



Legislative Assembly for the ACT

## **Supplementary Information**

### **Questions and Answers to questions on notice**

**NB.** Following are all questions and answers received electronically. All other questions and answers are available by contacting the Committee Office on 6205 0127.

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Ms Porter – Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on 17 May 2005:

Can the Chief Minister outline to the committee the role played by the Chief Minister's Department in the development of leadership skills amongst graduates in the ACT public service and indicate the results and expected benefits of graduate leadership development programs as per budget output 1.5?

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

There has been an error in punctuation in Budget Paper No.4. The part of output 1.5 referenced by this question refers to a number of service-wide development programs coordinated, with the assistance of participating agencies, by Chief Minister's Department, Public Sector Management and Industrial Relations. Specifically, these programs are the Graduate program, the Executive Leadership Development program and the Take the Lead program for Senior Managers.

With respect to the Graduate program, Graduates participate in a Learning and Development Program. Completion of competency units and on-the-job application of the concepts give Graduates the ACT Public Service Diploma of Government.

Leadership skills are interwoven into all development modules. The theme of the Learning and Development Program for 2005 is Excellence in Client Service. There are several core units, as part of the Diploma, which require the demonstration of leadership skills in achieving competency linked with Excellence in Client Service. The achievement of the competencies is assessed through three work placements each of three months duration.

The 2005 program runs until December 2005. The 2006 program will be developed in consideration of a review of 2005 outcomes and key government strategies and influences for that calendar year.

The leadership development components of the Graduate program provide the Graduate cohort with the core skills and experiences to make, as emerging future leaders, a significant contribution to the ACT Government.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

Date:.....

**Mr Smyth** - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on 23 May 2005:

In relation to his travel to Nara, British Columbia and Washington:

1. What is the purpose of the Chief Minister's visit to each city;
2. Who will be accompanying the Chief Minister to each city; and
3. What airlines will the Chief Minister and accompanying party fly.

**Mr Stanhope** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1.

<b>City</b>	<b>Purpose of the visit</b>
Nara	Invitation by the Mayor of Nara, Mr Chubee Kagita to support the sister city relationship between Canberra and Nara
Vancouver	Visit the Butchart Gardens
Washington	Discuss national capital city issues with the National Capital Planning Commission; open Washington 'headquarters' for ACT's innovative export-oriented businesses; attend Austrade networking functions; visit United States National Arboretum
Philadelphia	Represent and advocate on behalf of ACT businesses at BIO 2005 Annual International Convention; attend meeting of State and Territory Ministers hosted by Federal Minister for Industry, Ian Macfarlane; attend Australia-New Zealand Biotech Alliance function

2.

<b>City</b>	<b>Accompanying Party</b>
Nara	Greg Friedewald, Chief of Staff; Mike Harris, Chief Executive, Chief Minister's Department; Michele Bruniges, Chief Executive, Department of Education and Training
Vancouver	Chief of Staff; Chief Executive, Chief Minister's Department; Robyn Stanhope and Liz Clarke
Washington	Chief of Staff; Chief Executive, Chief Minister's Department; Geoff Keogh, Director, BusinessACT;

	Kellie Workman, Manager, Defence, Biotechnology, Public Administration Sector Development, BusinessACT; Robyn Stanhope and Liz Clarke
Philadelphia	Chief of Staff; Chief Executive, Chief Minister's Department; Geoff Keogh, Director, BusinessACT; Kellie Workman, Manager, Defence, Biotechnology, Public Administration Sector Development, BusinessACT; Robyn Stanhope and Liz Clarke

3.

<b>City</b>	<b>Airline</b>
Canberra to Nara via Osaka	Qantas
Tokyo to Vancouver	Japan Airlines
Vancouver to Washington	American Airlines
Washington to Philadelphia	N/A [travel via train]

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

**Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister**

**Date:.....**

In relation to the funding for elite sports teams; Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

At the Estimates Committee on Wednesday 18 May 2005, Mr Shane Gilbert, Chief Executive of the Department of Economic Development, advised that the ACT Government had funded approximately \$1.125 million for the Raiders, \$700,000 for the Brumbies, and \$250,000 for AFL.

(1) How much ACT Government funding was provided to the Raiders in each financial year since 2000/01? For what purpose was this funding provided? How much funding is expected to be provided to the Raiders for each financial year until 2008/09?

(2) How much Government funding was provided to the Brumbies in each financial year since 2000/01? For what purpose was this funding provided? How much funding is expected to be provided to the Brumbies for each financial year until 2008/09?

(3) How much Government funding was provided to the Kangaroos in each financial year since 2000/01? For what purpose was this funding provided? How much funding is expected to be provided to the Kangaroos for each financial year until 2008/09?

(4) Do any other Canberra representative sports teams receive performance fees that pay for the hiring of a venue? If so, who, and how much do they receive for this annually?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

A Performance Agreement was established with the Kangaroos in 2003 for AFL matches to be played in Canberra in 2004-2006, and with the Brumbies and Raiders for their respective competitions for the period 2004-2009. Each team also has a Hiring Agreement with their respective venues that determines hire fees and match revenue sharing arrangements. This approach was taken by the Government to make payments to sports teams more transparent.

The Brumbies and Raiders agreements replaced previous hiring agreements, which they had held with Canberra Stadium since 1999 that, in part, outlined revenue

sharing arrangements, including revenue guarantees. Under those agreements, the venue hire fee was calculated as a percentage of ticket sales and other match related revenues.

(1) The ACT Government provided \$100,000 to the Raiders in 2000/01, and in each ensuing financial year, from the National Leagues Team funding program. In addition, \$1.125m (plus GST) was provided in 2004/05 under the terms of their Performance Agreement. This level of funding will continue up to 2008/09.

(2) The ACT Government provided \$100,000 to the Brumbies in 2000/01, and in each ensuing financial year, from the National Leagues Team funding program. In addition, \$700,000 (plus GST) was provided in 2004/05 under the terms of their Performance Agreement. Whilst it is expected this level of funding will continue up to 2008/09, annual payments can vary under the terms of the agreement up to a maximum of \$700,000.

(3) The ACT Government provided the Kangaroos \$250,000 in 2003/04, and in each ensuing financial year, under the terms of their Performance Agreement. The final \$250,000 payment under the current agreement will be paid in the 2005/06 financial year.

