



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023-24

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: MS FIONA CARRICK MLA

Addressed to: MR ANDREW BARR MLA, CHIEF MINISTER

In relation to: FLEXIBLE WORKING – FACILITATING STAFF

Hearing: 12 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 8

Transcript provided: 17 February 2025

Answer Due: 24 February 2025

Mr Kathy Leigh took on notice the following question(s):

Ms Carrick I was just wondering if MLAs and advisors can work from the flexi hubs?

Ms Leigh: We have not actually explored that, Ms Carrick. Normally, of course, we distinguish between the public service and ministers and advisors. Of course, we can make sure there are practical arrangements should that arise. It has not arisen.

Ms Carrick: I would like to. My team has expressed they would like to.

THE CHAIR: Maybe next time you have got them for annual reports hearings, we can—

Ms Leigh: I think we would have to have a bit of a think about there not being any confusion of accountabilities.

Ms Carrick: Can you take that on notice about how you might facilitate that?

Ms Leigh: I think we have to give that some deep consideration.

Ms Carrick: Thank you.

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

Can MLA's and Advisors work from the flexihubs?

No. FlexiSpaces do not support the co-location of MLAs and Advisors with ACTPS staff.

How might this be facilitated in the future?

MLA attendance in FlexiSpaces may unreasonably affect service delivery and work requirements, as staff on-floor would need to modify behaviour to ensure the protection of information privacy, information security, and the ability to discuss government policy and other matters unimpeded. ACTPS employee awareness of the presence of MLAs and their advisors would be particularly difficult to ensure in FlexiSpaces, as commonly people using these spaces come from different directorates and are not close colleagues of the other occupants of the FlexiSpace.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Administration

Signature: 

Date: 26.2.25

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA