



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Steve Doszpot MLA (Chair), Amanda Bresnan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA

Supplementary Questions Annual and Financial Reports 2009–2010

Department of Disability, Housing and Community Service

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HCSS 10/22	Compliments and complaints
HCSS 10/23	Data on client feedback
HCSS 10/24	Sustaining families in a caring role
Multicultural Affairs	
HCSS 10/25	Students studying a language other than English
HCSS 10/26	Concession cards for asylum seekers
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HCSS 10/28	Senior grants CALD projects
Ageing	
HCSS 10/29	Older people engaged in the arts
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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs	
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HCSS 10/59	Corporate partnerships aimed at Closing the Gap

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**



**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

1. Satisfaction Survey (V1 p 130¹) notes that the survey for disability services only includes clients of government provided services. Why doesn't the government seek feedback from users of government funded services?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

A broader client satisfaction survey that includes both Government and community providers of Disability Services is being developed for 2011.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10.

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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice



2. The Committee understands that DHCS takes feedback (compliments and complaints) from government and government funded services. How many complaints has DHCS received about funded services? Is there any mechanism for lodging anonymous complaints?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Department received 43 complaints about government funded services.

Currently complaints can be lodged anonymously through the Online Client Feedback Form on the DHCS website. The Department accepts anonymous complaints in line with current complaint policies.

Page 22 of the *DHCS Complaint Management and Feedback Guide – February 2009* provides information for anonymous complaints.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 8.2.11

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice



3. The Committee notes there are a number of ways for client to provide feed back to the department detailed on the complaints and compliments webpage. Is there any data from these channels recorded in the annual report such as number of complaints and compliments received and the nature of the feedback, other than that recorded for Housing ACT?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The 2009-10 Annual Report provides a summary of complaints from Housing ACT. In 2010-11, data regarding complaints and compliments received by the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services will be reported in the 2010-11 Annual Report.

This data will include feedback received by the Department via the complaints and compliments webpage.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 3.2.11



**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

4. The Committee understands Disability ACT has completed a project titled 'sustaining families in their caring role'. There does not appear to be any mention of this in the annual report. When was this project conducted and can you provide further information regarding this project particularly in relation to young people with disabilities (aged 12–25) accessing mainstream services.

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Sustaining Families in their Caring Role project was completed in May 2010.

The project examined the respite effect with a particular focus on strategies to enhance inclusive practice for people with a disability aged between 12 and 25 years. The departmental project officer considered research into best practice models and was informed by consultation with families, mainstream and specialised service providers.

The project sought to assess the limitations of formal respite particularly for children and young people and explored how effective alternate, informal channels were at providing families of children and young people with disability with respite effect.

It was apparent that it was more difficult for young people with disability (aged 12-25 years) to link into mainstream services than it is for younger children with disability (0-12 years). The result of this is that their participation in activities with their peers and potential to achieve a respite effect from informal services is limited. Because of this issue the project was redesigned to provide information on what is working now in inclusive practice, where the barriers are and provide actions to move towards a more inclusive ACT community.

Strategies to address the issues identified are included in *Future Directions: Towards 2014 – Implementation Plan 2010-14*. These include:

- Action 2 - Develop and implement policy frameworks which will provide pathways for government, service providers, individuals and families to engage in planning and early intervention services; including the *Children and Young People with Disability and their Families*;
- Action 9 - Provide information to students and their families from year nine about post school training and vocational options and supports; and community based vocational, social and recreational options and supports;
- Action 12- Increase the opportunity for people to engage in volunteering activities;

- Action 15- Raise the awareness of the rights of people with a disability; including to deliver a youth civics program; and
- Action 16 - Provide clear, concise, publically available information and pathways to all services, supports and the funding available at different life stages; and implement the *ACT Disability Communication and Marketing Plan*.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services



Date: 18-2-11



HCSS 10/25
HCSS 10/46

Andrew Barr MLA

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND RECREATION
MINISTER FOR GAMING AND RACING

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO



Mr Steve Doszpot MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on Health, Community and Social Services
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Doszpot

Thank you for your letter of 22 December 2010 with supplementary questions to the Inquiry into the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services (DHCS) Annual and Financial Report 2009-10.

In answer to the questions from the Standing Committee on Health, Community and Social Services about language education in ACT public schools, I can advise that all year 3-8 students are studying a language other than English, with some students studying more than one additional language. Japanese and French are the most widely studied languages, followed by Indonesian, Chinese and Italian.

While the Committee's question about kitchen facilities at Tharwa preschool has been referred to me, I understand the reference in the DHCS Annual Report 2009-10 V1 p50-51 is regarding the Neighbourhood Hall facilities developed by DHCS in the former Primary School buildings. I am happy to respond to this question on behalf of Minister Burch.

At a cost of approximately \$75 000, DHCS oversaw the development of the Tharwa Neighbourhood Hall. The major component of the works included the demolition of internal walls, the construction of new walls to form a community hall, meeting room, store room and kitchen, and internal painting, floor finishes and lighting.

As with all Neighbourhood halls, it is intended for casual hire by the community, and conditions for hire are similar to those currently in place at other DHCS community facilities. Examples of activities that might be conducted at neighbourhood halls include: dance, yoga, some martial arts, religious gatherings, club activities, meetings, performances and exhibitions.

ACT LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601 GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601
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While use of the facilities has not been extensive, I am informed that the Tharwa Neighbourhood Hall has been used for the 2009 and 2010 Tharwa Fair and a range of functions organised by the Tharwa pre-school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Barr', with a stylized, cursive script.

Andrew Barr MLA

Minister for Education and Training

3 FEB 2011

**MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

6. Page 52 V1 discusses various concessions. Will the ACT Government develop an ACT concession card for asylum seekers?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

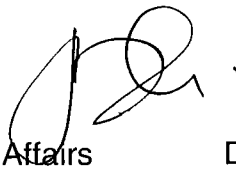
The ACT Government is committed to supporting asylum seekers to gain access to the full range of ACT Government services they need.

The Department of Disability Housing and Community Services is working with ACT Government agencies and member community organisations of the Refugee, Asylum Seekers and Humanitarian Committee to explore the feasibility of introducing an access card for asylum seekers living in the ACT.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Date: 17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

**MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

7. What strategies are in place to engage the CALD community in the arts? Are the arts being used to deliver on themes of the Multicultural Strategy? Are local artists prioritised to perform at the Multicultural Festival, if so how?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government provides funding of \$318,000 per year to the ACT Community Arts Office. The Office aims to '*build community capacity to generate high quality, diverse and visible arts activities*', particularly in relation to people with a disability and those from Indigenous or multicultural backgrounds. The Office employs three community arts officers positions including a dedicated Multicultural Arts Officer, an Indigenous Arts Officer and an artsAbility Arts Officer.

The Arts Officers facilitate community-based arts activities, mentor artists and communities in their artistic development activities, advocate on behalf of artists and the community, and assist in funding applications. The Office also administers the ACT component of the Regional Arts Fund (RAF) at \$30,000 per year. Approximately one third of ACT RAF funding has been allocated to dedicated multicultural arts projects.

Funding for self-determined multicultural arts projects and activities is also available through the ACT Arts Fund which seeks applications for projects once a year.

The ACT Arts Fund supports arts activity under the focus areas of the Multicultural Strategy, including:

Intercultural harmony and religious acceptance activities and events;
Children and young people;
Older people; and
Women.

The Tuggeranong Arts Centre, funded from the ACT Arts Fund, supports a number of multicultural activities including the annual Moon festival and digital story telling projects in 2010. The Belconnen Arts Centre, also funded from the ACT Arts Fund and hosted an exhibition of local multicultural artists in 2010.

Local artists are not prioritised to perform at the Multicultural Festival. All artists who make a request to participate are able to do so.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



17.1.11
Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

**MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

8. What CALD specific projects are funded by Senior Grants (V1 p 232)?

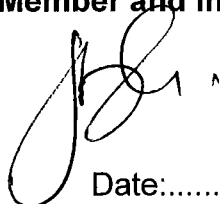
MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In 2009-2010 ACT Government Seniors Grants and Sponsorships were awarded to thirteen projects and two events. Of these, six culturally and linguistically diverse specific projects were funded. They include:

Name of Applicant	Project Title	Project description
Australian – Finnish Rest Home Association	Ageing Well - Supporting the Finnish Elderly	Recreational program for the Finnish elderly.
Canberra Multicultural Community Forum	Expanding Multicultural Elders Frontiers	Training program for seniors from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities.
Indian Senior Citizens Association	Provision of Welfare	Cultural and recreational activities for Indian Seniors in the ACT.
Support Asian Women's Friendship Association	Celebrate Our Journeys	A project for women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds to share skills, culture and produce a story-telling quilt.
Tamil Senior Citizens Association of the ACT	Cookery demonstrations by Tamil Senior Citizens	A program of culinary training for young Tamils by Tamil Seniors.
Ukrainian Catholic Church of St Volodymyr	Establish the Ukrainian Senior Citizens Social Group	Social activities, presentations and outings for Ukrainian Seniors.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Date: 17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

MINISTER FOR AGEING FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

9. How are older people being engaged in the arts and what programs are funded by the ACT Government? How many people are involved in these programs (V1 p 251)?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

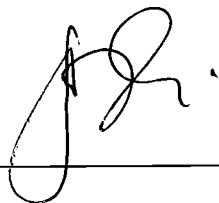
Whilst the Government funding of art programs is the responsibility of artsACT a number of Seniors Grants have been awarded to support older people engage in arts programs.

These include:

- The Support Asian Women's Friendship Association "Celebrate our Journey" quilt and craft project;
- The Indian Senior Citizens Association provision of a range of activities including art and craft;
- The ANU School of Music "SOS Singing Outreach for Seniors" initiative;
- The Lu Rees Archives of Australian Children's Literature program; and
- Chriss Shaw "Small Shows" project to foster connections between residents of aged care facilities and primary school children through a live story telling theatre production.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Ageing



Date: 17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009-10

MINISTER FOR AGEING FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

10. Since 'I need an interpreter' cards are no longer distributed, what is the ACT Government doing to ensure that older people have access to and are aware of interpreter services (V1 p 250)?

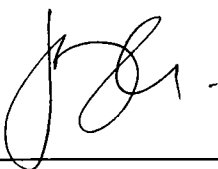
MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The 'I Need an Interpreter' cards continue to be distributed to older groups who participate in a range of activities and events at the Multicultural Centre. Next year, the Department is planning to look at other ways to improve older people's access to the card.

This year, information about the card was included in a presentation by the Office of Multicultural Affairs to new Departmental employees. Cards were also distributed to these employees as part of a package of information relating to services for members of the multicultural community.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Ageing



Date: 17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

MINISTER FOR AGEING FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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Question Taken On Notice

11. How is the Office for Ageing engaging with organisations such as Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT)? Does the Office of Ageing work with HEAT or any other energy advice organisation? How is information on how to improve energy efficiency in homes communicated to older people so that they can safely age in place and decrease the effects of heat and cold waves in their homes (V1 p 251)?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Office for Ageing invited the Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water (DECCEW) to promote its initiatives during Seniors Week held in March 2010 and at the Canberra Retirement and Lifestyle Expo held in May 2010.

During Seniors Week DECCEW ran a targeted advertising campaign to encourage older Canberrans to take advantage of the ToiletSmart program. The program provides a rebate on the supply and installation of a selected range of dual flush toilets, and provides one model free of charge to pensioner concession card holders. DECCEW also promoted this program at the May 2010 Canberra Retirement and Lifestyle Expo. This resulted in over 300 toilets provided free of charge to pensioner concession card holders.

Information on the Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) and Garden Smart programs was also distributed at these two seniors events.

A trial Outreach Program was also undertaken by DECCEW to distribute \$1.45 million through the following five Community Service Organisations and the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services to assist high-need (low income and disadvantaged) households to improve energy efficiency:

- Belconnen Community Services;
- Communities @ Work;
- Northside Community Services;
- The Salvation Army; and
- The Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Improvements being funded by the trial include draught sealing, energy efficient appliances, ceiling insulation and solar hot water systems. The evaluation of the trial will be used to develop a suite of energy efficiency programs to further assist this sector in 2010–11.

The possible effects of Climate Change on older residents will also be considered in the development of the 2011-2014 implementation plan for the ACT Strategic Plan for Positive Ageing.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Ageing



Date: 12.3.11.

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

12. On page 29 V1 reference is made to the ISP review, conducted by NDS. What were the findings of that review?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The consultation phase of this project was completed by the National Disability Service in February and March 2010. Because of staff changes in that organisation, the draft report has not yet been completed.

Disability ACT will continue to work with the National Disability Service to complete this work by mid 2011.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

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Question Taken On Notice

13. On page 37 V1 it talks about the No Wrong Doors program that is being set up, which will provide a common database for service providers. What work was done in 2009-10 to progress this program?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Page 36 of the Annual Report refers to the commencement of work on a No Wrong Door approach to service access for people with disability in the ACT.

A Draft Concept Paper – No Wrong Door has been developed following consultation and research on the scheme in 2009-10. The Draft Concept Paper is available on the departmental website www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability_act/sgg.

This paper outlines the rationale behind the scheme and how Disability ACT proposes beginning to introduce a scheme which would constitute a significant change to how many funded service providers undertake their roles.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

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Question Taken On Notice

14. There is no reference to the review of Wheelchair Accessible Taxi's in the Annual Report. Did DHCS contribute to that review in any way in 2009-10, and if yes, how? And if DHCS is involved, what specific changes is it advocating for?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The review of Wheelchair Accessible Taxi's was undertaken as part of the Department of Territory and Municipal Services Review of the ACT Taxi Industry.

DHCS had representation on the Inter-departmental steering committee (IDC) that was established to enable appropriate and timely agency input into the review. In May 2010 DHCS provided comment to a discussion paper. Included in the discussion paper were a number of options for improving the Wheelchair Accessible Taxi service in the ACT.

On 20 September 2010 the ACT Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope, hosted a roundtable to discuss the recommendations from the review. The DHCS Chief Executive attended this event.

The Department of Territory and Municipal Services has prepared the final Taxi Review Report for Government consideration and DHCS provided comment on the recommendations regarding the Taxi Subsidy Scheme and Wheelchair Accessible Taxi's.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

15. On page 83 V1 it says Housing ACT provided about 23 000 people with accommodation through 11 269 tenancies. According to the 2008-09 Annual Report there were 23 178 people through 11 245 tenancies. Is there a trend occurring where the number of people that Housing ACT is looking after is going down with time? And is such a trend occurring because Housing ACT is looking after more singles and couples rather than families?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The number of Housing ACT tenancies fluctuates over time depending on the type of stock that is available for reletting and in this context the 1% difference is not significant. Housing ACT has a range of household types that it assists ranging from single adult households to large families who require 4 and 5 bedroom homes. The households assisted by Housing ACT is representative of the wider ACT community.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
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Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

16. On page 83 V1 it says Housing ACT had 11 269 tenancies in 2009-10. Through the 2010-11 Estimates process it was advised that as at 30 April 2010 Housing ACT had 11 551 dwellings. Why is it that around 300 dwellings were not used by Housing ACT in 2009-10?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As at 26 April 2010 there were 312 properties vacant for the following reasons:

- 105 Routine vacancies (properties vacated being prepared for re-letting);
- 3 Properties scheduled for demolition;
- 170 Properties being held for redevelopment;
- 18 Properties undergoing upgrading/ refurbishment; and
- 16 Properties awaiting sale.

This represents a gross vacancy rate of 2.7%.

At any point in time there will be a number of vacancies as there are with any other public or private portfolios. Houses that are "between tenants" will have regular or programmed maintenance undertaken to prepare them for the new tenant or to undertake necessary upgrading whilst the property is not occupied.

Properties that are in a dangerous or unsafe condition may be vacant whilst awaiting demolition and this can be further extended by an insurance investigation or the need for a Development Approval. Properties that are identified for sale or redevelopment are usually not tenanted for a short time but they are regularly used for the Transitional Housing Programs including the Domestic Violence and Refugee initiatives.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

 17.1.11
Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

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Question Taken On Notice

17. Page 94 V1 mentions the Narrabundah Long Stay Caravan Park. What progress has been made on developing legislation to protect the residents at the Narrabundah Long Stay Caravan Park? What was initial timeframe for the development of this legislation? What is the current timeframe for the legislation? And why has it been delayed?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Department of Land and Property Services have commissioned a study into the future management and ownership of the Narrabundah Long Stay Park.

The Government has not yet determined whether specific legislations is required for the Narrabundah Long Stay Caravan Park.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services



17.1.11
Date:.....

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Question Taken On Notice

18. On page 95 V1 it says the ACT, as part of the Homelessness National Partnership Agreement, is working to close gaps that exist in homelessness services, including 'providing more integrated and joined up responses to people leaving institutions and institutionalised care'. What work was done in 2009-10 to improving housing options for those people leaving the PSU, especially given some are being sent to purchase overnight accommodation where they are unsupported?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Australian and ACT Governments are contributing \$20 million over four years to reduce homelessness under the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness.

The ACT Government developed an Implementation Plan for the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness setting out new initiatives directed to gaps in the service system. These are intended to meet the targets set out in the partnership agreement. One such target is that there to be no exits from institutional settings into homelessness.

The Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI) was established. Under the agreement it provides ten integrated support packages in conjunction with mental health providers to enable those with moderate to severe mental health issues to be appropriately housed in long term sustainable accommodation. To date the majority of the people accepted into the HASI program have exited from PSU.

Housing ACT and Mental Health ACT have a Memorandum of Understanding which ensures responsive support to tenants and people who are at risk of homelessness.

Housing ACT is working with the Chief Ministers Department on the development of a homelessness accord for Government Agencies. The accord will provide a whole of government framework to ensure greater collaboration between specialist homelessness services, education and training, health including mental health and emergency medical assistance, financial and income support programs, transitional and long term housing, legal services.

The framework's main objective is to improve outcomes for people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness by providing clear service pathways and sustainable outcomes for service users.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

17.1.11

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

19. On page 96 V1 it talks about the expansion of the Early Morning Centre. Some community organisations have advised that people who are homeless in Canberra greatly need lockers so there is somewhere secure for them to leave some of their belongings. Has the ACT Government been working towards providing this?

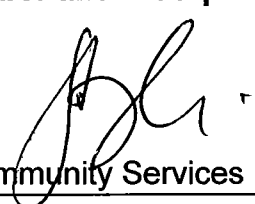
MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Early Morning Centre operates from Pilgrim House which is part of the Uniting Church located on Northbourne Avenue. It operates in the mornings on weekdays. The inclusion of lockers is still under consideration and has not yet been finalised, however, given the hours of operation this location may not be suitable if greater after hours access is required. Housing and Community Services will continue to progress the issue of lockers with the Uniting Church for consideration in the new fit out and will investigate ways to provide access at appropriate times.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services



17.11.11

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009-10

MINISTER FOR WOMEN FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

20. What is the status of the ACT Prevention of Violence against Women and Children Strategy (V1 p 144)?

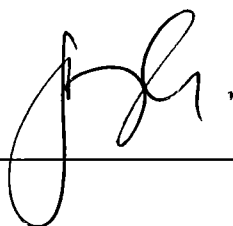
MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Prevention of Violence against Women and Children Strategy is being developed. The Strategy is closely associated with the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children which is nearing completion.

The Annual Report V1 p 65 reports that the ACT Prevention of Violence against Women and Children Strategy will be developed in 2010-11.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Women



17.1.11

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009-10

MINISTER FOR WOMEN FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

21. Is the ACT Government's achieving and maintaining its commitment 50% representation of women on its boards (V1 p 246)?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government is committed to 50% representation of women on its boards and committees. The most recent figures indicate that the ACT Government is approaching the 50% target, with 48% of ACT Government board and committee members being women (March 2008).

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Women



17-1-11

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

22. The HBA Consulting report attached to the ACT Government submission to Fair Work Australia outlines a number of recommendations under "Improvement Options" (V1 p 7 & 50). Will the government respond publicly to these recommendations or are there plans to implement them?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government Response to the Review of Industrial Relations Arrangements in the ACT Community Sector is published on the ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services website and is available at: <http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/>

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 12.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

23. The portable long service leave scheme has commenced (V1 p50). What feedback have you received from the sector? Is there any monitoring or evaluation of the impacts on/benefits for the sector?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Chief Executive of the Long Service Leave Authority has consulted with the community sector to support organisations throughout the transition to the new Scheme.