(4) No Canberra representative sports teams receive performance fees specifically for the purpose of hiring a venue. Performance fees provided to the Brumbies, Raiders and Kangaroos are not earmarked for a defined purpose, and once paid into consolidated revenue could be used for many purposes. However, the three Performance Agreements in question ensure that these teams play a specified number of matches each year at Manuka Oval and Canberra Stadium. Venue hiring fees and match revenue sharing arrangements are contained in their respective Hiring Agreements and are not directly related to performance fees.

No other Canberra representative sports teams receive performance fees, although funding support is provided to ACT teams participating in national leagues as follows:

Team	2004/05
ACT Brumbies (men's rugby union)	\$100,000
Canberra Raiders (men's rugby league)	\$100,000
Canberra Capitals (women's basketball)	\$100,000
Canberra Lakers (men's hockey)	\$45,000
Canberra Strikers (women's hockey)	\$45,000
Canberra Eclipse (women's football)	\$45,000
Canberra Gunners (men's basketball)	\$30,000
Canberra Comets (men's cricket)	\$20,000
Canberra Dolphins (m/w water polo)	\$25,000

Canberra Cockatoos (m/w orienteering)	\$20,000
AFL/ACT Rams (men's AFL football)	\$10,000
Canberra Knights (men's ice hockey)	\$15,000
Canberra Heat (m/w volleyball)	\$15,000
Total	\$570,000

In addition, the Government will provide \$411,000 to Manuka Oval for operational purposes this financial year, and the following local sporting and recreation organisations and sports teams have already received the following grants funding:

Organisation	Title	Amount
ACHPER	Active Australia Schools	40,000
ACT & SNSW Rugby Union	Triennial	42,000
ACT & SNSW Rugby Union	Neck Safety Equipment	7,000
ACT & SNSW Rugby Union	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT & SNSW Rugby Union	Women's Grant - Brumbies Women Program	3,000
ACT Athletic Association	Triennial	14,000
ACT Athletic Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	2,033
ACT Athletic Association	World Mountain Running Trophy	2,250
ACT Badminton Association	Annual	4,000
ACT Baseball Association	Triennial	14,000
ACT Baseball Association	Laptop Computer	4,500
ACT Baseball Association	Sports Assistance	10,000
ACT Baseball Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	2,033
ACT BMX Association	Annual	4,000
ACT BMX Association	World BMX Championships	1,125
ACT Canine Association	Annual	6,000
ACT Chess Association	Annual	4,000
ACT Chess Association	World Youth Chess Championships	2,250
ACT Companion Dog Club	Purchase of Photocopier	4,810
ACT Companion Dog Club	Extension of Grounds Lights	13,920
ACT Cricket Association	Triennial	42,000
ACT Cricket Association	Junior Schools Cricket Promo Video	650
ACT Cricket Association	Indigenous Program	2,000
ACT Cricket Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT Cross Country Club	Women's Grant - Women's and Girls Jogalong	1,500
ACT Cycling Federation	Triennial	26,000
ACT Cycling Federation	Management Improvement Initiative	1,020
ACT Cycling Federation	Education and Training Initiative	2,250
ACT Cycling Federation	Race Results Management System	1,600
ACT Cycling Federation	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
ACT Cycling Federation	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	5,000
ACT Darts Council	Australian Darts Championships	600

ACT Eightball Association	World Eightball Championships	1,500
ACT Equestrian Association	Signage for Equestrian Park Yarralumla	3,800
ACT Equestrian Association	Annual	6,000
ACT Equestrian Association	World Vaulting Championships	750
ACT Football Federation	Rooball Plus	11,330
ACT Football Federation	Triennial	42,000
ACT Football Federation	Sports Assistance	10,000
ACT Football Federation	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT Football Federation	Women's Grant - Futsal Big Sister Program	2,500
ACT FUTSAL	Triennial	26,000
ACT FUTSAL	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
ACT Gridiron	Annual	3,000
ACT Gymnastic Association	Triennial	42,000
ACT Gymnastic Association	Purchase of Photocopier	6,750
ACT Gymnastic Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT Ice Skating Association	Annual	2,000
ACT Ice Skating Association	World Figure Skating Championships	375
ACT Ice Hockey Association	Annual Assistance	4,000
ACT Ice Hockey Association	Women's Grant - Come and Try Ice Hockey	3,000
ACT Ice Hockey Association	11HF World Under 18 Championships	750
ACT Ice Hockey Association	World Women's Ice Hockey Championships	2,500
ACT Indoor Cricket Federation	Indoor Cricket World Series	2,500
ACT Inline Hockey Association	Annual	4,000
ACT Inline Hockey Association	World Inline Cup	2,500
ACT Junior Chess League	Women's Grant	1,800
ACT Little Athletics Association	Triennial	14,000
ACT Little Athletics Association	On Track Implementation into Little Athletics	1,600
ACT Little Athletics Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	2,033
ACT Monaro District Golf	Annual	6,000
ACT Motorcycle Club	Security Fence	7,775
ACT Motorsport Council	Annual	8,000
ACT Netball Association	Indigenous Program	3,000
ACT Netball Association	Triennial	42,000
ACT Netball Association	Indigenous Program	2,500
ACT Netball Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT Netball Association	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	5,000
ACT Netball Association	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	4,000
ACT Netball Association	Women's Elite Coaching Development Event	2,000
ACT Olympic Council	Audio Visual Presentation Equipment	2,400
ACT Pistol Association	Annual	4,000

