



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

### SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

### ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

**Mark Parton MLA:** To ask the Chief Minister

In relation to: Our Canberra Newsletter

1. How many hardcopy Our Canberra newsletters are printed each year?
2. How much does the Our Canberra newsletter cost to distribute each year (postage/delivery to household cost)?
3. In which months are the Our Canberra newsletter distributed?
4. How many Our Canberra newsletters are distributed in a month when an edition is produced for that month?
5. How much does Our Canberra newsletter cost to print each year?
6. How much does Our Canberra newsletter cost to print each month when an edition is produced for that month?
7. Where is the newsletter printed?
8. How much paper is used in the printing of the newsletter each month (when an edition is printed)?
9. How much paper is used each year to print the newsletter?
10. Is the newsletter printed on recyclable paper?
11. How much does the newsletter cost to set up (staff members for photography, print layout, write, edit, supervise)?
12. Has there been a survey conducted on the readership of the newsletter?
  - If yes:
    - a. when was the survey conducted?
    - b. When will the results be made public?
    - c. What were the results?
      - i. How many people read the hardcopy of the newsletter?
  - If No
    - a. When will a survey be conducted?

- b. When will the results be made public?
  - c. What questions will be asked in the survey?
13. Has there been consideration, in order to save paper, trees and the environment, to produce this newsletter quarterly and provide links to monthly editions?
14. When will the Government move to quarterly hard copy distribution and stop monthly hardcopy distribution?
15. How many people/email addresses are subscribed to the online newsletter?

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

1. In an average year, 11 editions of Our Canberra are printed.
2. Costs vary depending on the number of editions, the number of households and the size of each publication. In the 2021-22 financial year the distribution cost for Our Canberra was \$331,401.82 (ex GST).
3. The Our Canberra newsletter is delivered in every month other than January.
4. Numbers vary depending on the number of new houses added each month. Almost 192,000 copies were delivered in September 2022.
5. The cost to print Our Canberra in 2021/22 was \$277,700 (ex GST).
6. Costs can vary each month based on the size of the edition, and how many copies are printed. In the first 3 months of 2022-23 the costs to print Our Canberra have ranged between \$18,300 and \$21,410 (ex GST).
7. CanPrint Communications is currently printing Our Canberra.
8. A regular 4-page edition of Our Canberra uses approximately 384,000 A4 sheets. 6-page editions use approximately 576,000 x A4 sheets of a thinner paper to allow for additional folding.
9. In the 2021-22 financial year approximately 4,600,000 x A4 sheets of paper were used.
10. Since its commencement in 2016, the Our Canberra newsletter has been printed on recycled paper. From June 2022, the printer has been unable to source the usual paper at a reasonable cost due to supply chain issues resulting from the war in Ukraine. Since then, Our Canberra has been printed on a non-recycled stock sourced from sustainably managed forests.
11. The newsletter is developed in-house. At times, some photography is paid for from existing Whole of Government photography contracts.
12. A survey was conducted within the August 2022 edition of Our Canberra. The survey only closed on 31 August and results will be made available later in 2022.

The Our Canberra Print newsletter consistently ranks as one of the most preferred methods for Canberrans to receive government communication.

In the 2021 ACT Government Community Priorities survey the Our Canberra newsletter ranked as the second most preferred method for Canberrans to receive Government information.

13. There are no plans to change the frequency of Our Canberra.
14. There are no plans to change the frequency of Our Canberra.
15. There are currently around 48,000 emails subscribed to the Our Canberra e-newsletter.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: **6.9.22**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA