



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked By: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Chief Minister

Redirection: Treasurer

Reference: Budget outlook

Hearing Date: 23/07/2024

In relation to: Treasury and General Government Sector expenses by function

QON lodgement Date: 26/07/2024

Answer Due date: 05/08/2024

With regards to the “where our money goes” diagram used by the ACT Government and “Table 4.2.6: General Government Sector expenses by function” on pages 285-287 of the Budget Outlook;

What are the classification differences between these two schemes, e.g. Transport in the GGS expenses by function is valued at \$512m in 2024-25 whereas the “where our money goes” diagram indicates this at \$327m.

Can a comparison between the two classification schemes be provided?

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

The compilation of data for the “where our money goes” diagram and “Table 4.2.6: General Government Sector expenses by function” are based on different methodologies and are intended for different purposes.

Data for where our money goes is sourced from agency-level expenses that are directly attributable to the categories (some expenses are excluded from being allocated for example interest on debt and expenses related to the superannuation liability). It is intended to provide the Canberra community with a clear understanding of how funding is allocated directly to the delivery of activities (such as community services, transport or Access Canberra) as understood by members of the community.

Data for the General Government Sector expenses by function is consistent with the Classification of the Functions of Government Australia methodology.

This classification is defined by the Government Financial Statistics framework, which was developed by the International Monetary Fund and has been adopted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to promote greater comparability the presentation of financial statistics across governments. It uses a specific methodology which can differ from thematic or structural presentation elsewhere in the budget papers.

The total functional data is reflective of the consolidated General Government Sector (GGS) expenses in the Operating Statement.

The allocation of these amounts against functions is based on a proportionate model of agency consolidated expenses to agreed functions and sub-functions. It also includes the allocation of superannuation service cost expenses and central provisions, which can be commercially sensitive in nature.

In the case of the transport data specifically referenced, the main difference between these two sources of data is the allocation of roads-related expenditure and depreciation to Road transport in the General Government Sector expenses by function definitions, but which is classified as City services in the “where our money” goes diagram.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: **5.8.24**

By the Treasurer, Andrew Barr MLA