ACT Rogaining Association	Annual	4,000
ACT Rogaining Association	Women's Grant - Rogaining Skills Workshop	2,400
ACT Rowing Association	Starter Equipment and 2 Outboard Motors	7,030
ACT Rowing Association	Triennial	26,000
ACT Rowing Association	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	4,000
ACT Rowing Association	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	4,000
ACT Rowing Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
ACT Rugby Referees	Adopting 'Best Practise' Communication	4,000
ACT Rugby Referees	Women's Grant - 2006 Women's Rugby World Cup	3,000
ACT Showjumping Club	Showjumping Equipment	4,600
ACT Smallbore Rifle Club	Range Stage 4	1,240
ACT Smallbore Rifle Club	Range Stage 4 (Part B)	810
ACT Softball Association	Triennial	42,000
ACT Softball Association	Indigenous Program	3,000
ACT Softball Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
ACT Softball Association	Women's Grant - Coaching Development	1,700
ACT Softball Association	Women's Grant - Coaching Development	1,200
ACT Softball Association	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	5,000
ACT Squash Rackets	Upgrade of Woden Squash Centre	33,000
ACT Squash Rackets	Triennial	26,000
ACT Squash Rackets	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
ACT Squash Rackets	Women's Grant - Squash for Girls	3,600
ACT Squash Rackets	SLISS Payments for 2004/2005	28,857
ACT Tenpin Bowling	Annual	6,000
ACT Touch Association	Triennial	42,000
ACT Touch Association	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
ACT Ultimate Association	World Ultimate Championships	2,500
ACT Unicycle Riders Society	World Unicycle Championships	2,500
ACT Veterans Athletic Club	Complementary Equipment	1,210
ACT Veterans Athletic Club	Strategic Plan Renewal	1,000
ACT Veterans Athletic Club	Finance Development	750
ACT Veterans Athletic Club	Triennial	14,000
ACT Veterans Athletic Club	2004 Triennial Bonus	2,033
ACT Volleyball Inc.	Triennial	26,000
ACT Water Polo Inc.	Annual	4,000
ACT Water Polo Inc.	Women's High Performance Coaching Scholarship	4,000
ACT Water Ski Association	Jump Ramp Resurfacing	1,380
ACT Water Ski Association	Annual	4,000

ACT Women's Australian Football	ACTWAFL Open Day	3,000
ACT Wrestling	Annual	2,000
ACT Wrestling	Develop Northside Wrestling	1,100
ACT Wrestling	Growing the Wrestling Base in Canberra	2,750
ACT Wrestling	Oceania Wrestling Championships	750
ACTSPORT	Triennial	145,000
ACTSPORT	Project Assistance	48,100
AFL Canberra	Triennial	42,000
AFL Canberra	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
Andrew Miller	World University Water Ski Championships	750
Ainslie Baseball Club	Improvements to Majura Oval	7,560
Bandits Baseball Club	Junior Development Program	1,980
Barassi International Aust. Football Tournament	Under 16 Australian Football Tournament	2,000
Basketball Canberra	Triennial	42,000
Basketball Canberra	Indigenous Program	1,000
Basketball Canberra	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
Belconnen Bowling Club	Installation of Automatic Sprinkler System	6,450
Black Mountain Rowing Club	Safety and Support for Community Rowing	2,540
Bowls ACT	Triennial	26,000
Bowls ACT	Computer Network	7,600
Bowls ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Boxing ACT	Kid Gloves Project	810
Boxing ACT	Annual	4,000
Boxing ACT	Oceania Titles	750
Brendan Burgess	World Down-The-Line Clay Target Shooting	750
Brindabella Callisthenics College	Women's Grant - Development Program for Coaches	1,500
Brindabella Motor Sport Club	Volunteer and Safety Program	4,130
Burley Griffin Canoe Club	Annual	2,000
Burley Griffin Canoe Club	Canoe Polo World Championships	750
Callisthenics ACT	Triennial	9,000
Callisthenics ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	1,309
Campbell Tennis Club	Court Lighting	16,380
Canberra Bilbys Triathlon Club	Swimming and Cycling Equipment	700
Canberra BMX Club	Public Address System	1,900
Canberra Bushwalking Club	First Aid Training	1,600
Canberra City Gymnastic Club	Office IT Upgrade	1,950
Canberra District Rugby League	Triennial	26,000
Canberra District Rugby League	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Canberra Dragon Boat	Annual	2,500
Canberra Inline Association	Streetwise Program	2,000
Canberra North Bowling Club	Bowling Green Shade Unit & Seating	3,200

	Project	
Canberra Off Road Cyclists	Women and Junior Mountain Bike Upgrade	910
Canberra Off Road Cyclists	Mountain Bike Off Road Skills Camp	3,200
Canberra Police and Citizens Youth Club	Climbing World Youth Championships	2,500
Canberra Rifle Club	Renewal of On Range Computing Facilities	1,480
Canberra Rifle Club	Recruitment Campaign	1,250
Canberra Rifle Club	Annual	3,000
Canberra Royals Rugby Union Football Club	Women's Grant - Come and Try Rugby Program	750
Canberra Yacht Club	Rescue/Training support boat	11,750
Capital Lakes Rowing Club	Junior/Youth Equipment Program	18,310
Capital Lakes Rowing Club	Secure Storage Development	4,600
Community Programs Association	Women's Grant -Fit for Work	3,700
Community Programs Association	Into Swimming	5,000
Dragons Abreast Australia - ACT & Region	Purchase of Dragon Board	9,100
Eastlake Football Club	Coach Education/First Aid & Sports Training	660
Evatt Callisthenics Club	Women's Grant - Special Coaching Program	1,000
FIT - Females In Training	Women's Grant - Get Outdoors - (Go Wild)	4,500
Fitness ACT	Capacity Building the Fitness Industry	9,120
Fitness ACT	Triennial	50,000
Folk Dance Canberra Inc	New Computer	1,600
Gungahlin District Raiders Netball Club	Gungahlin Netball Online	1,040
Gungahlin Eagles Rugby Union Club	Equipment to Establish Club Office	1,690
Hall Polocrosse Club	Construction of Horse Yards	5,500
Hockey ACT	Triennial	42,000
Hockey ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
Hockey ACT	Sports IT Program	3,000
Judo Federation of Australia ACT	Annual	4,000
Judo Federation of Australia ACT	Shipping Container to House Judo Mats	1,130
Judo Federation of Australia ACT	Judo Junior World Championships	750
Judo Federation of Australia ACT	Open Judo Korean Championships	375
Kathryn Gault	World Down-The-Line Clay Target Shooting	750
Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club	Acquisition of Second Hand Skull	3,700
Magpies Junior Football Club	Injury Prevention During Games	1,200
Manuka Oval Management Committee	Facility Development	29,000
National Capital Equestrian Club	Acquisition of EFA Compliant Dressage Arena	10,150
NAVMAT Dragonboat Racing Club	Acquisition of PFD's	950

