



Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-2022 **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by Jonathan Davis MLA on 3 November 2022: Ms Kareena Arthy took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard uncorrected proof transcript 3 November 2022, Page 44

In relation to: Canberra Economic Advisory Group

MR DAVIS: And given the relative time intensity that the Chief Minister alluded to, were people remunerated for their time on this group?

Ms Arthy: Yes, they were.

MR DAVIS: And how were they remunerated?

Ms Arthy: I would have to take that one on notice unless I can find it. We went through the Remuneration Tribunal and a fee was set for the time that they were available. I just cannot remember off the top of my head what that fee was.

MR DAVIS: I guess what I am trying to get to is I would be interested in knowing the regularity with which they met and how much they were remunerated, and then of course how many people were on that group—that is available—so as to ascertain what the total cost of sourcing that expert advice was.

Ms Arthy: We can certainly provide the total cost. When I talked about the meeting, the workshops, they also did a lot of out-of-session work so they would be commenting on—as we were developing Canberra Switched On in parallel with them, so we would be testing ideas with them all the time. So it is not just a matter of them say meeting three or four times and commenting on things or providing us; they were actually heavily involved with working up ideas.

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

The Canberra Economic Advisory Group (CEAG) had 13 members, a list of which is available online at the following link: <https://www.act.gov.au/cbr-switched-on/content/canberra-economic-advisory-group>. Members were appointed for six months from February 2021.

11 members, excluding the Chief Minister as Chair and the Head of Service Kathy Leigh as Deputy-Chair, were remunerated for their six months of service. The ACT Remuneration Tribunal's *Determination 14 of 2020* set the annual remuneration for a CEAG member at \$16,000. The 11 remunerated members were therefore paid \$8,000 each, at a total cost of \$88,000.

Members of CEAG met in person on three occasions over the duration of their appointment and additional work was conducted out-of-session.

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

Signature: 

Date: **11.11.22**

By the Minister for Economic Development, Andrew Barr MLA