

ESTIMATES 2007

Question on Notice

Chief Minister

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Budget 2007-2008 Paper 4, page 35

Bill Stefaniak. MLA : To ask the Chief Minister., In relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4., page 35 –

1. How much has been allocated for the Arboretum project in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10?
2. What will this funding be used for?
3. What contingency plans have been made for the arboretum in the event of a tightening of water restrictions?
4. How many staff will be working on this project and at what level?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. Capital funding of approximately \$5.342 million (appropriation and carryover from 2006-07) will be allocated to the Arboretum in 2007-08. No capital funding has been allocated for 2008-09 and 2009-10.

Recurrent funding of \$800,000 per annum has been provided in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10.

2. The above funding will be used for detailed design and documentation of the facility, undertaking forest plantings, including tree purchases, ground preparation, ground stabilisation and seeding, irrigation where required, and work on roads, the events terrace and central valley.
3. The Arboretum has been developed so that it does not use potable water. This means that it would already meet Level 4 restrictions if these were introduced.

Initially water could be used from the recycled water from the Lower Molonglo Sewerage Works, but the recent rains, together with the delayed plantings, means that this has not needed to be utilised. There is also a bore on the site that could provide water and plans are currently being developed to incorporate a dam on site so that excess storm water can be recycled. In the longer term, the feasibility of using water from a sewer mine will also be explored in conjunction with ACTEW/AGL.

4. The Strategic Priorities Group within Chief Minister's Department manages the project. The Executive Director and two senior managers (SOG As) work part-time on this project.

Government advertising

Bill Stefaniak MLA : To ask the Chief Minister In relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 39 –

1. How much will the ACT Government spend on government advertising during 2007-08;
2. What campaigns does the government plan to spend on each campaign;
3. How much money will the government spend on promoting its budget;
4. How much money will be spent on promoting its budget in newspapers, television, radio and other media;
5. What process has to be followed for government advertising to be approved;

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

- (1) The 2007-08 ACT Government Budget has not yet been passed by the Legislative Assembly. Expenditure planning for Output Class 1.4 will not be finalised until Budget allocations are confirmed and internal agency budgeting is completed.
- (2) Known advertising campaigns at this stage include a Medicare change of address campaign budgeted at \$240,000 over two years and a counter-terrorism public information campaign, budgeted at \$225,000 over four years. Both of these campaigns were the subject of successful budget bids. No other campaigns have been planned at this stage.
- (3) The current campaign communicating the 2007-08 Budget cost \$117,164 (pre-GST).
- (4) See above.
- (5) Normal departmental processes apply for approval of government advertising, including adherence to procurement processes, government branding and authorisation guidelines, approval through senior management, and approval by portfolio ministers where required.

ACT Safety first project (redirect from Treasurer)

Mr Mulcahy: To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 429:

1. Is it possible to determine whether the ACT Safety First Project had any effect on the Government's insurance premiums since its introduction?
2. If so, what was the effect on premiums?

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

1. At this early stage it is not possible to judge whether there has been any effect on insurance premiums in relation to the current Safety First Project as the project allocation only occurred in the 2007-08 budget and the project strategies are still at the initial implementation stage.
2. It is expected that the earliest impacts on premium rates may be experienced in 2008-09, with a flow-on affect in subsequent years. This was the experience of the initial Safety First Project which was in place from 2002 to 2005. The initiatives of that Safety First Project arrested the increasing trend in the premium rates that had been experienced and resulted in a decrease of the overall Comcare premium for ACT Government from 3.08% to 3.03%. This decrease also occurred during a time when there was 70% increase in the premium rate for Comcare-covered agencies overall.

Land Release

Mrs Burke: To ask the Chief Minister

In relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 517 and Land release

1. For each of the years 2001-02 to 2006-07, how many residential blocks of land were sold
2. For each of the years 2001-02 to 2006-07, how many multi-unit residential blocks were sold

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1)

Year	Single Blocks Sales
2001/02	1,264
2002/03	1,096
2003/04	1,185

2)

Year	Multi Unit Sales
2001/02	411 dwelling sites
2002/03	787 dwelling sites
2003/04	201 dwelling sites
2004/05	534 dwelling sites
2005/06	150 dwelling sites
2006/07	320 dwelling sites
2006/07	85 dwelling sites

286 Chief Minister Stefaniak

QTON - Resources received free of charge

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : The ACT Executive “Resources Received free of charge”

What are the “Resources Received free of charge”?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

Resources received free of charge include:

- building maintenance services provided by ACT Legislative Assembly Secretariat; and
- accounting services provided by Chief Minister’s Department.

QTON - ACT executive staffing profile

Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : ACT Executive staffing profile.

Can you provide the Committee with a staffing profile for the ACT Executive?

Ms Gallagher : I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

Chief Minister's Office

1 x Chief of Staff
3 x Senior Adviser L2
3 x Senior Adviser L1
2 x Adviser L1 (lower)

Katy Gallagher's Office

1 x Senior Adviser L2
3 x Senior Adviser L1
1 x Adviser L1 (lower)

Simon Corbell's Office

1 x Senior Adviser L2
2 x Senior Adviser L1
1 x Adviser L1 (upper)

John Hargreaves' Office

1 x Senior Adviser L2
1 x Senior Adviser L1
2 x Adviser L2
1 x Adviser L1 (upper)

Andrew Barr's Office

1 x Senior Adviser L2

1 x Senior Adviser L2 - part time (1 x day week for 6 months)

2 x Senior Adviser L1

2 x Adviser L2

2 x Adviser L1 (lower) – part time

288 Chief Minister Burke

QTON - Narrabundah Caravan Park

Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Narrabundah Caravan Park

Can you confirm or deny that you did or did not receive a telephone call prior to the selling of the Narrabundah Long Stay Caravan Park to your office?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Yes.

QTON - Spending proposals outside budget context

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : New spending proposals outside the Budget context
(reference pg 21 *For the Future* paper; section *Strengthening the Budget System*)

In the *For the Futures* document, its statement, in relation to cabinet procedures and the budget process, that cabinet will only consider new spending proposals outside the budget context of exceptional circumstances:

1. What do you mean by exceptional circumstances?
2. Do you have guidelines for that, and if so, can we have a copy of that?
3. Could you just detail to the committee how many new spending proposals cabinet approved outside your budget process for 2006-2007?
4. Could provide those details as to the cost of each one.

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's questions are as follows:-

1. Exceptional circumstances are those where there is an urgent and compelling case for earlier consideration.
2. Agencies have been provided with the following guidance in relation to consideration of new spending proposals outside the budget process:
 - *Directions on Cabinet Procedure (Issued January 2007); ACT Government Cabinet Handbook - 3.12.1.* Proposals to Cabinet that involve a commitment of additional funding should not be brought forward outside the annual Budget process, unless there is an urgent and compelling case for earlier consideration.

The Cabinet Handbook can be found at
www.cmd.act.gov.au/Documents/Cabinet_Handbook2007.pdf

3. 10 spending proposals were approved outside the budget process. These are outlined in the 2006-07 Budget Mid Year Review.
4. The impact of spending proposals approved prior to commencement of the 2007-08 Budget process, are outlined in the 2006-07 Budget Mid Year Review, and 2007-08 Budget Papers.

QTON - Key community events

Dr Foskey: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Key Community Events (reference BP 4 page 43)

Could you give us a breakdown of:

1. how much those various key community events cost, including how much the tax payer covers and how much is covered by sponsorship; and
2. who does the sponsoring?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member’s questions are as follows:-

1. A breakdown of expenditure between public monies and sponsorship on a per event basis is as follows:

Event	Total Event Budget	Public Money	Sponsorship Money
Groovin’ in Garema	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
Nara Candle Festival	\$33,000	\$30,000	\$2,000
Lighting of the Christmas Tree	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
New Year Celebrations	\$107,500	\$102,000	\$5,500
Australia Day	\$95,000	\$57,500	\$37,500
Celebrate in the Park	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
Celebrate Canberra	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$0
Total	\$641,300	\$262,000	\$379,300

2. Details of the sponsors for events is as follows:-

Event	Sponsors
Nara Candle Festival	Embassy of Japan
Lighting of the Christmas Tree	ActewAGL
New Year Celebrations	ActewAGL
Australia Day	National Australia Day Council
Celebrate in the Park	ACTAB

- In-kind media partnerships are also sought for all events to reduce expenditure on advertising. Media partnerships were worth in excess of \$80,000 last financial year.
- Other in-kind sponsorship and discounts are sought from equipment suppliers, accommodation suppliers, printers and others to support the events.

291 Chief Minister Stefaniak

QTON - ACT budget advertising

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : ACT Budget advertising.

1. How much did that advertisement in the *Sunday Times* of 24 June cost?
2. What is the dollar value of the 2007-08 Budget advertising campaign?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question are as follows:—

1. \$1,261.31.
2. \$117,164.

292 Chief Minister Porter

QTON - ACT budget advertising

Ms Porter: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : ACT Budget advertising.

Have we got other strategies in mind to advertise the Budget

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The 2007-08 Budget is being advertised through press, radio and television.

QTON - Canberra 100

Dr Foskey: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Canberra 100.

Could you give the committee the detail of the 11 focus areas ... and who chairs each of these focus areas?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The Canberra Centenary Blueprint can be found at www.canberra100.com.au . The Canberra Centenary Blueprint outlines in detail 11 areas of potential initiatives for the Centenary celebrations.

To make a preliminary assessment of the viability of all the proposals 11 interim working groups were established. The working groups and their chairs are as follows:

- Major Events – Mr Chic Henry;
- Legacy Projects – Mr Mike Zissler;
- Community Celebrations – Ms Evol McLeod;
- Arts and Culture – Prof Don Aitkin;
- Sport and Recreation – Mr David Pembroke;
- History and Heritage – Prof. Ken Taylor;
- Environment – Mr Russell Watkinson;
- Education – Mr Gary Watson;
- Meetings and Conferences – Ms Robyn Hendry;
- Publications and Memorabilia – Mr Ken Nichols; and
- Promotion – Mr David Marshall.

QTON - Arts programs costs

Mr Mulcahy: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Costs of the Arts Output and the delivery of the Arts Programs.

1. Can you indicate what additional activities or programs have been taken on that may have contributed to the increased allocation in the Arts Output Class?
2. Can you indicate how much of the budget will be allocated to each of the following:
 - i. delivering the ACT Arts Fund;
 - ii. the agreement with the ANU Faculty of Arts;
 - iii. support for first year program for the new Canberra Glassworks;
 - iv. development and management of the government's arts facilities; and
 - v. development and management of public arts?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's questions are as follows:—

1. The increase in the cost of the Arts Output in 2007-08 is due to:
 - i. Budget Initiatives, including new funding of \$121,000 for Public Art Repairs & Maintenance; additional funding of \$400,000 for Repairs & Maintenance to arts facilities; and additional funding of \$203,000 to the ACT Arts Fund;
 - ii. new depreciation of \$297,000 for the Canberra Glassworks building; and
 - iii. additional funding of \$35,000 towards certified agreement salary increases.
2. The budgets are:
 - i. ACT Arts Fund - \$4.481m;
 - ii. ANU Faculty of Arts - \$1.6m;
 - iii. Canberra Glassworks – Departmental Operating \$571,000 and Capital Works (defects period rollover) \$100,000;
 - iv. Arts Facilities Repairs and Maintenance - \$300,000; and
 - v. Public Art Program – Percent-for-Art Scheme Capital Works \$887,000, Departmental Repairs & Maintenance \$121,000 and Capital Works (rollover) \$986,000.

QTON - Arts fund

Mr Mulcahy: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Arts Fund

Of the amount allocated to deliver the Arts Fund:

1. how much of this eventually finds its way to artists when you take out wages, overheads and other expenses?; and
2. what funds have been allocated to the local film industry after wages, overheads and other administrative expenses are taken into account?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's questions are as follows:–

1. The administration-to-grant cost is currently 2.5%, which is low when compared to similar grants programs. The cost of administering arts grants is not deducted from the ACT Arts Fund, but is covered in artsACT's operational budget.
2. As is common in small jurisdictions, the ACT Arts Fund has limited capacity to support large-scale funding for major film projects. Therefore, applicants applying for film/video projects are also encouraged to make use of existing production infrastructure, and to seek funding and support from a variety of sources. Current guidelines, as developed by the ACT Cultural Council, recommend that applications seeking a grant for script development should not exceed \$4,000 and applications seeking funding for short film production should not exceed \$20,000.

Since 2000, there have been 130 film applications to the ACT Arts Fund, requesting a total of \$2,418,065. Of these applications, 49 were funded to a total of \$691,202. These applications were to individual film makers, film events, and a film-related key arts organisation – the ACT Film Makers Network.

QTON - Arts fund grants

Dr Foskey: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Arts Fund Grants

Has Music ACT received any government funding of late?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

No, Music ACT has not received funding from the ACT Arts Fund.

However, the ACT Government provides approximately \$2.1M in support to the music sector each year, which includes \$650,000 to key music organisations, over \$200,000 for music-related one-off projects, and \$1.3M to the Australia National University's School of Music for community-based music activities.

QTON - Aged care accommodation

Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Aged Care Accommodation

Are we on track for fulfilling all the Commonwealth aged care accommodation places or allocated places now...and would you...table that information and give us probably any further information you have on that 686 beds?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

The following residential aged care projects are approved, under design or under construction:

Service Provider	Location	Number of provisional allocations
Goodwin	Ainslie	28 provisional allocations in a proposed 103 bed facility
Little Company of Mary	Bruce	100
Goodwin	Monash	40 provisional allocations in a proposed 100 bed facility
Southern Cross Care	Campbell	40
Illawarra Retirement Trust	Belconnen	100
St Andrews	Hughes	74
Mirrinjani	Weston	64
Uniting Care	Gordon	100
Mandir Ashram	Farrer	60
Baptist Community Services	Nicholls	60 provisional allocations in a proposed 100 bed facility
Baptist Community Services	Griffith	Proposed 160 bed facility with 103 beds transferred from Morling Lodge Red Hill. No allocations
Villagio Sant Antonio	Yet to be confirmed	20

Total beds approved, under design or under construction: 1021

Total Commonwealth provisional allocations for which construction is planned: 686

QTON - Public servants assaults

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : Assaults on public servants...over the last five years:

1. What statistics are kept for the whole of government on the number of reported cases of assaults on government employees?;
2. Who keeps those statistics?;
3. What policies the government has in place in relation to action in responses to reported cases; and
4. In what circumstances does action actually involve the police?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answers to the Member’s questions are as follows:–

1. The Chief Minister’s Department maintains a database of incidents reported to employers under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 1989*. This data includes reported incidents of occupational violence perpetrated against ACT Government employees. The table below provides details on the reporting of such incidents since 1 July 2002.