Nikolas Schlie	2005 Deaflympics	750
North Canberra-Gungahlin Cricket Club	Skill Development for Jnr Women	2,100
North Canberra-Gungahlin Cricket Club	Upgrade of Training Facilities	3,050
Orienteering ACT	Event Information and Communication System	4,130
Orienteering ACT	Triennial	26,000
Orienteering ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Orienteering ACT	Women's Grant - Orienteering Series	2,000
Orienteering ACT	World Junior Orienteering Championships	1,500
Orienteering ACT	World Orienteering Championships	1,500
Pedal Power ACT	Triennial	14,000
Pedal Power ACT	Women's Grant - New Horizons 05-06	5,000
Pegasus - Riding For the Disabled ACT	Purchase of New Tractor	12,050
Pegasus - Riding For the Disabled ACT	Coach Education	1,770
RMC Golf Club	Golf Management Computer System	9,800
Ron Benson	World Transplant Games	750
Sailability ACT	Women's Grant - Women for First Aid	800
Snow Sports A.C.T.	Triennial	26,000
Snow Sports A.C.T.	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Snow Sports A.C.T.	World Junior Cross Country Skiing Championships	375
Soo Bank Do	Women's Grant - Qualification Progression	3,500
South Canberra Tuggeranong Athletic Club	T3 - Tugg Teen Throwers	900
Southern Cross Woden Baseball Club	Coach the Coaches	1,080
Southern Cross Woden Baseball Club	Shade Provision for Players and Spectators	1,130
Southern Regions Oztag	Triennial	14,000
Special Olympics	Australian Championships	3,500
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia ACT	Annual	5,000
Sports Medicine Australia - ACT Branch	Triennial	60,000
Sports Medicine Australia - ACT Branch	Alcohol and Sport	20,000
Swimming ACT	Purchase of Office Computer and Printer	1,220
Swimming ACT	Triennial	26,000
Swimming ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Table Tennis ACT	Triennial	14,000
Table Tennis ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	2,033
Taekwondo Australia - ACT Division	Taekwondo Battling Obesity	4,850
Taekwondo Australia - ACT Division	Annual	2,500

Tennis ACT	Triennial	42,000
Tennis ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
Tennis ACT	Good Sports Territory	40,000
Tennis ACT	Indigenous Program	1,500
Tennis ACT	Video Camera	5,500
The Hockey Centre	SLISS Payments for 2004/2005	18,451
The Scout Association of Australia- ACT Branch	Performance Stage & Multi-purpose Facility	20,000
The Scout Association of Australia- ACT Branch	Purchase of Adventurous Activities Equipment	1,600
Triathlon ACT	Tri to Improve your Life	3,000
Triathlon ACT	Triennial	42,000
Triathlon ACT	2004 Triennial Bonus	6,094
Triathlon ACT	Women's Grants - Level 1 Coaching Course	3,000
Tuggeranong Archery Club	Archery Storage Shed	3,200
Tuggeranong BMX Club	Track Upgrade	3,250
Tuggeranong Bulldogs Jnr Australian Football Club	Purchase of Trailer for Match Day Equipment	840
Tuggeranong Dog Training Club	Rejuvenation of training Grounds	4,660
Tuggeranong Netball Club	Sports IT Program	6,750
Tuggeranong Valley Cricket Club	Sports IT Program	6,750
Tuggeranong Valley Cricket Club	SLISS Payments for 2004/2005	24,609
Tuggeranong Vikings Basketball Club	Coach Development	1,790
Tuggeranong Vikings Amateur Basketball Club	Sports IT Program	6,750
Tuggeranong Vikings Hockey Club	Sports IT Program	6,750
University of Canberra Union	Active Asian	2,600
West Belconnen Athletics Club	Replacement of Hurdles	1,410
Weston Creek Tennis Club	Resurfacing 6 Artificial Grass Courts	51,000
Woden Valley Gymnastic Club	Parallel Bars, Pommel and Spring Board	3,400
Women's Soccer	Triennial	26,000
Women's Soccer	2004 Triennial Bonus	3,772
Yachting ACT	Annual	4,000
Yachting ACT	World 2.4mR Yacht Championships	750
YMCA of Canberra	Pryme Mover Program Support	20,000
YMCA of Canberra	Physical Activity Programs for Special Population	10,000
YMCA of Canberra	Active Kids	10,000
YMCA of Canberra	Women's Grant - Living Large and Active	5,000
Yowani Country Club Ltd.	Protective Fence	40,000
	TOTAL	2,321,562

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*



Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

In relation to safety standards and the Stadiums Authority:

In the recommendation paper presented by the Select Committee on Estimates for the 2004/05 Budget, Recommendation 21 recommended that “the Government increase funding to the Stadiums Authority so that it can meet its safety repair program”. The paper also advised that,

“The Committee is concerned that work is required on the Canberra Stadium to bring it into compliance with the current Building Code of Australia (BCA) requirements. The General Manager of the Stadium told the Committee that it was compliant when it was redeveloped in 1999, but that the codes have since changed and that the ongoing maintenance plan took into consideration these issues.”

- (1) Does the Canberra Stadium currently comply with the current Building Code of Australia (BCA) requirements?
- (2) If so, when did Canberra Stadium achieve compliance?
- (3) If not, when is Canberra Stadium expected to achieve compliance?

The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) No, in the two specific areas of Stairs/Handrails/Balustrades and Fire safety
- (2) BCA requirements were met following the Stadium’s reconstruction in 1999, but certain areas do not currently comply following changes to the BCA since 1999 and repair/upgrade works that have resulted in the penetration of voids to accommodate additional services.

The Stadium will achieve compliance as follows:

Fire Safety – 2005/06: Filling of penetrated wall cavities with fire retardant material as recommended in the Stadium’s consultant report (2004/05)

Stairs/Handrails/Balustrades – 2007/08: To be completed in accordance with consultant’s recommendation/priority from the Stadium’s 10-year asset maintenance plan

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

***Minister for Sport and Recreation***

DEB FOSKEY: To ask the Treasurer in relation to Federal government provision of funding to the ACT Government to compensate for the effect of National Capital influence on the costs of providing municipal services.

Page 110 of the 2005/06 Budget Paper four indicated that the ACT government will receive \$23 million from the Federal government in 2005/06 to compensate for the effect of National Capital influence on the costs of providing municipal services.

Mr Roger Broughton, of ACT Treasury, explain at the Estimates Committee meeting of 17 May 2005 that this figure is adjusted annually based on CPI.

1. Has the ACT Government or Australian Government conducted any reviews of this funding?  
If not, does the ACT Government or Australian Government intend to review this funding in the future?
2. Has the ACT Government attempted to negotiate for an increase of this funding from the Australian Government?
3. What obligations must the ACT Government meet to receive this funding from the Australian Government ?

