

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Questions on Notice

Minister for Arts and Heritage

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Arts precincts

Ms Le Couteur : To ask the Minister for Arts

Ref: Budget Paper 4, p45

In relation to: Arts Precincts

- What does the upgrade in the Childers Street Arts Precinct involve?
- How will this impact on the Street Theatre? Is the Street Theatre remaining at the same venue?
- How far has work progressed with the Kingston Arts Precinct? Can you please provide an update on what venues will be part of the precinct, what changes will be made in the area, and what the timelines are?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The funding provided in the 2010-11 ACT Budget is for the design of new office accommodation at The Street Theatre to better accommodate administrative functions of the Theatre, which will in turn enable space previously used for administrative purposes to be used for rehearsal space. It is anticipated that other arts administration may also be accommodated through this upgrade.

The Street Theatre complex, built in the early 1990s and owned by the ACT Government, provides a theatre (250 seat), a studio (80 seat), a small cafe in the foyer area and associated patrons' amenities and administration offices. Minimal office accommodation was allowed for the initial construction. A demountable was added to allow for the expansion of administrative areas.

2. The Street Theatre will as a result of the work have improved back-of-house arrangements. The Street Theatre is remaining at the same venue.
3. Funding for the Kingston Arts Precinct Strategy will become available on 1 July 2010. Current venues on the site include the Canberra Glassworks, the Old Bus Depot Building and the Fitters' Workshop. artsACT will manage the development of the Strategy which will inform future directions. The Strategy will be completed by 30 June 2011.

Orchestra venues

Ms Le Couteur : To ask the Minister for Arts

Ref: Budget Paper 4, p31, Strategic indicator 4

In relation to: Orchestra venues

- What is the Government doing to ensure there are central areas for orchestras to perform?
- Is it correct that the NCO and the Canberra Philharmonic Orchestra are based in Queanbeyan and Tuggeranong respectively?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. There is currently a range of venues for orchestras to perform in central areas of Canberra, including The Canberra Theatre Centre, the Canberra Convention Centre, the recently renovated Albert Hall, and the Ainslie Arts Centre, the latter being a hub for community music including orchestras with a focus on youth music. Orchestras also perform at a range of national cultural institutions, particularly at Llewellyn Hall at the Australian National University, and at the National Museum of Australia, the National Gallery of Australia, and the Great Hall at Parliament House.
2. I understand that the National Capital Orchestra has a virtual 'on-line' office, rehearses at the Ainslie Arts Centre and often performs at Llewellyn Hall. The Canberra Philharmonic Society (which includes an orchestra) has an office in Fyshwick and mostly performs at Erindale Theatre and occasionally at The Canberra Theatre.

Travel to and from arts events

Ms Le Couteur : To ask the Minister for Arts

Ref: Arts, Budget Paper 4, p31 – strategic indicator 4 (supporting sustainable and visible arts activity)

In relation to: travel to and from arts events

- Has the Government done any investigation into how transport options in Canberra can impact on audience numbers, especially at arts events that are in the evenings or late at night?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

No, the Government has not undertaken specific investigations into transport options in Canberra in relation to the arts. However, this issue has been raised through the Reduction of Barriers to the Production of Live Music in the ACT Inter-Departmental Committee, particularly through its consultations with the ACT's contemporary music sector. It is currently anticipated that the Live Music Inter-Departmental Committee will present its recommendations to Government by December 2010.

artsACT Capital upgrade

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p29, Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to : artsACT Capital Upgrade - \$278,000 [ref BP4, p47]

1. How is this funding to be spent?
2. What procurement processes will be followed?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The artsACT Capital Upgrade funding as outlined on page 182 of Budget Paper 3 will be spent on:
 - External painting at arts facilities (\$118,000)
 - Electrical upgrades at arts facilities (\$60,000)
 - Upgrade of fire systems at arts facilities (\$100,000)
2. artsACT will follow the *Government Procurement Regulation 2007* with regard to procurement for these projects.

Belconnen Arts Centre

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p29, Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to : Belconnen Arts Centre

1. How did the saving of \$700,000 on the capital works budget for this project arise [ref BP4, p46]?
2. What is the status of planning for Stage 2 of the centre?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The procurement process for the construction of the Belconnen Arts Centre was a lump sum contract. Following finalisation of the building and a settling in period for Belconnen Arts Centre Incorporated there was \$700,000 remaining which was not needed for the project, offering a saving for Government.
2. Preliminary Sketch Plans for Stage 2 of the Belconnen Arts Centre have been completed. Stage 2 will be completed in future years, in pace with increasing demand for community scale theatre venues in Belconnen.