Financial Year	Reported Incidents	% of all Incidents
2002-03	545	18.9%
2003-04	738	24.5%
2004-05	861	23.8%
2005-06	809	22.7%
2006-07	687	23.2%

2. The Chief Minister’s Department.
3. There is a whole-of-government policy on reducing occupational violence and some individual agencies have developed their own policy and procedure documents specifically for their areas;
 - *Reducing Occupational Violence* -whole-of-government policy;
 - *Preventing and Managing Aggression and Violence in ACT Health* - ACT Health;
 - *Occupational Violence and Aggressive Behaviour* - Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services;
 - *Occupational Violence and Aggressive Behaviour*- ACT Housing policy;
 - *Threats to Personal Safety Policy* – Department of Justice and Community Safety; and
 - *Emergency Management Framework and Emergency Management Checklist* - Department of Education and Training.

Support systems are also in place to support victims of such incidents through the whole-of-government Employee Assistance Program and the Critical Incident Stress Management Policy which was developed in 2006.

4. It is mandatory to report any serious work related incident to the Office of Regulatory Services and formal investigations may ensue from an occupational health and safety perspective. The whole-of-government policy also provides guidance on reporting to police. Some of the individual agency documents provide further details on reporting obligations and the support provided to staff who follow through with reporting. While it is often the individual victim's decision whether police become involved, it is expected that serious incidents of physical assault, criminal damage and threats will be reported to the police.

Live in Canberra campaign

Mrs Burke: To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

- (1) What has the *Live in Canberra* campaign cost to date?
- (2) What cash and in-kind contributions have come from the private sector?
- (3) What is the nature of the in-kind contributions?
- (4) What campaign activities have been undertaken?
- (5) What incentives were offered to people to move to Canberra?
- (6) What is the estimate of money these people/families have brought to Canberra?
- (7) What is the range of skills of the workers in these people/families?
- (8) What evidence is there that shows these skills are filling a skills gap?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. Since the campaign was launched in April 2006, \$539,000 has been spent.
2. External partners (private, tertiary and commonwealth sectors) have contributed \$272,000, with the bulk of this being direct financial contributions through sponsorship agreements.
3. In-kind contributions include accommodation for familiarisation visits, hosting welcome events and other functions relating to the campaign.
4. To date activities have included:
 - the production of print, online and sign marketing material;
 - targeted campaigns in southern Sydney and Illawarra area;
 - participation at the Country Week Expo in Sydney;
 - participation at the 'Australia Needs Skills' expos in London, Manchester and Dublin;
 - familiarisation visits for intending Canberra residents;
 - welcome activities for new to Canberra residents;
 - presentations to tertiary students; and
 - ongoing settlement advice and response to enquiries.
5. None.
6. That has not been quantified. It is not a criterion of the program.
7. This varies, however ICT, government administration and construction are the predominant skills represented.
8. The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations produces a skills in demand list for the ACT. These groups are represented on that list.

NICTA

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

\$800,000 has been allocated to NICTA (BP4, p 47)

- (1) What are the components of the budget allocation and the cost for each component?
- (2) What accountability is available to the ACT Government for the expenditure of this money?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1) There are no components.
- (2) A second Members Contribution Agreement (MCA) is to be negotiated over the next few months. These negotiations will include appropriate accountability measures.

For the future

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

A priority of the 2006/07 budget was to lead and oversee implementation of reforms for whole of government (ref *For the Future*) (06/07 BP4, p27). The 07/08 Budget identifies this as a continuing priority (BP4, p 35).

- (3) How closely do the reforms outlined in *For the Future* reflect the recommendations of the Costello Strategic and Functional Review report?
- (4) If closely, why won't the Government release the Costello Report?
- (5) What resources were used to implement the *For the Future* reforms and at what cost?
- (6) What implementation difficulties were encountered?
- (7) What efficiency and productivity gains were achieved and in which agencies?
- (8) For each agency, what were the budgeted and actual cost savings in 2006/07 and what cost savings are forecast for 2007/08 and each of the out years?
- (9) What were the whole-of government FTE staffing numbers and total cost for each of the years 2001/02 to 2006/07 and what figures are forecast for 2007/08 and each of the out years?

For the Future states that "The Strategic and Functional Review stresses that the underlying fiscal gap in the ACT does not need to be closed immediately." It goes on to note that "Indeed, it suggests that attempts to do so would be unnecessarily disruptive," and that "the Territory ... does not face an immediate cash or fiscal crisis." (page 17)

- (10) In light of this, why did the Government squash all its "reform" measures into one budget – 2006/07 – with no further reforms of any substance for 2007/08?