DEB FOSKEY: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the Auditor General’s report, ‘2003-04 Financial Audits’ of 6 December 2004:

Under the section titled Budget Management in the Auditor General’s report ‘2003-04 Financial Audits’ of 6 December 2004, it states in regards to Capital works: “the management of allocated capital works funding remains an area of concern. Although showing improvement in 2003-04, the large amount under spent indicates that the management and delivery of capital projects needs to be further improved.”

- (1) What have been the main contributors to this under spend?
- (2) Is there an indicator showing how many capital works are completed on time?
- (3) What ACT Government capital works are currently occurring that have not been completed within the initial allocated timeframe?
- (4) What is the ACT Government is doing to resolve this problem?
- (5) Has this issue been formally reviewed?
- (6) Have any formal recommendations been made to the ACT Government regarding this issue? Is so, what were they and which ones have the ACT Government adopted?

.....

DEB FOSKEY: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the Rhodium Asset Solutions Ltd and the provision of fleet service to the ACT Government:

The ACT Government set a target for its second term to ensure that ten per cent of the government fleet will be fuel efficient low emission vehicles by 2008. Currently 25 electric/petrol hybrids are being trialled.

- (1) Is the ACT Government on track to meet the 2008 target?
- (2) What is the target percentage for the end of each financial year between 2005/06 and 2008/09?
- (3) Does the ACT Government intend to review this target between now and 2008?

.....

**Mr Mulcahy** - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 16 May 2005:

[In relation to travel proposed for June 2005]

Is there a cost – is that within the forward or is that within the current year budget?

**Mr Stanhope** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Expenses relating to the Executive's travel will be tabled in the Assembly as part of the April-June quarterly report. Funding will come out of the 2004-05 Budget.

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

**Jon Stanhope MLA**  
**Chief Minister**

**Date:.....**

[In relation to ACT Executive]

...it's about the issue of employee expenses increases, they increased by 30 per cent in the '03-04 year and 24 or 24.5 percent in the '04-05 year, we have been advised that this year it's proposed that they only increase it by 1.3 per cent. ...How much in the past has this been due to wage increases and how much is due to increases in staff numbers?

...how many staff are covered by ACT Executive expenses?

**Mr Stanhope** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Employee expenses in 2002-03 were \$2.337m and in 2003-04 were \$2.906m, an increase of \$0.569m (24%). This increase was primarily related to the full year impact of the addition of a fifth minister and associated staff (\$0.260m) and a staff reclassification review (\$0.230m).

Employee expenses are estimated to be \$3.232m in 2004-05, an increase of \$0.326m (11%) over 2003-04 due to additional funding provided in the 2004-05 Budget for an organisational restructure.

The forecast employee expenses for 2005-06 of \$3.275m are \$0.043m (1.3%) higher than 2005-06 to reflect the standard level of indexation applied for anticipated future wages growth outside of agreed enterprise bargaining agreement increases.

As at 16 May 2005 there were 32 full time equivalent staff, including five Ministers.

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

**Jon Stanhope MLA**  
**Chief Minister**

**Date:.....**

**Mr Smyth** - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 16 May 2005:

[In relation to Output Classes estimated outcomes for 2004-05]

...(page) 28 of *Budget Paper 4*. I notice that none of the estimated outcomes for 2004-05 have any values against them. Is there a reason for that?

**Mr Stanhope** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Chief Minister's Department Output Class information presented in *2005-06 Budget Paper No. 4* reflects changes effected by the 4 November 2004 Administrative Arrangement Order and a restructuring of the Department's Output Classes utilised in the 2004-05 Budget Papers.

Estimated outcome information for 2004-05 is reported in the *Appendix to 2005-06 Budget Paper No. 4* against those Output Classes utilised in the 2004-05 Budget Papers.

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

**Jon Stanhope MLA**  
**Chief Minister**

**Date:.....**

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Planning:

In relation to the activities of the Australian Railway Historical Society – ACT Division at their site in Kingston:

1. What plans does the ACT Government have for the site that is currently occupied by the Australian Railway Historical Society – ACT Division?
2. What provision is being contemplated by the ACT Government, in any plans that have been devised for this site, for the facilities that have been developed by the Society?
3. If any plans have been devised that would require the Society to relocate its activities, what provision for another suitable location is being considered?
4. In the event that the Society is required to relocate the facilities that have been developed on this site, such as sheds, railway track and railway points, what assistance will the ACT Government provide to the Society to facilitate any relocation?

...(Brendan Smyth)...

In relation to the Integrated Document Management System (IDMS) project, Mr Smyth MLA, asked the following questions;

1. What were the original objectives for this project when it was first funded?

The answer is as follows:

The Business Case approved by the then Minister for Urban Services, Mr Brendan Smyth in 2000 described the IDMS Project's objective as to

*“define, acquire and implement whole of government infrastructure to enable a common approach to the creation, storage, access and management of government documents and records and, where appropriate, management of workflow relating to the same. This infrastructure will provide vital support to the Government's record management strategy and to electronic service delivery strategy through Canberra Connect and will significantly improve the responsiveness of service delivery to the ACT community.”*

The business need for the Project was defined in 2000 as:

- *“to provide an electronic records/document management capability to support the objectives of the proposed Records Management Legislation;*
- *to support better client service delivery by providing improved electronic access to information, documents and records through Canberra Connect, the Business Gateway and other client relationship projects; and*
- *to support process re-engineering through the application of electronic workflow capabilities in conjunction with electronic records management.”*

2. What was the original budget in 2000-01 for spending on capital and recurrent activities for the project?

The answer is as follows:

The original capital and recurrent budgets provided for the IDMS project are:

2000-01	\$1.867m
2001-02	\$4.839m
2002-03	\$5.050m
2003-04	\$2.881m
2004-05	\$1.751m

Total \$16.388m

It should be noted however, that subsequent adjustments to the IDMS funding have occurred.

3. What outcomes have been achieved from this project to date?

The answer is as follows:

The IDMS has been successfully implemented in the ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) and in the ACT Registrar General's Office (RGO). Its use has also been extended to a number of other ACT Government agencies to take advantage of the ability to access land and building information and additional implementations are currently underway or in planning. The system now manages over 1.75 million ACT Government records and 770 people use the system.

The IDMS has met the expectations expressed in the original business case and, in those agencies where it has been implemented, is providing significant support for improved legislative and regulatory outcomes, a demonstrable and extensive economic benefit to the ACT community and a financial benefit to those agencies who have undertaken an implementation.

4. What evaluations have been undertaken of the project through its life to this point?

The answer is as follows:

In addition to regular informal reviews of the IDMS project there have been three major evaluations of the project throughout its life:

- On behalf of the Department of Urban Services Audit Committee, Walter Turnbull undertook an extensive audit of the IDMS Project and its management in April 2004;
- The IDMS Project Board commissioned a cost/benefit evaluation of the implementations in ACTPLA and the RGO, which was completed in October 2004; and
- The ACT Management Council commissioned an independent evaluation of the IDMS Project by ValueSourcing, completed in November 2004.

5. What has been the outcome of these evaluations?

The answer is as follows:

The outcome of these evaluations has been to demonstrate that the IDMS Project has met the expectations expressed in the original business case. More specifically:

- The Walter Turnbull audit of the IDMS Project concluded that:

*“Overall the IDMS project demonstrated sound project management practices and governance to ensure the delivery of a quality system and that the timeframe and budget were met in an effective manner.”*

- The Cost Benefit evaluation of the IDMS Project demonstrated that the IDMS Project had contributed significantly to the ability of agencies where the system is implemented to administer legislation, including that the system *“gives greater certainty to decision-making, a greater capability to demonstrate compliance, the ability to manage to a greater level of detail.”* Additionally, this evaluation demonstrated that the IDMS had delivered a significant economic benefit to the ACT community through faster and more effective access to information and that administrative efficiencies within the implementing agencies had also delivered them a financial benefit in excess of the cost of the implementation.

- The ValueSourcing evaluation concluded that:

*“There is substantial evidence of the success of IDMS in delivering benefits both within agencies and in the wider community. This success is sufficient to continue the funding of the IDMS project. IDMS/Objective should be promoted beyond the pilot stage status to become the ACT Government’s preferred solution for electronic documents and records. This would imply that any agency wishing to use a competing product could only do so on the basis of a compelling business case.”* And *“This Review concludes that the IDMS project, on balance, has been successful in achieving the original objectives defined in the business case which supported it. The project should continue to receive funding, ensuring that the ACT Government derives maximum benefits from its substantial investment to date in IDMS.”*

6. Are there any other document management systems available in the market that perform the same or essentially similar functions to those functions that were intended for the IDMS?

The answer is as follows:

There are several systems in the market that could perform similar functions to those functions that were intended for the IDMS. Following an exhaustive procurement process the suite of products provided by the Objective Corporation were selected as best meeting the requirements of the ACT Government.

7. What were the objectives of the 'IDMS Second Pilot' that received \$2.8 million for capital works and \$2.130 million for recurrent funding in the 2004-05 Budget?

The answer is as follows:

At the time the 2004-05 Budget was being prepared the IDMS implementations in ACTPLA and the RGO had not been in place long enough to make an informed judgement on the extent to which the overall project objectives had been met. Funding allocated in the 2004-05 budget was to ensure that the Project had sufficient funds to continue to implement in agencies beyond ACTPLA and the RGO and was described as a 'second pilot' only while the evaluations described above were still pending. The project objectives of each individual implementation, carried out with funds provided for the 'second pilot,' remain the same as those expressed in the original business case.

8. What has the Second Pilot achieved to date, when will it be complete and what evaluation has been and will be undertaken?

The answer is as follows:

Funds provided for the 'Second Pilot' were intended to support additional implementations of the IDMS. To date, achievements of the 'second pilot' are:

- The migration of the management of the Department of Justice and Community Safety paper records to the Objective system; and
- An implementation of the IDMS within the City Management area of the Department of Urban Services and the ACT Revenue Office allowing them access to the ACTPLA information on IDMS.

There is an individual completion date for each of the projects above. It is IDMS Project policy to undertake post implementation evaluations of the benefits of all implementations, allowing only for sufficient time for the implementation to 'bed down'.

9. Was there an 'IDMS First Pilot', what were its objectives, what did it achieve and what evaluation was undertaken of its activities?

The answer is as follows:

The IDMS implementations in ACTPLA and the RGO represent the IDMS 'first pilot'. Evaluations of its success have been outlined above.

10. How many staff are involved in the IDMS project?

The answer is as follows:

There are currently four staff involved in the IDMS project team.

11. How many external suppliers are involved in the IDMS project – and, if there are any such suppliers, in what capacity are they involved?

The answer is as follows:

There are two external suppliers to the IDMS Project. One supplier provides the IDMS software and services related to its ongoing maintenance and the other external supplier provides specialised skills in support of the Project Team whenever necessary (eg project management and technical expertise).

12. What funds have been spent on the IDMS project to date for capital works and for recurrent purposes?

The answer is as follows:

Anticipated spending to the end of the 2004-05 financial year is capital \$4,377,930 and recurrent \$5,821,510.

13. What projects within the overall IDMS project have been started, completed successfully, completed and not taken any further or abandoned?

The answer is as follows:

The ACTPLA and RGO pilots have been undertaken within the overall IDMS project, and have been successfully completed and evaluated as such. Additionally, implementations in City Management, ACT Revenue Office and JACS are at varying stages of completion. The next scheduled project is ACT WorkCover.

Implementations in the Office of the Public Trustee and in the Office of Fair Trading were extensively investigated and have been delayed to allow for those agencies to progress certain prerequisites before committing to an implementation schedule.

No implementations have been abandoned. It should be noted that implementations of systems of this type require a significant lead-time and considerable preparatory work within agencies. Consequently planning is always at various stages with a number of agencies.

14. What evaluation has been undertaken of the project to this point?

The answer is as follows:

Evaluations of the IDMS Project are outlined in the answers to questions four and five.

15. What milestones have been achieved/failed?

The answer is as follows:

The ACTPLA and RGO pilots have been successfully completed and are fully operational. Additional implementations have also been completed and/or are underway as mentioned above. The IDMS Project has been independently evaluated as having achieved the outcomes postulated in the original business case. Additionally, the IDMS Project has at no time exceeded the funds allocated for its completion.

