



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Elizabeth Kikkert MLA (Chair), Michael Pettersson MLA (Deputy Chair),
Andrew Braddock MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
20 October 2021

Asked by MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA on 20 OCTOBER 2021: ANDREW BARR MLA took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Hansard Transcript 20 October 2021 - PAGE 10

In relation to:

MR PETTERSSON: —this budget is the first step in embedding a wellbeing framework into the budget, how do you think the process has gone so far?

Mr Barr: Well it has been a really valuable process for treasury, for the various ACT government directorates in preparing business cases and assessing those business cases against a wider range of policy requirements and metrics, looking at more than just the economic implications of particular decisions.

This is the first budget presented in this way, we will continue to evolve the process. But I think it has been a valuable one. It is an Australian first. And we will continue to learn as we proceed through this process of inventing the framework. We have got data against most of our key indicators, but not all of them yet. So there is still a journey to go here but I think it has been a very good start and we intend to continue.

MR PETTERSSON: What are the key indicators that you still lack data on?

Mr Barr: We have got about 90 per cent of the data that we would like. There are some areas where we need to collaborate with the Australian Bureau of Statistics, or data is only available on a five yearly basis through the census. So across more than 100 domains, so 100 indicators across the 12 domains, there are a handful. I could take it on notice and give you the full list, as I do not have them all memorised.

But you know, one of our challenges will be whether there is—how frequent the data source is collected and who by. And so, in some instances, we collect the data. In others it is collected by the ABS and it can be monthly, quarterly, or annually. And that, sort of, suits budget reporting and annual reporting.

There are other times where we have commissioned the University of Canberra and other research organisations to undertake research on our behalf that we probably do either annually or every two years. And then there are some other elements that are captured by the five yearly annual census—five yearly census, sorry. ABS census.

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

There are ten wellbeing measures across eight indicators and five domains that are noted on the wellbeing dashboard as “under development” and therefore lack data.

Domain	Indicator	Measure
Access and connectivity	Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inclusive access• Proximity to services that support wellbeing
	Liveable city	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proximity to places that support wellbeing
	Transport use and access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mode of transport for travel• Satisfaction with transport choice
Environment and climate	Connection to nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to waterways
	Climate resilient environment and community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circular economy (waste)
Governance and institutions	Trust in government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trust in government
Identity and belonging	Arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arts and culture impact on wellbeing
Time	Unpaid work including caring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• People performing unpaid work, including caring

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Signature: 

Date: 5.11.21

By the Treasurer, Andrew Barr MLA