Capital works program

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p29, Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to Capital Works Program [ref BP4, p47]

1. Is the financing to Public Art (2009-2010) of \$2.375m in 2010-11 and the financing for the Public Art Scheme of \$3.763m in 2010-11 and \$778,000 in 2011-12 in addition to the rollovers outlined at BP4, p46?
 - (a) If yes, how will this funding, in addition to the rollovers, be expended?
2. What evidence is before the people of Canberra that the public art program displays:
 - (a) vision;
 - (b) a targeted strategy; and
 - (c) an ability on the part of the government to manage its capital works programs?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. No – the amounts are not in addition to the rollovers. The financing in 2010-11 as outlined in BP4, p47 is the original budgeted financing for 2010-11 plus the rollover amounts outlined in BP4, p46.
2.
 - a. The Government, via the public art program, commissions and acquires high quality artworks by Australian and international artists. The artworks funded by the program enhance the vibrancy of open space, the diversity of experience and the local sense of place. Public art provides the valuable opportunity for all Canberrans to experience quality works of art in the everyday environment.
 - b. Experienced local, Australian and international artists with a track record of excellence in design have been targeted to respond to artwork tender processes to meet the vision for the collection described in 2a. This strategy is resulting in significant artworks being installed across Canberra by a range of artists, many not yet represented in the Territory's collection.
 - c. The commission process, including the design, fabrication and installation of an artwork, takes artists twelve to eighteen months depending on the fabrication technique. Payments to artists are governed by the completion of milestones under contracts and artists can only be paid for works completed.

The rollovers for the public art program into the 2010-11 financial year are for future payments to artists on completion of artworks in accordance with contract conditions. The front-end activities in the commission process, such as artist selection and design development, incur smaller payments to

artists. A higher percentage of the commission value is expended on the later-end activities including the fabrication and installation phases.

Cultural Facilities Corp

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: BP4, p477 and Statement of Intent

In relation to : Cultural Facilities Corporation

1. Capital Works

- (a) What works are being undertaken currently in the entrance courtyard to CMAG, off Civic Square?
 - (i) At what cost?
 - (ii) Are those works proceeding on time and on budget?
- (b) What is the status of the works currently being undertaken to build a gallery for the Nolan foundation collection?
 - (i) Are those works proceeding on time and on budget?
- (c) What works are being undertaken currently on the fountains in Civic Square?
 - (i) At what cost?
 - (ii) Are those works proceeding on time and on budget?
- (d) What works are planned for the expenditure of \$3.683m over four years on the historical places major project [ref BP4, p481]?

2. Nolan collection

- (a) How many works of the late Sir Sidney Nolan, previously on loan to the Commonwealth, are to be returned to the Nolan Foundation?
- (b) What is the nature of those works?
- (c) Does the government, in concert with the Commonwealth, intend to apologise to Lady Nolan for the angst and stress that has been caused to her over the closure of the Nolan Gallery at Lanyon?
 - (i) If no, why?
 - (ii) If yes:
 - when will that apology be given; and
 - what public announcement will be made in relation to it?
- (d) Does the government, in concert with the Commonwealth, intend to apologise to the people of Australia for the loss to them of the works on loan?
 - (i) If no, why?
 - (ii) If yes:
 - when;
 - what form will the apology take; and

- how will that apology be given?
- (e) What progress has been made in the determination of how the Nolan Gallery at Lanyon will be used in the future?
 - (f) What options are the government and the Corporation considering?
3. Canberra Theatre Re-development
 - (a) What is the status of the review of the Canberra Theatre precinct, particularly in relation to a possible future Lyric Theatre?
 4. Patrons and Visitors [ref BP4, p479, Accountability Indicator a]
 - (a) Given footnote 2, which indicates increased venue usage numbers, why are patron/visitor numbers forecast to decline in 2010-11 below both the target and the estimated outcome for 2009-10?
 5. Venue Usage [Accountability Indicator d]
 - (a) Why is the estimated outcome for 2009/10 for venue usage up more than 50% on the budget?
 - (b) Given footnote 2, which indicates increased usage numbers, why is the target for 2010-11 lower than the estimated outcome for 2010-11?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. Capital Works
 - (a) The works are landscaping and repainting of walls.
 - (i) Total cost is expected to be approximately \$0.045m.
 - (ii) Yes. The works will be completed by 30 June 2010 and within the 2009-10 capital upgrades budget.
 - (b) All design work has been completed and construction is currently being undertaken to build the Nolan Collection Gallery at CMAG.
 - (i) The timing of completion of the works is on track to allow the Nolan Collection Gallery to open to the public early in the 2010-11 financial year, as planned. This will necessitate a portion of funds to be rolled over into the 2010-11 financial year. The project will be completed within the budget of \$0.260m.
 - (c) The four water pumps servicing Civic Square fountain have been replaced with two modern pumps. The four replaced pumps were no longer functioning effectively after 15 years of operation and two of the pumps had broken down and could not be repaired.
 - (i) The estimated cost was \$0.1905m.
 - (ii) Yes. Works have been completed and the fountain is now operational. The final remaining invoices for works will be received shortly and are expected to come in at \$0.02m below the estimated budget.
 - (d) The funds are being used for a wide range of conservation and upgrade works needed to bring the ACT Historic Places (Lanyon, Mugga Mugga and

In 2007-08, comprehensive condition audits were prepared for each of the three Historic Places in order to provide a detailed and up-to-date understanding of works required to the structure and fabric of the buildings. The major package of works is based on these audits. Works that are being undertaken include the following.