However, since the commencement of the Project in 2000, as would be anticipated in a project of this size and complexity which will result in significant change there have been a number of issues that have led to delays in the project. The most significant of these were:

- The failure in 2002 of the initially preferred tenderer to deliver the required solution thereby delaying the overall project by approximately nine months;
- It has not been possible to implement an electronic workflow component of the project planned for ACTPLA pending confirmation of operational and procedural requirements within ACTPLA and resource availability; and
- A delay in commencement of some 'second pilot' implementations due to the exigencies around conducting and participating in evaluations of the project.

16. What milestones are still to be achieved?

The answer is as follows:

The upgrading of the system to a new version of the underlying software is due for completion shortly. Additional milestones relate to completion of current and planned implementations. Additionally, a business case has been prepared in line with the recommendations of the most recent independent evaluation of the IDMS Project to guide the further expansion of the IDMS system. Following this process it will be possible to implement a longer-term schedule for continued implementations in ACT Government agencies.

17. Why were \$1.1 million identified in the 2005-06 Budget as a roll-over for IDMS?

The answer is as follows:

Conduct of the IDMS cost benefit evaluation and participation in the other evaluations limited the IDMS Project Team resources available for 'second pilot' implementations. Consequently, there was an agreed delay of the 'second pilot' activities resulting in the deferment of activity and expenditure with a resultant rollover to the 2005-06 financial year.

18. What is the reason for this roll over?

The answer is as follows:

The roll over is due to delays explained in questions 16 and 17.

19. What impact has the lack of spend of the \$1.1 million in 2004-05 have on the outcomes/objectives sought for IDMS?

The answer is as follows:

There has been no impact on the project other than a delay in the rollout of IDMS across the ACT Government. However, this time has been used constructively in assisting agencies, not yet using IDMS, in planning and preparing for the implementation of IDMS.

20. Is there any overlap between the IDMS project and the project identified in the 2005-06 Budget, whereby \$3.4 million is proposed to be spent within the ACT Health portfolio for 'Medical Records Relocation'?

The answer is as follows:

No.

The \$3.4 million will be used to physically relocate the Canberra Hospital Medical Records department from its current location and increase the capacity for patient treatment. The Canberra Hospital Medical Records Department already has an electronic medical record system. At this time, there are no plans to use IDMS to store or manage clinical documentation.

21. Is any part of IDMS redundant as a result of this expenditure in Health?

The answer is as follows:

No.

22. Will there be any benefits gained from the Health project that will enhance the IDMS project?

The answer is as follows:

No.

Brendan Smyth MLA : To ask the Minister for Health in relation to Strategic Indicator #6:

1. What is the current (2004-05) proportion of mental health clients admitted to hospital from the Emergency Department who wait more than eight hours from the time of commencement of treatment to the time of transfer to a ward;
2. What was the proportion in 2003-04;
3. What was the proportion in 2002-03.

*...(Member's signature and date)...*

Brendan Smyth MLA : To ask the Minister for Health in relation to Strategic Indicator #1:

1. What is the current (2004-05) proportion of persons who are admitted via the Emergency Department who wait more than eight hours from the time of commencement of treatment to admission in a ward;
2. What was this proportion for each month of 2004-05 to date;
3. What was the proportion in 2003-04;
4. What was the proportion in for each month in 2003-04
5. What was the proportion in 2002-03:
6. What was the proportion for each month in 2002-03.

*...(Member's signature and date)...*

Brendan Smyth MLA : To ask the Minister for Health in relation to Forensic Mental Health Offenders (FMHO):

1. How many ACT FHMOs are currently detained in NSW correctional facilities;
2. How many ACT FHMOs are currently held in NSW psychiatric facilities;
3. What are the names of the correctional and psychiatric facilities where ACT FHMOs are held;
4. How many FHMOs are expected to return to the ACT in 2005-06.

*...(Member's signature and date)...*

Brendan Smyth MLA : To ask the Minister for Health in relation to the Picture Archival System:

Is this project being run in conjunction with the Integrated Document Management System at DUS? If not, why not;

In relation to properties utilised as offices by the ACT Government, Mr Smyth MLA, asked the following questions;

1. How many office buildings are owned by the ACT Government?

The answer is as follows:

Twenty Six.

2. How many of these buildings are fully occupied by ACT Government staff?

The answer is as follows:

Nineteen.

3. If any of these buildings are not fully occupied by ACT Government staff, how much space is occupied by other entities?

The answer is as follows:

Space occupied by other entities in owned buildings is 4,009 m<sup>2</sup>

4. How many buildings are leased or rented by the ACT Government?

The answer is as follows:

Twenty two buildings (or part buildings) are leased or rented by the ACT Government.

5. Are all the buildings that are rented or leased fully occupied by ACT Government staff?

The answer is as follows:

No.

6. If any of these buildings are not fully occupied by ACT Government staff, how much space is occupied by other entities?

The answer is as follows:

The majority of leased buildings occupied by the ACT Government also have other tenants. The area of these tenancies is not known.

Of the area leased by the ACT Government the space under-leased to other entities is 1,658 m<sup>2</sup>.

7. If other entities occupy buildings either owned or leased or rented by the ACT Government, what proportion are non-government organisations and what proportion are private sector entities?

The answer is as follows:

Where other entities occupy building space, either owned or leased or rented by the ACT Government, the proportion of these entities that are non-government organisations and the proportion that are private sector entities are:

Commonwealth 29.3%

Non-Government Organisations 16.3%

Private Sector Entities 54.4%

8. If there are any buildings owned by the ACT Government and that are surplus to the needs of the ACT Government for the purposes of providing office accommodation, how many are there, where are they located and what are they being used for?

The answer is as follows:

There is one property used for Government Offices that has currently been identified as surplus to requirements. That property is the O'Connell Centre in Griffith. It is currently being temporarily occupied by staff from the Department of Urban Services and the Department of Disability, Housing & Community Services.

9. What demand is forecast for office space for the ACT Government over the next five and ten years?

The answer is as follows:

It is estimated that an additional 10,000 sq m of office space will be required in Civic over the next 10 years. Future studies will determine the requirements for office accommodation, and how those requirements should best be met.

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Treasurer:

In the Estimates hearing on 17 May 2005, you were asked about the cost of implementing the reports of three major inquiries in the ACT (these reports being the Gallop, Vardon and McLeod Reports):

1. What is the aggregate cost of implementing the recommendations made in each of these reports?
2. For each of these reports, what was the cost – actual, proposed or estimated – of these implementation activities:
  - a) In each of 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (as appropriate);
  - b) For each of the major categories of recurrent spending: staff; superannuation; supplies and services; and grants and purchased services;
  - c) For capital expenditure?

