



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),

Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–2020 and ACT Budget 2020–2021

Responses to **questions taken on notice** at public hearing of 23 February 2021

Arts portfolio

ACT Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiries into Annual and Financial reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

Index QToN—Public hearing—23 February 2021

Arts portfolio

No.	Date	Member	Subject	Minister	Answered
A1	23 Feb 21	Davis	artsACT grants funding—One-on-one support for individual artists, how many have artsACT supported over the last 12 months (to talk through grant process).	Minister for the Arts	3 March 21
A2	23 Feb 21	Davis	Artist Toolbox Program does it exclusively run out of Gorman House. Interested in similar programs or assistance run by artsACT.	Minister for the Arts	4 March 21
A3	23 Feb 21	Lawder	Community Arts Centres—Tuggeranong Arts Centre (TAC)—artsACT grants funding round—(a) amount TAC applied for; and (b) amount TAC received in funding round.	Minister for the Arts	3 March 21
A4	23 Feb 21	Davis	Arts funding—further detail/information on portion of arts funding used to improve energy efficiency standards in buildings.	Minister for the Arts	3 March 21
A5	23 Feb 21	Davis	Arts funding—Annual Report states the ACT Government commenced work on \$1.670m worth of upgrades on local facilities what percentage was spent to improve the energy efficiency of those building and facilities?	Minister for the Arts	4 March 21
A6	23 Feb 21	Davis	What framework is artsACT using to determine what kind of investment is considered sustainable? What is making artsACT facilities climate ready? Does artsACT have a goal they want to reach?	Minister for the Arts	3 March 21



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A1

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

23 February 2021

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA:

In relation to:

MR DAVIS: Awesome. There is one more supplementary, Chair, if you would not mind. I have got—I would not mind diving a little bit deeper into—you mentioned one on one support, particularly through the grant application process. I mean, you know, perhaps I have got a chip on my shoulder as an artist before I came to this place and grant applications are like, what a process, sometimes you just want to get to the art.

What—how many people, would you say, in the last 12 months that you have supported through that, I mean, I know there is only so many hours in the day but how many artists have you provided that, sort of, one on one support through to talk them through the grant process?

Ms Tyler: I do not have that number on hand, but I can take that on notice.

THE CHAIR: Yes, take that on notice.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

For the 2021 Arts Activities Funding \$5 to \$50k Round 1 closing on 28 February 2021, artsACT has had 58 phone inquiries to date. artsACT also provided feedback to 29 applicants who were not successful in the previous round and who are considering re-applying to this round. artsACT was not able to undertake in-person feedback sessions at the Ainslie, Belconnen, and Tuggeranong Arts Centres as has been done in the past due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For Round 1 in 2020, which closed on 28 February 2020, artsACT met in person with 27 applicants at the Ainslie, Belconnen, and Tuggeranong Arts Centres. artsACT also had a significant number of phone inquiries; however, these were not recorded. Contacts were not recorded for Round 2 in 2020.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

Date: 2/3/21



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A1

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A2

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

23 February 2021

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA:

In relation to:

MR DAVIS: Last one. The artist toolbox program that you mentioned that runs out of Ainslie and Gorman house, does that exclusively run out of that premises or does it have the capacity to be run in other venues?

Ms Tyler: I am not 100 per cent sure I can double check that as well.

THE CHAIR: Take that on notice.

Ms Tyler: I can take that on notice.

THE CHAIR: Thank you.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The Artists Toolkit program was delivered by Ainslie + Gorman Arts Centres across 2019 and 2020 to support Canberra artists to develop and maintain sustainable careers in the arts, including from the impacts of COVID-19. The program offered:

- open public workshops on topics including setting goals, grants and opportunities, marketing, community engagement and environmental sustainability;
- small group workshops for artists who experience barriers to pursuing meaningful and sustainable arts careers; and
- one-on-one Toolkit Chats with a member of Ainslie and Gorman's creative team.

