



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Chief Minister

In relation to: ACT Public Service and Operation Kingfisher Report – Potential Liability for ACT

Hearing: 27 July 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 83-84

Transcript provided: 31 July 2026

Answer Due: 7 August 2026

Russ Campbell took on notice the following question(s):

MR BRADDOCK: Well, I am talking in terms of we have had a Director General and chief of staff, so very senior members, you have found to have engaged in serious corrupt conduct. How do we know that they have not been engaged in the same behaviour of procurement, they have—do not still have access to government systems or government information, or there is no further potential fallout that might fall out from their actions?

Mr Campbell: Are you saying subsequent to the issuing of the report?

MR BRADDOCK: All I am saying also, going back as early as we first became aware of the problem, have we actually proactively taken any risk management steps to ensure that we protected the ACT people and the government?

Mr Campbell: Well, in terms of the actual findings, they are not findings until they are, so there is—you know, if we are going to make suspicions on the basis of allegations that are on the public domain which have not been proven, or have not been considered by the commission, I do not know that you can do very much more than ensure that the existing code of conduct and practices are in place.

[...]

MR BRADDOCK: Okay. I will try to bring it up a level. Are there any financial liabilities to the ACT arising out of this episode?

Mr Campbell: You are asking for a legal opinion on exposures—

MR BRADDOCK: No. I am asking a financial risk question.

Mr Campbell: Yes, and in terms of what, though?

MR BRADDOCK: In terms of are there any possible cost that we might be liable for that—I know it may be a case of might have to watch the play out in terms of process, but is there any potential liability that the ACT people could be facing as a result of this episode?

Mr Campbell: I would have to take that on notice if there is anything I can provide,

Mr Andrew Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The outcome of the Integrity Commission's Operation Kingfisher report does not give rise to any direct liability to the Territory, other than the usual cost and expenses of the investigation. Whether any interested party might seek to make a claim arising from those outcomes is purely speculative.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026-2027

Signature: 

Date: **6.8.26**

By the Chief Minister, Mr Andrew Barr MLA