- Engineering management of cracks
- Rising damp control and perimeter drainage
- De-salination in walls
- Research into, and conservation of decorative finishes (paint and paper)
- Survey and stabilisation of roofs and ceilings
- Survey of roof structure and reinforcement
- Specialised protection of floor coverings
- Research into, and upgrade of fencing
- Address falling damp from roofs and roof plumbing
- Survey and control of fungal attack in timber structures
- Survey of subfloor areas
- Conservation of collections
- Historic Tree Management Plan

2. Nolan collection

(a) 217

(b) The works are as follows:

Spirits and effigies

3 paintings

29 crayon on paper

Illuminations – Rimbaud paintings

10 paintings

Computer graphics

123 computer generated direct positive on Fujicolour paper

Birds

36 mixed media on paper

Aboriginals

16 paintings

Key Arts Organisations

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p34 Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to : Key Arts Organisations

1. What changes are being made to the funding requirements for key arts organisations relating to board governance?
2. What other funding sources across the whole of the ACT Government has similar board governance requirements?
3. Why are the board governance requirements different for the key arts organisations?
4. Why is the government, by imposing such restrictive board governance requirements, depriving certain members of those organisations of their constitutional and human rights to serve on their organisations' boards?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. The new governance guidelines for Key Arts Organisations, which were released as part of the 2011 ACT Arts Fund, are that office bearers of boards should be independent of business, management and/or artistic relationships with the organisation, and that a majority of board members should also be independent. Board or staff members should limit actual or perceived conflicts of interests and ensure that any conflicts do not unfairly disadvantage members of the public.
2. Governance requirements are applied to all allocations of public funding in the Territory.
3. Each areas of Government administers governance requirements appropriate to the level of public funds it administers, and the conditions within the sector in which funds are allocated.
3. Current governance guidelines are appropriate to Key Arts Organisations having five years of public funding and to ensure strong governance to maximise the ability of these organisations to continue to make a significant contributions to the ACT arts sector.
4. These guidelines do not deprive members from serving on the board.

Priorities

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p34, Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to : Priorities [ref BP4, p29, 11th dot point]

1. When will the ACT Arts Strategy be released?
2. Will it be delivered on time and on budget?
 - (a) If no, why?
3. Will the strategy include guidance for arts organisations on governance standards?
 - (a) If no, why?
 - (b) If yes, what guidance will be given?
4. Will the strategy allow funded arts organisations to manage their own operations without interference from government?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. It is anticipated that the new ACT Arts Strategy will be released in late 2010.
2. It was originally estimated that the new ACT Arts Strategy would be released in mid 2010. The development of the Strategy is dependent on the review of the arts in Canberra, which is currently being undertaken by Peter Loxton and Associates Pty Ltd. The consultants have recommended that, due to the high local and national interest in the review, the consultation period be extended.

The new ACT Arts Strategy will be delivered on budget.

3. No. The strategy is unlikely to comment on operational issues. Operational issues are included in Deeds of Grant, and funding criteria and guidelines.
4. Organisations funded from the ACT Arts Fund are required to adhere to a Deed of Grant, and funding criteria and guidelines. Whilst recognising the need for funded organisations to operate as independently as possible, the Deeds of Grant outline the responsibilities required when receiving public funding.

Public Art Funding Rollovers

VICKI DUNNE MLA : To ask the Minister for Heritage and the Arts

Ref: Chief Minister's Department, BP4, p29, Output 1.5 – Arts Policy, Advice & Programs

In relation to : Public Art Funding Rollovers [ref BP4, p46]

1. Of the funding of \$3.6m in the public art program and the percent-for-art scheme rolled into 2010-11 to be expended on as yet uncommissioned works, what plans are in place to expend these funds during 2010-11?
 - (a) If no plans:
 - (i) why; and
 - (ii) when will they be developed?

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

Public art projects to be to be completed with the funding from the 2010-11 Budget include:

- Major Roadside Commissions for Drakeford Drive, Belconnen Way, Morshead Drive and Adelaide Avenue;
- City Commissions for Northbourne Avenue median, the corner of London Circuit and Edinburgh Avenue, City Walk between East Row and Garema Place, City Walk between Garema Place and Petrie Plaza, the intersection of Moore and Rudd Streets and the intersection of Northbourne Avenue and Alinga Street;
- Commissions for Hindmarsh Drive and Gungahlin Town Park;
- Nara Park Commission; and
- Commission for the National Arboretum Canberra.

All projects are underway.

QTON - Public art funding rollovers

Asked by Vicki Dunne on 19 May 2010: Mr Stanhope took on notice the following question:

Ref: Hansard Transcript 19 May 2010 PAGE 635

In relation to: Public art funding rollovers

I am actually asking specifically what is in last year's budget that has been rolled over into this year's budget.

Mr Stanhope: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The total rollover of funds for public art from 2009-10 into the 2010-11 Budget is \$3,649,000.

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Bresnan

QTON - Output Class 1.5

In relation to changes in cost for Output Class 1.5 Arts Policy, Advice and Programs:

Please refer to QTON 234 for cost information.