For the Future states that "Greater fiscal discipline within the public sector will also be pursued through a range of additional accountability measures." (page 22)

- (11) What additional accountability measures were introduced in the 2007/08 budget (excluding measures for new initiatives)?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1) The document *For the Future – the Economic and Financial Outlook for the ACT* states that 'the Government drew on' the Strategic and Functional Review of the ACT Public Sector and Services in 'shaping the reform process' announced in the 2006-07 Budget.
- (2) The report of the Strategic and Functional Review of the ACT Public Sector and Services was prepared for Cabinet consideration in the preparation of the 2006-07 Budget. It is a long-standing Cabinet rule under the Westminster system that Cabinet documents not be publicly released.
- (3) A small implementation team operated within Chief Minister's Department initially had responsibility for coordination and monitoring of *For the Future*, with the assistance of a small implementation team on secondment from other

agencies. From 1 July 2006 the responsibility was absorbed within the Policy Division, with no additional resources.

(4) No significant implementation difficulties were encountered.

(5) Refer to 2006-07 Budget Paper No. 3.

The 2006-07 Budget Mid Year Review provided two minor updates to these amounts. Apart of these minor amendments, the savings targets applied in the 2006-07 Budget still apply and agencies have had to manage resources within their revised budget allocations across the Budget and Forward Estimates.

An update on the progress of budget reforms can be found in 2007-08 Budget Paper No.3.

(6) A revised table is provided at Attachment A. The table updates the original savings from the 2006-07 Budget Papers, reflecting the two minor amendments described above.

(7) Staffing numbers and total cost for each of the years 2001/02 to 2005/06 are included in State of the Service Reports (2001/02 to 2004/05), the Workforce Profile Report (2005/06) and the Budget Papers 2007/08.

(8) The Government did continue its significant reform program in the 2007-08 Budget.

(9) A range of accountability measures, including changes to cash management procedures and capital works management, have been progressively implemented following the 2006-07 Budget.

Strengthening public service capacity

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

\$400,000 has been provided for “Strengthening Public Service Capacity”, with increasing amounts for the out years (BP4, p 47)

- (1) Provide the detail of this program for 07/08 and out years including:
 - (a) Program components and costs for each component,
 - (b) Resources required to manage and deliver the program,
 - (c) Expected outcomes.

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows: –

- (1) The initiative is currently under development. The Chief Minister’s Department will lead this initiative in conjunction with all other Chief Executives, with an aim to build and retain capability within the ACTPS.
 - (a) Detail on program components and costs for each component are not available yet.
 - (b) The resource required to manage and deliver the program will be covered by the budgeted \$1.6m over the four years 2007/08 to 2010/11.
 - (c) The expected outcomes are across government HR strategies including ACTPS attraction and retention strategies and improved training and leadership development opportunities in line with best practice.

Capital works

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

Capital Works-in-progress include \$250,000 for an ACT Government Office Building. These works were originally budgeted prior to 2006/07, with completion by June 2007. The 2007/08 budget indicates more than half the original budget amount is yet to be spent and the completion date is now June 2008. (BP4, p 49)

- (1) What is the project?
- (2) Why has its completion been delayed by 12 months?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. This project is related to consideration of accommodation options for the ACT Government and, in particular, to investigate the feasibility of providing a purpose built government office building to co-locate ACT Government agencies.
2. This is a complex project.

Centenary of Canberra cost

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

- (1) What has the planning for the Centenary of Canberra cost to date?
- (2) What community involvement has there been in the planning?
- (3) What major projects and activities has the government settled upon as ones to take forward and what is the projected cost?
- (4) What is the government proposing by way of partnerships with the Commonwealth, private sector and community to deliver these projects and activities?
- (5) What is the on-going role of involvement by the private sector and the community?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1) Since the inception of the project in the 2005-2006 financial year, planning for the Centenary of Canberra has cost \$547,747. This is for all expenses including salaries.
- (2) See *Centenary of Canberra Task Force Report and Interim Strategy* pg 9-10 and *Centenary of Canberra Blueprint* - <http://www.canberra100.com.au/>.
- (3) See *Centenary of Canberra Blueprint*.
- (4) See *Centenary of Canberra Task Force Report and Interim Strategy* pg 18-20.
- (5) The private sector and the community have an on-going role in the development of the Centenary celebrations through the 11 interim working groups.

Some of these interim working groups have completed their work, some are part way through considering the initiatives and it is too early for some to commence work at this stage.

Budget 2007-08 paper 4 page 35

Mrs Burke: To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

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\$2.012m was budgeted for depreciation for 06/07, with an estimated outcome of \$2.969m for 06/07, and a budgeted cost of \$3.295m in 07/08 (BP4, p 37).

- (1) Why is the 06/07 estimated outcome for depreciation more than \$957,000, or nearly 50%, more than the 06/07 budget?

The budget for grants and purchased services increases from \$5.9m estimated outcome for 06/07 to \$8.5m in 07/08, an increase of 44% (BP4, p63).

- (2) Provide details of the components and component costs for this line item for 06/07, 07/08 and the out years.

The 07/08 Budget provides for, as an additional output over 06/07, management of whole-of-government taskforces and key projects (BP4, p37).

- (3) What taskforces and key projects are currently underway and anticipated?
- (4) Is this role being managed within existing resources? If not, what resources are required?