To improve accessibility for ACT artists, in person attendance was not required. The Open public workshops were livestreamed and the one-on-one Toolkit Chats could be in person at the centre, by phone, or online.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

Date:

4/3/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A3

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

23 February 2021

Asked by NICOLE LAWDER MLA:

In relation to:

THE CHAIR: Can you understand—I think, again quoting from the article in July last year, I think it indicated that at Tuggeranong Arts Centre they felt like they were slapped in the face, or it was a real kick in the guts to receive such a small amount, either comparatively to perhaps another centre or two, but also compared to what they had actually applied for?

Ms Tyler: I do not have the figure in front of me in terms of what the actual application amount was from Tuggeranong and what they received, but we can provide that information in terms of the difference in application amount and receiving. But in terms of my understanding of the situation, they had not requested a quantum that was significantly above what they received and did not compare to the amount that was requested from Belconnen.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The Tuggeranong Arts Centre requested \$99,102 from the ACT Government for the impact of COVID-19 on its operations. Subsequent to its request, the Tuggeranong Arts Centre informed the ACT Government that it had been successful in receiving Australian Government funding of \$45,000 for staff salaries for a three month period.

All requests were assessed by artsACT and ACT Treasury on demonstrated financial need and within the available budget, and on this basis the Government subsequently approved \$54,102 to the Tuggeranong Arts Centre. This funding is in addition to over \$649,000 annual ACT Government funding provided to the Tuggeranong Arts Centre.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

Date:

3/3/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A4

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
23 February 2021

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA:

In relation to:

MR DAVIS: So the annual report states the government has commenced work on \$1,670,000 worth of upgrades to local arts facilities, part of that local arts facilities project. That includes Ainslie Arts Centre, Gorman House Arts Centre, Watson Arts Centre. What percentage of this was spent to improve the energy efficiency of those buildings and facilities? Thank you.

Ms Cheyne: I will go to Ms Tyler.

Ms Tyler: So that was the upgrading local arts facilities?

MR DAVIS: That is right, yes.

Ms Cheyne: Yes, how much on energy efficiency improvements?

Ms Tyler: That funding is for design and for the capital works at Ainslie and Gorman Art Centres and at Strathnairn Art Centre. So I do not actually have that percentage available, but we can take that on notice.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Critical works are being completed as part of the Upgrading Local Arts Facilities project to improve safety at arts facilities and for the design of major refurbishments at Ainslie and Gorman House Arts Centres and a new entry road at Strathnairn Arts.

The works being delivered as part of this project are related to site safety. For example, at Ainslie and Gorman House Arts Centres, areas identified as potential slip and trip hazards are being addressed, master switchboards are being replaced and roof assessment and repair works are being completed. Some repairs will improve energy efficiency.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A4

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tara Cheyne", is written over the signature line.

Date: 2/3/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A5

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

23 February 2021

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA:

In relation to:

MR DAVIS: And I suppose the next question, likely a question on notice, how much of arts funding more broadly was spent in the last 12 months to improve the energy efficiency standards in buildings that are owned and operated by artsACT?

Ms Tyler: I will have to take that on notice.

Ms Cheyne: There is, on page 176 of the annual report—there has been replacement—you know, we will take the substantive part of the question on notice, but just for your interest in the meantime, we did undergo replacing older style light fixtures with energy efficient LEDs at eight arts facilities as part of that screwdriver ready work. And you are no doubt aware that there has been some major upgrades of the former transport depot, including replacing the roof.

MR DAVIS: Yes, of course.

Ms Cheyne: But we will take the rest of the question on notice.

THE CHAIR: Yes, on notice. Thank you.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Total funding available in the 2020-21 financial year for arts facility capital works, repairs and maintenance and projects under the Fast Track stimulus program is \$5.5 million ex GST. Most of the thirteen ACT Government-owned arts facilities are aged and have been repurposed from other uses. Five of the buildings are heritage listed. Due to their age and condition, available funding is prioritised to address safety issues, building fabric deterioration and management of hazardous materials across the portfolio.

