

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Questions on Notice

Multicultural Affairs

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Fringe Festival

Ms Le Couteur : To ask the Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Ref: Arts, Budget Paper 4, p31 – strategic indicator 4 (supporting sustainable and visible arts activity)

In relation to: the new 2010 fringe festival

- Does the Government have information about the attendance, and the demographics of attendees, at the new Fringe Festival that was part of the Folk Festival? Can you provide this information?
- Can you provide the same information for the 2009 Fringe Festival (when it was part of the Multicultural Festival)?

Minister Burch: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The Sponsorship Agreement with the National Folk Festival does allow for information sharing on participant and/ or customer satisfaction and the number of people attending each event or other relevant information, where known.

The Director of the National Folk Festival has informed me that an event within an event is difficult to monitor, however, the Fringe had capacity crowds every night (of all ages) – and required a 'buskers queue' to provide incidental entertainment for those lining up outside the venue. The 2010 event was also the first time that the National Folk Festival exceeded an overall attendance figure of 55,000.

As mentioned above, it is difficult to discern attendance at an event within an event. Separate demographics for the 2009 Fringe Festival were not recorded.

No of ministerial councils

Amanda Bresnan MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Ref: Multicultural Affairs, Budget paper 4, page 380, Output 3.2 Community Affairs

In relation to: Number of ministerial councils that received secretariat support and policy advice

- a) On page 380, under community affairs accountability indicator there is a list of ministerial councils that received secretariat support and policy advice. Do these organisations also receive funding? If so, how much money have these councils received in the budget?
- b) What role does the ACT Muslim Advisory Council play in informing the government and does it receive funding? If so how much?

Minister Burch: The answer to the question is as follows:-

- a) There is no specific funding allocated to these Councils in the Office of Multicultural, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs budget. Consistent with Departmental policy, each member of the United Ngunnawal Elders Council and the ACT Muslim Advisory Council are offered a small community engagement payment per meeting to cover out of pocket expenses to attend meetings.
- b) In addition to the response in part a) above, the ACT Muslim Advisory Council's role is to undertake the following:
 - keep abreast of issues and concerns among the Muslim community of the ACT;
 - act as a conduit between the ACT Muslim community and the ACT Government;
 - provide advice to the Minister responsible for Multicultural Affairs on relevant government (Australian and ACT) policy development that could potentially impact on the Muslim community in the ACT; and
 - make recommendations to the Minister responsible for Multicultural Affairs that the Council considers advisable based on factual findings arising from consultations with the Muslim and general community.

No of ministerial councils

Amanda Bresnan MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Ref: Multicultural Affairs, Budget paper 4, page 371, Strategic Indicator 6

In relation to: Strategic Indicator 6

I understand the government is involved in a three year purchasing framework project with peak groups such as the Youth Coalition to develop more thorough performance indicators for the multicultural performance indicator: *promote participation in community life by Canberrans, including those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds* in DHCS. Can you please explain where you are up to with this and how this might affect the performance indicator used for multicultural affairs?

Minster Burch : The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

The Outcomes Based Service Funding Agreement – Purchasing Framework (Purchasing Framework) is a procurement and contract management tool designed to deliver efficient and effective human services across the community sector. Initially to be developed for the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services (DHCS) funded providers but transferable across all ACT Government funded human services.

A business case is currently being prepared for ACT Government consideration.

The performance indicator used for Multicultural Affairs will be incorporated into the performance reporting framework. Further information regarding the Purchasing Framework is available on the DHCS website

http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/purchasing_framework

Multicultural festival

Amanda Bresnan MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Ref: Multicultural Affairs, Budget paper 4, page 371, Strategic Indicator 6

In relation to: Multicultural Festival

- a) If the Fringe Festival is to continue to sit within the Folk festival now, is it up to Arts to pay for it or will it fall with the responsibilities of OMA to provide money each year?
- b) It has been suggested that the Multicultural Festival will eventually be handed to a community group who will manage the running of the festival. How is the government progressing towards this and when is it likely to happen?
- c) Is there provision in this year's budget for a monitoring and evaluation of the festival? If so, what will be included in this process and who will be able to participate in it?
- d) How much of Office of Multicultural Affairs' budget goes towards the multicultural festival and how much goes towards grants for community projects?
- e) How is the festival managed and who is involved in the managing body? Is there an indigenous representative in this body?
- f) How much money is allocated for international performers to perform at the multicultural festival? What is the percentage and amount?

Minister Burch: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

- a) The ACT Government through the Office of Multicultural Affairs has entered a three year sponsorship agreement with the National Folk Festival, to deliver a fringe event in 2010, 2011 and 2012. These three fringe events have been funded by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
- b) The ACT Government will consider a range of options for managing future Festivals, including management by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
- c) The 2010 festival was evaluated through a survey conducted by the Data and Research Unit of the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services of approximately three thousand people. It is anticipated that similar surveys will be conducted of future Festivals.
- d) 12.9% of the Office of Multicultural Affairs' budget goes towards the multicultural festival and 16.2% goes towards grants for community projects.

- e) The festival is project managed, with the Executive Director, Housing and Community Services being the project sponsor and the Director, Office of Multicultural, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs being the delegate. Internal mechanisms are in place to support this project management approach. Indigenous staff members have formed part of the project management team.

- f) The festival no longer offers a program for international entertainers. International entertainers touring at the time of the festival are welcome to participate however, the department will not cover the cost of any additional, or travel related expenses incurred by international groups.