



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 Jo Clay MLA on 26 July 2023: Andrew Barr MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript 26 July 2023, PAGE 90]

In relation to: UNSW Canberra.

MS CLAY: Thank you, Chair. What economic benefit will the ACT receive from the sale of the CIT Reid site to make way for the UNSW campus?

Mr Barr: Well, a significant economic benefit that is outlined in the master planning process and the outcomes there. It is in the order of an investment in the billions of dollars and revenue from—well, I anticipate a revenue from, principally, payroll tax as the university expands. Perhaps it is easier to take on notice that level of detail if you wanted a more comprehensive answer on—

MS CLAY: I would love some numbers if you could take those on notice.

Mr Barr: Yes, sure. Yes, can do.

MS CLAY: I will continue. I have seen student numbers estimated. Have we seen numbers estimated for how many staff will work there?

Ms Arthy: Yes, we have.

MS CLAY: Excellent.

Ms Arthy: I will have to take that on notice. I just do not have it here.

MS CLAY: Yes, sure.

Ms Arthy: It was in a rather detailed bit of information. I will check with UNSW because the information we have is probably pre-COVID for staff numbers so I will check with UNSW if they have got an updated figure.

MS CLAY: That would be great. And what is our housing plan for all the staff and students?

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

The new UNSW City campus will support the further growth and diversification of the ACT economy through increased student numbers, research investment and the creation of additional jobs, and will generate up to \$3 billion in economic benefits for the ACT economy.

UNSW estimates the campus will generate 2,000 jobs once complete.

UNSW will provide onsite accommodation for students and residential visitors to the campus. At completion, UNSW estimates approximately 2,000 beds will be provided onsite. A range of student accommodation options are being investigated from single bed to cohort student accommodation models.

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

Signature: 

Date: 1.8.23

By the Minister for Economic Development, Andrew Barr MLA