



Inquiry into Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Ed Cocks MLA

Addressed to: Mr David Matthews, Chief Operating Officer, Education Directorate

In relation to: Superannuation costs of education provision

Hearing: 19 May 2026

Proof Transcript p 125

Transcript provided: 27 May 2026

Answer Due: 4 June 2026

MR COCKS: Okay. One of the biggest factors that you have pointed to is staffing costs in the approach to funding.

Mr Matthews: I would just add one more point, Mr Cocks: there is superannuation as well. The ACT has inherited the commonwealth government superannuation scheme and we, as part of our budget, contribute to that. So we have legacy superannuation arrangements as well, which drive up the costs relative in the ACT compared to other jurisdictions.

MR COCKS: Maybe you can provide on notice what the actual cost of that is in education. That would be really useful.

Mr Matthews: We can do that. We report to the commonwealth as part of that, Mr Cocks.

Ms Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In accordance with the Education Directorate's 2024–25 Financial Statements (Note 8, page 272 of the 2024–25 Education Directorate Annual Report [ACT-Education-Directorate-Annual-Report-2024-25.pdf](#)) total superannuation expense for the Education Directorate was \$126.9 million.

\$50.6 million or 39.9% of this total amount is paid to legacy Government superannuation schemes for employees who are eligible for these schemes. The legacy Government superannuation schemes are significantly more expensive than current superannuation schemes available to employees due to their inherent higher superannuation contribution rates.

Access to the legacy Government superannuation schemes were closed to new employees from 1 July 2005.

It is noted that the proportion of superannuation paid annually to legacy Government superannuation schemes is decreasing over time as staff on those schemes separate from the ACT Public Service.

OFFICIAL

The table below details payments by the Education Directorate to legacy Government superannuation schemes as a percentage of the total superannuation paid over the past four financial years.

	2021–22 (\$'000)	2022–23 (\$'000)	2023–24 (\$'000)	2024–25 (\$'000)
Payments to legacy Government superannuation schemes	51,273	49,961	48,906	50,625
Total superannuation paid	109,957	112,226	116,919	126,882
Legacy Government superannuation schemes as a percentage of total superannuation paid	46.6%	44.5%	41.8%	39.90%

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on the Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT

Signature:



By the Minister for Education and Early Childhood, Yvette Berry

Date:

02/06/26