up question, as to the type of funding you—have you got funding arrangements that say, "we will fund you to do x, y, z", and they are quite prescriptive? Or is it, "we will give you a little bit of a discretionary grant and you can go ahead and use it as you want". But these are things I am trying to unpack to get a better understanding of what the response is.

Ms Mance: So it is six consultations is it 10 activities per year?

Ms Veikkanan: So I am happy to take that on notice and respond really specifically. Because in—I know the Canberra environment into our contract does have some particular numbers. For example, 12 workshops and six consultations with government, et cetera. And then beyond that, a lot of it is responding to the volunteer demands and community needs and also the inbox that is full of questions—

THE CHAIR: I wonder, in the interests of time, you might each take it on notice, and let us know, so we can move on to—

Rod Griffiths, President Conservation Council ACT Region: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

The KPIs and minimum requirements as per our agreement are as follows:

Indicators	Minimum requirement
Promote and distribute information relevant to ACT Government sustainability policies, initiatives, and environmental priorities.	Information disseminated in various media such as newsletters, social media, meetings and/or emails to reach at least 1500 people.
Engage the community through consultation, events and workshops that support individual, household and/or community action on ACT Government sustainability and environment priorities. Work with Government to develop and implement relevant environment, sustainability and climate change policies and programs.	Conduct at least 12 consultations, events and/or workshops that meet one or more of the ACT Government's sustainability and environment priorities.
As is relevant to your organisation, make formal submissions to relevant ACT Government policy development and review process. Proactively bring to the attention of Government sustainability and environment challenges and opportunities	Participate in at least 4 meetings with EPSDD to discuss key sustainability and environment policies and programs.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025



Signature:

Date:19/8/2024

By the President for the Conservation Council ACT Region, Rod Griffiths