\$600,000 has been budgeted for Regional Development, with reducing amounts for out-years (BP4, p 47)

- (5) What is this budget allocation to be used for?
- (6) Provide a breakdown of the components of this budget allocation and the costs for each component for 07/08 and out years.

\$2.2m has been allocated to Across Government Policy and Co-ordination (nothing for 06/07), with increasing amounts in the out years (BP4, p 47). BP3, p 73, states that this initiative will “require CMD to provide leadership and work across Government to address current and emerging policy issues”. This suggests that it has not to date.

- (7) Has CMD provided leadership in the past and has it worked across government? If so, how can this new expenditure and program be described as an initiative?
- (8) What are the outputs and outcomes of this program?
- (9) How will this function create efficiency and productivity? What savings will it generate elsewhere in government?
- (10) Are any new resources required? If so, what are those resource requirements?
- (11) For 2007/08 and each of the out years, what are the costs for each program output that comprise this function?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows: –

1. The Convention Centre was initially transferred from the Business and Industry Development Output Class to the Government Strategy Output Class,

significantly increasing the estimated outcome. It was then subsequently transferred to the Department of Territory and Municipal Services early in the 2006-07 financial year, and the required adjustment to depreciation was inadvertently overlooked in the budget process. The depreciation calculation is being reviewed in the 2006-07 financial statements.

2.

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Arts Grants	5,663	6,276	6,408	6,609	6,610
ACT Festival Fund	220	220	220	220	220
Narrabundah Long Stay					
Caravan Park	0	1,500	0	0	0
Other*	49	519	100	111	190
Total	5,932	8,515	6,728	6,940	7,020

* The larger amount in 2007-08 reflects the rollover of \$230K from 2006-07 for the Community Initiatives Fund

3. Taskforces and key projects currently underway include a Water Security Taskforce, the implementation of the Government's Affordable Housing Action Plan 2007, and an Inter-Departmental Committee examining traffic implications of the Griffin Legacy.

Further fixed term taskforces may be established during 2007-08.

4. Management of taskforces and key projects within this output class is supported through existing resources, as well as through additional funding through the across government policy and coordination budget initiative.

5. The Regional Development allocation will support a number of strategic business and industry development activities, with a focus on regional development and internationalisation.

6. This funding will support:

- i. \$105,000 in operational funding for the Capital Region Development Board;
- ii. \$175,000 for ScreenACT; and
- iii. \$320,000 to be used to fund a small program of trade missions, the ACT Exporters Network and a financial contribution to the running of the three overseas ACT Commerce Offices.

Out year allocations will be subject to review.

7. CMD continues to provide leadership and to work across Government to address current and emerging policy issues and whole of government outcome monitoring. The funding provided will enhance the department's capacity to successfully meet future policy challenges.

8. This initiative supports policy and whole of government activities across budget output classes for the department.

9. Strong central agency leadership and coordination of complex portfolio areas supports improved quality policy outcomes and prevents duplications or omission.
10. See (4) above.
11. See (8).

Business & Corp strategy

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

A business and corporate strategy for 2007/08 is to implement the CMD People Plan (BP4, p 36).

- (1) What are the main features and objectives of the CMD People Plan?
- (2) What are the implementation costs?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

The *Chief Minister's Department's People Plan 2007-2008* builds on previous achievements to address future workforce challenges and strengthen human resource management strategies across the department.

The plan identifies five key themes:

1. Delivering for the Future;
2. Strengthening Organisational Resilience;
3. Sustaining Community Confidence;
4. Working Collaboratively, and
5. Enhancing Skills and Capabilities.

Implementation costs are from within current department resources which support a small corporate development team.

Communication unit

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

- (1) For each department and agency, how much did the ACT Government spend on marketing, promotion and publicity in 2006/07, what is budgeted for 2007/08 and what is forecast for each of the out years?
- (2) What were the main purposes for the expenditure in 2006/07 and how much was spent on each purpose?
- (3) Which departments and agencies have their own communications units?
- (4) How many staff are employed in each communications unit?
- (5) For each communications unit, what is the estimated outcome cost in 2006/07, budgeted cost for 2007/08 and forecast costs for the out years?
- (6) What kinds of communications are typically generated by each unit? Give examples of the main communications activities undertaken by each unit in 2006/07 and what is planned for 2007/08?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1) Output 1.4 – Communication specifically relates to Chief Minister's Department. The Chief Minister's Department does not centrally maintain the information requested. A whole of government response would require coordination across departments and significant use of resources. It would also involve information outside of my portfolio responsibilities.

CMD expenditure on marketing, promotion and publicity for 2006/07 was \$339,460.

- (2) Main programs included:
 - Housing Affordability information campaign - \$117,124.
 - 'Our City, Our Community' City-wide newsletter - \$61,202.
 - Canberra Glassworks - \$29,758.
 - CMD contribution to Budget information campaign - \$27,837.
 - Mix 106.3/104.7 'Street Talk' sponsorship fee - \$20,000.
 - 2006-07 Budget newsletter - \$14,294.
 - Royal Canberra Show - \$13,410.
 - New Year's Eve advertising - \$6,196.
- (3) See (1) above.
- (4) See (1) above. CMD Communications currently employs two staff members whose sole responsibility is communications, one of which is a part-time staff member.
- (5) See (1) above. The estimated outcome cost in 2006-07 for CMD Communications was: \$339,460.40 in program costs and \$258,749.83 in salary and on-costs (including superannuation, administration costs, EPSC, LSL, LL and % towards workers compensation).

The 2007-08 ACT Government Budget has not yet been passed by the Legislative Assembly. Expenditure planning for CMD Communications for 2007-08 will

not be finalised until Budget allocations are confirmed and internal agency budgeting is completed.

- (6) See (1) above. CMD Communications is responsible for the following:
- coordinating of departmental media activities, including media releases, speeches, branding, electronic and hard copy communications products, advertising and the provision of public affairs advice;
 - coordinating with other agencies on whole-of-government media and communications projects; and
 - working with the Canberra Nara Sister City Committee, Embassy of Japan and liaison with the Nara Municipal Office and other stakeholders.

Public service data

Mrs Burke : To ask the Chief Minister, in relation to Budget 2007-08 Paper 4, page 35

–

Two outputs from the 06/07 budget have been deleted (06/07 BP4, p 30):

- improving Public Service data through staff profiles and surveys; and
- co-ordinating implementation of the *For the Future* reforms.

- (1) Particularly in relation to the first, why have these outputs been deleted?
- (2) Specifically in relation to the second, why was this output deleted, when a priority for 2007-08 is to continue to “lead and oversee ... reform implementation” (BP4, p35)?
- (3) What resource savings will be generated by these deleted outputs?
- (4) With the deleted outputs, why have budget costs increased by nearly 8% above the estimated outcome for 06/07 (07/08 BP4, p38)?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows: –

- (1) There are slight changes between the output description and the accountability indicators in the 2006/07 Budget Papers and the 2007/08 Budget Papers. Information on public service data through staff profiles and surveys has been shifted from an output to a specific accountability indicator as this information is now included in the ACT Public Sector Workforce Profile Report. This report is an accountability indicator (see page 42 07/08 BP4).
- (2) Responsibility for ongoing implementation was transferred from Output 1.2 (Governance) to Output 1.1 (Strategic Policy and Implementation) from 1 July 2006. This implementation role is reflected in the output description on page 37 of BP4 2007/08.
- (3) Resource savings were achieved in the 2006/06 budget by incorporating a Deputy Chief Executive role with the Commissioner for Public Administration.
- (4) The budget costs increased in 2007/08 compared with the estimated outcome for 2006/07 as a result of the new initiative *Strengthening Public Service Capacity* and as a result of factoring in annual pay increases.

Water 2 Water

Dr Foskey: To ask the Chief Minister:

In relation to Water 2 Water:

1. What does the Government consider the potential risks involved in conflicts of interest or perceived conflict of interest with the water recycling proposals?
2. How is the Government addressing potential conflicts of interest that may arise throughout the process of considering water recycling proposals?
3. Is the Government aware of any issues of conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest, particularly in regard to engineering or finance companies, expert bodies, committees or commissions?
4. How has the inherent conflict of interest between ActewAGL's financial advantage in supplying more water and the social and environmental benefits of selling less dealt with in this process?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The Government does not consider there to be any potential for perceived or actual conflicts of interest with the water recycling proposals.
2. The ACT Government works within the governance and legislative framework of the Territory.
3. No.
4. The ACTEW Corporation's objectives are to operate at least as efficiently as any comparable business; to maximise the sustainable return to the Territory on its investment in the corporation or subsidiary in accordance with the performance targets in the latest statement of corporate intent of the corporation; to show a sense of social responsibility by having regard to the interests of the community in which it operates, and by trying to accommodate or encourage those interests; and, if its activities affect the environment, to operate in accordance with the object of ecologically sustainable development.

It is therefore considered that its projects to secure Canberra's water supply integrate financial, social and environmental factors.

Reverse osmosis process

Dr Foskey: To ask the Chief Minister:

In relation to the reverse Osmosis process:

1. Is the Government aware that the Reverse Osmosis process needs to run continuously and cannot be switched off?
2. Is Government aware that Arab and African users of the Reverse Osmosis process have discovered that pharmaceuticals and hormones are not removed through the multi barrier reverse osmosis systems, and that a 340ML/day RO plant has just been cancelled in the Red Sea for that reason?
3. Has the Government considered a Vapour Compression Recovery System?
4. Has the Government carried out a comparative analysis of the Reverse Osmosis and Vapour Compression systems?
5. If so, what was the conclusion of this comparative analysis?
6. Why has only one model for water recycling been put forward for consideration?
7. Has energy use been factored into the assessment of the various water recycling models?
8. What are the Government's plans for offsetting carbon emissions to ensure that the water recycling process is carbon neutral?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

In terms of questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, the ACT Government is unable to provide information on these questions at this time as ACTEW Corporation is currently finalising its report to the ACT Government on Securing Canberra's Future Water Supply and the report is expected to be provided to the ACT Government in late July/early August.

