



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Mr Cain on 25 July 2023: Ms Toohey took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Uncorrected Proof Hansard Transcript 25 July 2023 p 47]

In relation to: Budget outcomes identical to targets

MR CAIN: Back to me. Something to do with budget accountability indicators, and I am just referring to table 20 in budget statement D on page 22. And I just note that there are some—quite a few, actually, of your estimated outcomes that are identical to the targets. That is probably unusual for that to happen so I just wondered if you could explain what was behind that. And zero variation from a target is in a way a very commendable thing but it probably does not happen very often in reality.

Dr Watchirs: Some of them we have overachieved, and therefore the targets have been upped in the next year. That is in relation to the first—

MR CAIN: Sorry, if it is overachieved that should be recorded as a positive variance, should it not?

Dr Watchirs: Yes. So the first two are positive of seven.

MR CAIN: Oh, yes.

Dr Watchirs: So we have achieved 80 per cent, and we have changed the target up to 80 per cent rather than the existing 75. So that is in relation to the complaints process, whereas within the time limits we are on target. Would Commissioner Toohey like to comment on that?

Ms Toohey: I have not got the document.

Dr Watchirs: Sorry.

MR CAIN: I am happy for you to take it on notice.

Ms Toohey: But we are regularly asked to review them, so.

MR CAIN: I am happy if you want to take it on notice.

Ms Toohey: Yes. Happy to take it on notice.

Ms Toohey : The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

The estimated outcomes for 2022-23 were based on actual outcomes at the end of the 2022-23 third quarter and took into account the difficulties of maintaining the improved outcomes given the sustained increases in demand following the surges during COVID, which appear to have been sustained in the full year 2022-23 data. We reflected a variance where the estimated outcome was tracking to be different from target. Four of the targets for 2023/24, have been increased on the 2022-23 targets although are consistent with the anticipated outcomes for the 2022-23 full year. The estimate is based on three quarters of the year data and so gives the Commission a reliable base to estimate the whole of year outcome.

The Commission has maintained four targets for 2023-24 and increased four targets for 2023-24 to reflect the increased achievement against those targets over the 2022-23 period.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature:



Date: 1/08/2023

By the Discrimination, Health Services, Disability & Community Services Commissioner,
Karen Toohey