



**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 Jeremy Hanson MLA on 26 June 2014: Mr Simon Corbell MLA took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to Court Facilities:  
(JACS # 1)

**Mr Corbell:** I would have to go and review those matters, because those were undertaken—that analysis was undertaken over 12 months ago. But the government’s conclusion is that the preferred redevelopment option, it was considered the best value for money option for the territory.

**THE CHAIR:** All right can you provide a list of the different options that were considered and their costs to the committee please?

**Mr Corbell:** I am happy to take that on notice. Some of that material may be cabinet-in-confidence, but I am happy to take it on notice and ascertain what information can be provided.

[Mr Corbell] : The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

A feasibility study undertaken in May 2009 considered the following sites:

- Block 14, Section 63, Civic (vacant east of Magistrates Court)
- Section 63, Block 12, Civic (City West Property Holdings site south of Supreme Court)
- Block 16, Section 63, Civic (make use of existing Supreme Court site)
- Block 13, Section 63, Civic (existing surface carparks to North of Magistrates Court)
- Block 4, Section 18, Civic (adaptive re-use of City Police Station)
- Block 15, Section 63, Civic (refurbishment and extension of Magistrates Court)

This study only considered the opportunities and constraints of each site and did not provide cost estimates.

On directions from government a second feasibility study was undertaken in September 2010, considering only the sites which would re-use the existing Supreme Court building. Options considered included:

1. Do nothing,
2. Refurbish existing Supreme Court building,
3. Reconfigure existing building and link with Magistrates court building,
4. Reconfigure existing building and link with City Police Station, and
5. Reconfigure existing building and link with Section 63 development.

In determining the suitability of each of the options the feasibility study considered whether the option could:

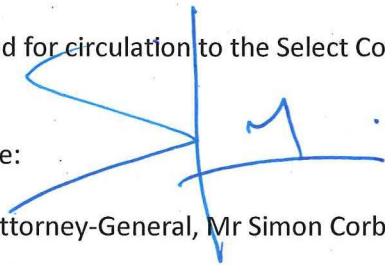
- accommodate the functional requirements of the court (security, circulation, access, number of courtrooms, gross floor area);
- allow for an integration of the Magistrates and Supreme Court buildings and provide efficiencies through sharing of some facilities;
- meet heritage requirements; and
- meet urban design guidelines.

Indicative cost estimates for each of the options including construction cost and whole of life costs were calculated for comparative purposes. The costs associated with the preferred option if made public may commercially disadvantage the Territory in the current procurement for the Public Private Partnership.

The option that best presented value for money was option three – refurbish the existing Supreme Court and link with the existing Magistrates Court building.

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

Signature:



Date:

7.7.14

By the Attorney-General, Mr Simon Corbell MLA