6. Alternative process trains were considered as part of the *Water2WATER* proposal.

In terms of questions 7 and 8, the Water Security Taskforce has requested that the Department of Territory and Municipal Services prepare an additional independent paper on the energy costs, the associated generation of greenhouse gases, and green energy off-sets. This report is due in early August 2007.

QTON - FOI request on Kama property

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : the FOI request on the Kama property

...in relation to the FOI request a number of documents were exempted and we don't seek to have the ones on page 2 tabled, but there were exempted responses of four auctioneers dated August 2006, September '06, August '06, 25 August '06 which I'll hand to the committee secretary. I just wonder if we could also have those documents. Now, if they're commercial in confidence, if there's any problem there I'm sure we can make some appropriate arrangement in relation to that part of it, but I would seek to have those tabled.

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Mr Zed Seselja MLA submitted a request on 1 March 2007, under the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* (the Act) for:

“all documents and any other records...regarding investigations into future land use of the Kama Property...any reports, correspondence, records of meetings and public submissions about the proposed sale of the Kama Property and any reports, correspondence, records of meetings and public submissions relating to its future land use.”

The Land Development Agency (LDA) exempted access to these commercial-in-confidence documents in the FOI request. The relevant section of the Act is Section 43 (1) (c) (i) and (ii). The FOI Act allows an applicant a right of review under Section 59 provided that this is put in writing to the respondent within 28 days of the receipt of the respondent's decision. Mr Seselja did not exercise this right.

QTON - LDA sales and information centre

Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : LDA Sales and Information Centre

There was some media attention last year regarding the site office at Wells Station. I was just wondering how much that cost?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The site office at Wells Station cost \$123,615 (ex GST) to build and the landscaping cost was \$72,700 (ex GST).

QTON - Rural villages

Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to: Rural Villages

Chief Minister, you talked about those that were residing at Pierces Creek going to Uriarra. If they don't want to take that option are they able to go to Stromlo? Is there an option?

Ms Gallagher: I am advised that the answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Yes.

When the decision not to proceed with the rebuilding of Pierces Creek was made, the former residents were offered the option of accommodation in suburban area, moving into Stromlo or moving into Uriarra Village.

Those residents will be asked about their preferences again, now that negotiations for the Uriarra Village reconstruction are being finalised. At this stage it is anticipated that all the former residents seeking to be housed at Uriarra and Stromlo Villages will be able to be accommodated. The final determination of this issue will depend on the number of Uriarra residents seeking to return.

QTON - ActewAGL - 3G tower

MRS JACQUI BURKE: To ask the Chief Minister

Why did ActewAGL reject Telstra's application to erect the 3G tower on ACTEW land in the vicinity of the Fadden water tank?

MR STANHOPE: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

ACTEW did not reject Telstra's application. On 12 June 2006 ACTEW submitted a development application to the ACT Planning and Land Authority to vary the lease purpose clause for Block 27 Section 375 Macarthur where Telstra wanted to install a 3G Tower. The proposal received 63 objections.

On 6 November 2006 ACTEW received notification from Telstra's site acquisition consultants that construction on the ACTEW site would not proceed. Consequently ACTEW requested that the development application be withdrawn.

428 Chief Minister Burke

QTON – Bush Healing Fam (Kama)

Mr Stefaniak/Mrs Burke: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to : The site of the Bush Healing Farm (Kama)

What advice was received regarding the site?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Members' question is as follows:–

No specific advice has yet been received regarding the site's suitability as a drug rehabilitation facility. A Cabinet Submission is in preparation in relation to the issues relevant to the establishment of an Indigenous specific drug rehabilitation facility in the ACT, including an appropriate location for any such facility.

429 Chief Minister Stefaniak

QTON – CMD staffing profile

Mr Stefaniak: Asked the Chief Minister

In relation to: 2007-08 Estimated CMD Staffing Profile

To supply this information by the middle of July

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

See attached.

Attachment

CHIEF MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT

ESTIMATED 2007-08

STAFFING PROFILE

Departmental	Governance Division	Policy Division	Business and Projects Division	Arts, Communications, Events and Protocol Division	Taskforces/ emerging key issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Executive Office = 3FTE • Strategic Finance = 4FTE • Corporate Management =11.1FTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Chief Executive Office = 2FTE • Public Sector Management = 18FTE • Office of Industrial Relations = 13.2FTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Chief Executive Office = 1.8FTE • Cabinet and Intergovernmental = 11FTE • Policy = 18FTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Chief Executive Office = 2FTE • Business and Industry Development = 19FTE • Strategic Priorities = 7FTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director Office = 2FTE • Arts = 15FTE • Communications, Events and Protocol = 13.8FTE 	<p>Additional staff as required.</p> <p>Current- Water Security Taskforce until end August = 4 FTE</p>
18.1	33.2	30.8	28	30.8	141 FTE + additional