



Inquiry into Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Ed Cocks MLA

Addressed to: Mr Chris Steel MLA, Treasurer

In relation to: Budget management system information about Budget measures

Hearing: 2 June 2026

Proof Transcript p 159-161

Transcript provided: 15 June 2026

Answer Due: 22 June 2026

MR COCKS: Mr Steel, I appreciate that. I am asking about the detail that Mr Campbell said is in the budget management system. Can we please be provided with a list of all the measures, out of the budget management system, and the forward profile of them?

Ms Dowdell: We would have to take on notice what we could provide, but that would go back to an indefinite period. The initiative description is published for three years, four years or ongoing. There will be ongoing measures.

MR COCKS: Essentially, that is the detail that you would need to understand—what is ongoing—

Ms Dowdell: It is all published in the initiative descriptions.

Mr Steel: I appreciate it is a bit of work for your office to go through each budget paper and look at the initiatives, but, if there is one you are particularly interested in—

MR CAIN: If it is a problem for the government to provide that information—

Mr Steel: No—it is published for you to look at. It is just a question of whether you want to do the work. That is all.

MR COCKS: Mr Steel, I believe the problem is that you are attempting to send us down a particular line, which is just the current information in your budget papers. It sounds like there is more information than that, and that is what I think the—

Mr Steel: No; I do not think there is. We are talking about the initiatives.

THE CHAIR: I will jump in and remind everybody: we are going to talk one at a time; we are going to finish our sentences and then pause to let the other person speak. Treasurer.

Mr Steel: I think we are talking about the same initiatives—the budget initiatives. There is no other—

Mr Campbell: Basically, each initiative is published and initiatives will be added over time, but they are all public at the time.

MR COCKS: That includes every recurrent budget measure that is in place, in the budget now—it will be in this year's budget papers?

Ms Dowdell: No. It will be in the budget paper for when it was announced.

Mr Steel: The new initiatives.

MR COCKS: That is precisely my point. What I am looking for is a consolidated list.

Mr Steel: All of the budget papers, for each of the years, is consolidated on the website. You can go through them and look at what initiatives—

MR COCKS: Is there any reason you do not want to provide the information to the committee?

Mr Steel: Because they are already published. That is why.

THE CHAIR: This is getting unhelpful. I am going to pause for a second and get some advice from my—

Mr Steel: We have taken it on notice and we will see what we can provide, but I am just saying: it is public. We have been very transparent. The initiatives are all published in the budget papers every year—new initiatives and how they are funded.

MR COCKS: New initiatives only?

THE CHAIR: We understand, Treasurer. I think the problem is that, if you do not know when the new initiative started, you have to go through every single budget to spot it.

Mr Steel: Yes.

THE CHAIR: I think this is not an unreasonable question, so I would encourage you to provide a useful answer on notice—one that would allow a committee to see which initiatives are on foot at the moment and what the period of time is for them, if that is possible. Mr Cocks, I would encourage you to lodge something on notice if you get something back that does not answer your question. Fiona.

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

On 12 June 2026, in accordance with standing order 213A, the Legislative Assembly ordered the provision of a document or documents, listing Budget initiatives with time limited funding currently allocated. The answer to the Member's question will be provided in response to that order.

OFFICIAL

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on the Fiscal Sustainability of the ACT

Signature: 
By the Treasurer, Chris Steel MLA

Date: 30/6/26