A Transition Fund has been made available for community organisations, recurrently funded under an ACT Government Service Funding Agreement, to apply for one-off support after their first return has been lodged with the Long Service Leave Authority on 30 November 2010.

The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services has written to community organisations about the Transition Fund. Applications close on 10 February 2011.

At 5 January 2011 the Department had received 5 applications from community organisations.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

24. What has led to \$25,258 in CSIG grants from prior years being returned (and then reallocated in 2009-10)? (V1 p 50)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The \$25,258 returned to the 2009-10 Community Support and Infrastructure Grants was from four previous grant projects that were not completed. The rollover of returned funds is consistent with previous CSIG rounds.

The returned funds were from; the RSI and Overuse Injury Association of the ACT, Vision Australia, the Woden Valley Community Council and Knit and Natter.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 17.1.2011

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009-10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

25. What has been the feedback on the permanent membership and new criteria for accessing additional vouchers through the taxi subsidy scheme? Has the internal evaluation process started? Which stakeholders will be involved in the evaluation process? (V1 p 50–52)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Informal feedback about permanent membership and accessing additional vouchers from new and existing members has been received via telephone calls and letters and has been positive.

The internal evaluation has not yet started due to broader work being undertaken on the ACT Taxi Industry. The internal evaluation is planned to align with the relevant outcomes of the ACT Taxi Industry Report.

Terms of Reference for the internal evaluation are being developed and will inform relevant stakeholders. These may include patrons, taxi drivers, community organisations, and Government agencies.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

27. What is the status of the community hubs at Holt, Chifley and Weston? Are they fully tenanted? Are there any problems, such as internet access? (V1 p 51)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Holt

Work at the Holt Community Hub is complete, including the new car-park.

All tenancies are available for the nominated tenants to occupy, and three out of the five tenants have taken occupation. The remaining two tenants have both indicated they will take occupation early in the New Year.

Externally, the Holt Hub has experienced some roof leaks in the recent record rainfalls. These are being progressively repaired. None of the tenants at the Holt Hub have raised telecommunications or networking issues with the Department.

Chifley

Work inside the Chifley Health & Wellbeing Hub is complete. The new car-park is expected to be completed by 31 January 2011.

All tenancies are available for the nominated tenants to occupy, and eight out of the eleven tenants have taken occupation. The remaining three tenants have all indicated they will take occupation early in the New Year.

Externally, the Chifley Hub has experienced some roof leaks and water coming into the building in the recent record rainfalls. The roof is being repaired and solutions are being implemented to the other areas of water penetration.

There have been some telecommunications difficulties at the Chifley Hub. These problems are Telstra network problems which are occurring throughout the suburb. The Department is working with Telstra and other telecommunications service providers to increase the capacity available to the Chifley Hub.

Weston

Work inside the Weston Community Hub is 95% complete. The outstanding works include:

- installation and commissioning of the lift car inside the now completed lift well;
- installation of some additional air-conditioning units; and
- landscaping works around the new car-park which is still under construction.

The new car-park is expected to be completed by 31 January 2011.
Seven of the twelve tenancies have taken up occupation.

The five remaining tenancies are expected to take up occupation by in late January/early February 2011.

Externally, some roof leaks have occurred in the recent record rainfalls due to the age of the building. The roof is being progressively patched and repaired.

There have been some telecommunications difficulties at the Weston Hub. These problems are Telstra network problems which are occurring throughout the suburb. The Department is working with Telstra and other telecommunications service providers to further increase the capacity available to the Weston Hub.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date:.....

17.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

28. What is the Department doing to prepare for the outcome of the Fair Work Australia case lodged by the Australian Services Union? (V1 p 52)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The equal remuneration case for the Community Sector before the Full Bench of Fair Work Australia is likely to have significance for employers and employees in the sector, for their clients and also for the Governments that fund community sector services.

I have established a project, in conjunction with the Minister for Industrial Relations, to ascertain the likely impact of the case. This project works to a steering committee comprising the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, ACT Health, the Department of Justice and Community Safety, ACT Treasury and the Chief Minister's Department.

A Project Officer has been appointed and is working with the sector to better understand the implications of the wage case.

The potential financial impact of the wage case in the sector is one of the considerations for the ACT Government. The ACT Government has commissioned a census of the existing salary arrangements that apply across the sector so that it has the best possible understanding of what the decision will mean to employers, once it is handed down.

The ACT has been at the forefront in recognising the likely impact of this case on the Community Sector and has been successful in achieving broader and more representative inter-jurisdictional cooperation in assessing the impact. As a result of the ACT's efforts, this inter-jurisdictional cooperation will now include representatives from workplace relations, community service and from treasury portfolios.

The ACT Government expects to be able to make decisions that are as well informed and in the best interest of the Community Sector and the important work it undertakes.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 17.1.11

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

29. Has the new model for Emergency Financial and Material Assistance been implemented? Has there been any feedback? (V1 p 52)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Service Funding Agreements with Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul and UnitingCare Kippax commenced on 1 July 2010.

The first six monthly reports from each organisation are due on 30 January 2011.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.


Joy Burch, MLA
Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 12.1.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

30. Has work on the Community Facilities Asset Management Strategy commenced? Is outside feedback being sought? (V1 p 52–53)

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Work on a new Community Facilities Asset Management Strategy is expected to commence in early January 2011.

Community Organisations will be consulted as part of the development of the Strategy. The existing Community Facilities Asset Management Strategy was discussed with community organisations before it was finalised.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 17-1-11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2-009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice



31. The report notes a decrease in satisfaction with the Community Services Managers and the Community Facilities Manager (V1 p130–131). The annual report states what customers were most satisfied with. Could you please advise what customers were least satisfied with? What lead to the decrease and what measures are in place to help meet the 85% and 80% targets next year?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Aspect	2010 Result
Support - the way the Department follows through on its commitments	57.4%
Information -how well the Department communicates the reasons for decisions on tenders or applications for funding	40.4%
Collaboration - how the Department assists them to promote and raise awareness of their services	42.6%

The decrease in satisfaction between 2008-09 and 2009-10 related to an increase in the neutral response of neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. The Community Services manager survey relates to 22 managers, and one respondent could have made the difference between the 2009 and the 2010 surveys.

Satisfaction within the Community Services managers survey is measured across three areas of support, information and collaboration.

Compared to the survey results of 2008-09, the 2010 survey indicated that fewer community service managers were satisfied with the availability of clear information from the department about the things they need to know (27% decline since 2008-09); the way they were treated by the department staff (17.5% decline) and how the Department takes their views into account in its policy and planning (15.1% decline).

Analysis of overall satisfaction and individual measures of satisfaction with the support, information and collaboration provided by the Department assisted in identifying areas where activity would be directed in improving overall satisfaction. Improvement in community services managers' satisfaction can be focused on:

1. how the Department takes community service organisation's views into account in its policy and planning;
2. the Department's consultation with community service organisations on matters that are important to them; and

3. the helpfulness of department staff.

Aspect	2010 Result
The helpfulness of Department staff	73%
The availability of clear information from the Department about the things you need to know	57%
How the Department takes your views into account in its policy and planning	45%

The Community Facilities managers survey for 2009-10 indicated that 67% of managers were satisfied. Of the 57 respondents in the Community Facilities Manager survey 11% were complementary regarding the communication and information provided by the Department, although 16% were critical of deficiencies in this area. In some cases this referred to lack of communication regarding carrying out upgrades and minor new works. Seven per cent of respondents were dissatisfied with the failure of the Department to follow through on commitments to work that was either not started or not completed after a long period of time.

Measures in place to meet targets in 2011 include:

- better feedback systems regarding agency reporting;
- improved timeliness of response to enquiries;
- a review of the format and frequency of service visits; and
- an increase in opportunities for information sharing via topic specific forums.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: 18.2.11

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10

**MINISTER FOR DISABILITY, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT HEARING**

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

Question Taken On Notice

32. Can you provide more information regarding the establishment of the Carers Advocacy Service (V1 p 52)?

MINISTER BURCH - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Procurement for the Carers Advocacy Service was conducted late 2010 through public tender process.

Carers ACT was the successful tenderer and it is anticipated that the Carers Advocacy Service contract will be operational by early 2011.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Joy Burch, MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

22.1.11

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1, Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10



Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER FOR LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

Does OATSIA liaise with artsACT about building the Indigenous art community in the ACT? Has OATSIA had any input into the review into the arts given its comments on Indigenous art?

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

Yes.

ArtsACT also funds an Indigenous Arts Officer who liaises with OATSIA on a regular basis.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Date: 8/2

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HCSS 10/54

Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER FOR LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

What is the status of the whole-of-government Reconciliation Action Plan endorsed for development by the Taskforce (V1 p 63¹)?

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

The Taskforce on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs has encouraged individual agencies to develop specific Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs). The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, Department of Education and Training and ACT Health have developed RAPs. Other agencies will finalise their RAPs shortly.

The Chief Minister's Department is exploring the benefit of developing whole-of-government Reconciliation Action Plan.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

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8/2

Date:.....

¹ Page numbers refer to Volume 1 DHCS, Annual and Financial Report 2009–10.

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HCSS 10/55

Jon Stanhope MLA

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MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

2009-10 ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS INQUIRY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION NO 3

The Committee – to ask the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs:

What is the outcome of the tender process for the facility and program management of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre at Yarramundi Reach (V1 63)?

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

The ACT Government has set aside the procurement process following concerns raised by a number of members of the Ngunnawal community. It has subsequently undertaken to establish an advisory group of senior Ngunnawal elders to advise on cultural programs at the Cultural Centre. Ms Agnes Shea AM, Ms Glenda Hyde and Ms Jenette Phillips have been invited to sit on this group.

In arriving at this decision, the Government took into account the need for a full and sustained engagement with the Ngunnawal people that will be critical to the success of the Cultural Centre going forward.

The day-to-day operation of the Cultural Centre, including management of the building, opening, bookings etc, will be undertaken by the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, which includes the ACT Office of Multicultural, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

23/3
Date:.....

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HCSS 10/56

Jon Stanhope MLA

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MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER FOR LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

Can you please describe any work being undertaken by the ACT Government for the Australian Indigenous Minority Supplier Council in the ACT (V1 p 64)?

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

The ACT Government has become a full member of the Australian Indigenous Minority Suppliers Council. The Government is working closely with this organisation to provide opportunities through purchasing of goods and services from companies controlled by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

The ACT has made considerable progress in relation to procurement policy development and leveraging procurement of goods and services to benefit employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the ACT.

A major initiative in this regard is the introduction of a whole-of-government social procurement policy that aims to promote participation in the labour market by, among others experiencing barriers to employment, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Date:.....

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HC66 10157

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MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL
SERVICES**

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alcohol and Drug Residential Rehabilitation Service What is the current status of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alcohol and Drug Residential Rehabilitation Service (V1 p 237)?

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

The Model of Care for the Service and the schedule of accommodation have been finalised. Procurement documentation is being developed and Procurement will commence early in 2011.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

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Date:.....

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 MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

Is the Government aiming to get baseline data for the COAG building blocks for Safe Communities and Governance and Leadership (V1 p 238)?

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

Yes.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Date: 8/2

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HCSS 10/59



Jon Stanhope MLA

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MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE

MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

QUESTION ON NOTICE

24 NOVEMBER 2010

The Chair - Asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs upon notice on 24 November 2010:

Does the ACT Government currently have any corporate partnerships aimed at Closing the Gap (i.e. such as the partnership between Wesfarmers and the National Gallery assisting indigenous involvement in arts administration and management) (V1 p 237)? Is the ACT Government liaising with business to encourage such partnerships or more corporate involvement in closing the gap in the ACT?

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

The ACT has set targets for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment in its contract with Spotless FM, for total facilities maintenance of public housing, and in all of the construction projects under the Nation Building Jobs Plan.

The ACT does not currently have any corporate partnerships in this regard but is actively looking at opportunities to partner with the corporate sector in 'closing the gap' within the ACT.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

Date:.....

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