\$2.1 million ex GST of the total funding in 2020-21 is allocated to upgrading the Former Transport Depot (home of the Old Bus Depot Markets). The Depot works focus on urgent building fabric repairs including a new roof above the lower hall and a new electrical system. \$265,000 ex GST from this project was spent on new energy efficient lighting throughout the building.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
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QTON No. A5

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

For major ACT Government capital works projects, sustainability measures are an integral part of new developments. In the newly expanded Belconnen Arts Centre where a number of sustainability measures were incorporated including insulation, a highly efficient electric heating and cooling system and double-glazed windows. The cost of these items was included in the overall construction budget of \$12.8 million.

A total of \$880,000 ex GST was allocated under the More & Better Jobs - Improving Arts Facilities project in 2017-18 over four years. Of this funding, \$692,000 is available in 2020-21 for the auditing and upgrading of existing heating and cooling systems at Ainslie Arts Centre, Gorman House Arts Centre, Tuggeranong Arts Centre and Watson Arts Centre. The newer electric systems are more energy efficient than the older units. Priority units for replacement are gas-powered heating systems in accordance with the ACT Government's Zero Emissions Government Framework.

As part of the COVID-19 Economic Stimulus program during the 2019-20 financial year, aged light fixtures were replaced with new more efficient LED fittings at Ainslie Arts Centre, Canberra Contemporary Art Space (Manuka), Canberra Glassworks, Gorman House Arts Centre, Manuka Arts Centre, Strathnairn Arts, Tuggeranong Arts Centre and Watson Arts Centre. The value of this project was \$45,000 ex GST from a total of \$326,00 ex GST available for arts facilities under Round 1 of the Stimulus program (Screwdriver Ready).

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

Date:

4/3/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. A6

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

Inquiries into Annual and Financial Reports 2019–20 and ACT Budget 2020–21

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

23 February 2021

Asked by JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA:

In relation to:

MR DAVIS: Thank you. What is the framework artsACT is using to determine what kind of investment is considered sustainable? And what is making your facilities climate ready? There is all different schools of thought around what is energy efficient, unfortunately.

Ms Tyler: It is an interesting question because the facilities have been developed over many, many years and some of them are in heritage buildings. A facility like Gorman Art Centre has a significant number of heating, ventilation, cooling units within the building and trying to make sure that we are keeping on top of those for maintenance and upgrades to those to improve the best operational costs for the buildings as well as energy efficiency and sustainability. We can look at that in more detail in terms of providing a response.

MR DAVIS: Yes, it would be great to get clear if artsACT has a goal to reach a certain energy efficiency standard of their facilities. And if they do not, are they interested in seeing that sort of thing develop, I suppose, is my question/comment.

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

artsACT is guided by the ACT Government's Zero Emissions Government Framework as it pertains to the ownership of arts facilities. The Framework's primary focus is to reduce natural gas and transport fuel use. artsACT is progressing a number of projects to reduce gas use at arts facility sites including replacing an aged gas-powered heating system at Gorman House Arts Centre (A Block) with an electric system. artsACT will be working with the Zero Emissions Government Team at Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) to explore further emission reduction opportunities at existing arts facilities.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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QTON No. A6

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY

MS NICOLE LAWDER MLA (CHAIR), MS SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MR JOHNATHAN DAVIS MLA

For major ACT Government capital works projects, sustainability measures are an integral part of new developments such as for the recent expansion of Belconnen Arts Centre and for the planned Kingston Arts Precinct. The ACT Government-owned buildings at the Kingston Arts Precinct will include measures to reduce energy use such as solar passive design, highly energy efficient heating and cooling systems (HVAC) as well as smart building management systems to manage HVAC, water, and energy use. In addition to energy and water efficiency objectives, all ACT Government facilities use 100 per cent renewable electricity as part of the zero emissions goals for the city.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tara Cheyne", is written over the printed name.

Date: 2/3/21

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA