



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2014-2015

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter MLA (Deputy-Chair),
Giulia Jones MLA, Yvette Berry MLA



**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by MR SMYTH on 17 June 2014 : Treasurer took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 17.6.2014 PAGE 23/24]

In relation to : Revenue Collection Transformation

THE CHAIR: We might move on to Shared Services Finances. Minister, I see on page 127 of budget paper 3 we are about to have a revenue collection transformation. Why do we need the transformation, minister? How old is the current revenue system and what are the shortcomings that we need this transformation?

Mr Barr: It relates to the Revenue Office which was yesterday, so I will take that on notice if you would like a comprehensive answer because these officials, it is not their area.

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

1. Existing revenue collection systems have reached the end of their useful life. The new revenue system will allow the efficient collection of taxes for the next decade and to significantly modernise customer on-line service for taxation, concessions and other similar transactions.
2. The project will provide:
 - improved services to ACT taxpayers including on-line access to billing information (self-service), electronic billing (rather than paper based accounts), enhanced taxpayer self-assessment (particularly of duties), and expanded on-line payment options.
 - greater overall efficiency in the operations of the Revenue Office resulting in Revenue Office's ability to accommodate increases in revenues without augmented staffing levels;
 - improved business intelligence through data mining to facilitate financial reporting, taxpayer compliance and revenue analysis resulting in a minimisation of revenue leakage;
 - flexibility in Revenue Office's IT system resulting in a capacity to implement cost-effectively changes that introduce new taxes or modify existing taxes, or potentially support revenue collection/funds disbursement responsibilities of other ACT agencies.

The Revenue Collection Transformation will seek to replace two revenue systems, that is the Territory Revenue System (TRS) and the Community system. The TRS and Community systems were both implemented in 2004.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2014-2015

Signature: *Andrew Barr*

Date: 1.7.14

By the Treasurer, Andrew Barr MLA