

**2024**

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**TENTH ASSEMBLY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS – REPORT 21 -  
INQUIRY INTO ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS 2022-23**

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

**Presented by  
Andrew Barr MLA  
Chief Minister  
June 2024**



## **Introduction**

On 11 February 2021, the Legislative Assembly passed an amendment to the 2 December 2020 Resolution of Establishment (clause 3) referring the Annual and Financial Reports to the relevant Standing Committee for inquiry and report by 9 April of the year after the presentation of the report to the Assembly pursuant to the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*.

The 2022-2023 Annual and Financial Reports were reviewed by the relevant Standing Committees, and each Committee held hearings and reported separately. The below Government Response addresses the recommendations within the report from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

The following Annual and Financial Reports or sections of annual reports, were referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts:

- ACT Audit Office;
- Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate;
- Icon Water;
- Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission;
- Major Projects Canberra; and
- Office of the Legislative Assembly.

**Standing Committee on Public Accounts – Report 21 - Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-23**

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT RESPONSE</b>
<p><b>Recommendation 1</b></p> <p>The Committee recommends that ACT Health and Canberra Health Services ensure that data on accountability indicators is able to be collected to ensure that targets are met and reporting requirements under the Financial Management Act 1996 are fulfilled.</p>	<p><b>AGREED</b></p> <p>Results for accountability indicators that were unable to be reported in the 2022-23 Annual Reports have progressively become available during the 2023-24 financial year as Digital Health Record data quality assurances and validations are completed. The ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services expect to be able to report on all accountability indicators by the end of the 2023-24 financial year. The directorates agree that data on accountability indicators should be able to be collected to meet reporting requirements under the Financial Management Act 1996. The directorates note that the provision of data for reporting supports work to meet targets but does not ensure targets are met.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2</b></p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Workplace Health and Safety Commissioner and the Office of the Legislative Assembly provide the Assembly with an update on progress towards their Memorandum of Understanding, and an expected resolution date, by 30 June 2024.</p>	<p><b>Not for Government</b></p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b></p> <p>The Committee recommends that, halfway through each Assembly, the Office of the Legislative Assembly offer refresher procedural seminars for all committee members and Chairs, covering issues such as timeliness of government responses, vulnerable witness protocols, handling claims of confidentiality, and conduct of visiting members.</p>	<p><b>Not for Government</b></p>