...(Brendan Smyth)...

Mr Smyth - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on 30 May 2005 -

During the Estimates hearing on 16 May 2005, you said that a business case had been developed for the proposed international arboretum: could you make this business case available to the committee?

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

During the Estimates hearing on 16 May 2005 I referred to initial cost-benefit analyses. These do not constitute a business case and were information utilised in the Budget Cabinet process. These preliminary projections were developed prior to the completion of the design competition.

Based on assumptions drawn from the experience with Floriade, reasonable predictions about sponsorship involvement and predicted increasing visitor numbers over the years post the opening in 2008, the preliminary projections were that revenue could increase to approximately \$5 million in 2011-12 and that the potential flow-on effect from attracting up to 800,000 visitors could be up to \$16 million for the ACT for the same period.

Attached is a copy of an initial cost-benefit analysis. It should be noted that the Government does not necessarily commit to every assumption in the report, for example, the timing of any move of Floriade or the issue of charging. The report itself correctly notes that a clearer picture will be revealed when more information is available following the design competition.

Now that the winning design has been announced, the Interim Board of the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens, in conjunction with the Chief Ministers Department, will be working with the information from the winning design to develop a detailed business plan including the milestones for the project development.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

Date:.....

Brendan Smyth MLA : To ask the Minister for Health in relation to ACT Health's treatment of Fringe Benefits Tax :

In the Committee hearing the Chief Executive stated:

*I just want to answer, there's a question that's been issued publicly as to whether ACT Health is rorting FBT, can I make it clear that ACT Health does not rort anything, ACT Health is a lawful organisation under my leadership and there is no rorting whatsoever of anything and I'll be referring the matter to the Auditor-General myself as our committee determined. (Draft Hansard p105)*

Has the matter been referred to the Auditor General? Who comprises the committee referred to by Dr Sherbon?

*...(Member's signature and date)...*

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 23 May 2005:

Can you confirm that the three community groups supported by Environment ACT, these being the Conservation Council, the Environment Centre and RSPCA, will receive the same level of funding in 2005-06 as they did for 2004-05 including indexation?

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

The current three-year funding agreements between Arts, Heritage and Environment and the Conservation Council, the Environment Centre and RSPCA expire on 30 June 2005. The funding provided under these agreements for 2004-05 is \$355,573.

New agreements will be negotiated for another 3 years commencing on July 1 2005. Funding for 2005-06 will remain at 2004-05 levels. Funding in subsequent years will be subject to the new indexation formula for Community Group funding. Services provided under the new agreements will be aligned to the funding provided by ACT Government.

As indicated to the Committee, in recognition of the standing of these organizations in the community I directed that their funding be excluded from the efficiency dividends imposed on Arts, Heritage and Environment.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Minister for the Environment

Date:.....

Ms Porter - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 23 May 2005:

Can you inform the Committee how much of this (Output 2.2) will be directed towards supporting the volunteer programs?

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

Environmental volunteers working to support the management and conservation of parks and reserves in the Territory are supported as an integral component of the duties of all field staff employed by ACT Parks and Conservation in Environment ACT. Rangers and other field staff liaise with individual and groups of volunteers about their activities on a day-to-day basis.

In addition to this, ACT Parks and Conservation supports a specific program called Park Care, where some 17 groups are supported to assist with the conservation and management of ACT parks and reserves. The Park Care Program has been running successfully for a number of years, experiencing steady growth as the extent of parks and reserves in the Territory grows. They have also provided valuable assistance in the recovery from the 2003 bushfires, where so many areas under their care were burnt.

This network of Park Care groups is further supported through a wider natural resource management support network jointly funded by the ACT Government and the Australian Government's Natural Heritage Trust. This provides for a number of support roles that assist environmental volunteers in our parks and reserves, including support for Park Care promotion, local catchment planning, project development and management, water quality monitoring and technical support for mapping and monitoring programs.

Specific funding for this support is estimated as:

Rangers and other field staff support	\$0.3m
Park Care program	\$0.25m
Wider natural resource management support network	\$0.5m

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Environment during hearings on 23 May 2005:

Can you tell the Committee how many sites you've actually been called in to monitor and how many you've taken action in relation to, including prosecutions?

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

Since the inception of the Act in 1998 there have been 100 noise complaints made relating to complaints about construction noise in the Civic and surrounding areas.

Of these 100 complaints there were 3 infringement notices issued for breaches of the zone noise standard in accordance with the *Environment Protection Act 1997* and Regulations. There were 3 letters sent to identified construction companies advising complaints had been made.

Environment Protection Authority officials investigated an additional 39 matters where the builder was not known and advised them of complaints being made. An additional 18 were investigated and builders were found to be in compliance. The remaining 37 were complaints where officers attended and were unable to validate the complaint. A copy of the report is at Attachment A.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Minister for the Environment

Date:.....

Results of noise complaints made in regard  
to building noise in Civic and surrounding areas.

	No Issue Complied with EP Act	Complaint Recorded	Builders Spoken to	Letter Sent	Infringement Notice
1	6347				
2			6533		
3	6799				
4			7015		
5		7015			
6		7015			
7		7015			
8			5927		
9			6134		
10			6134		
11		6478			
12			6801		
13		6801			
14		6873			
15		6874			
16			6874		
17		6875			
18				7085	
19					7095
20		7097			
21			7097		
22		7098			
23		7098			
24	7629				
25			8217		
26			8223		
27			8223		
28			8223		
29		8377			
30	8880				
31	9059				
32			9246		
33			6427		
34		6671			
35		6744			
36			6744		
37		6744			
38		6852			
39			7364		
40			7364		
41		7364			

42		7410		
43		7427		
44		7427		
45			7427	
46		7468		
47			7578	
48	7578			
49			7578	
50		7578		
51			7578	
52				7578
53			7626	
54			7626	
55		7779		
56		8095		
57			8148	
58			8148	
59			8235	
60		8414		
61	8443			
62	8905			
63			8986	
64			7374	
65		685		
66		7179		
67			7718	
68			7718	
69	7734			
70		8492		
71		6833		
72		6819		
73		6820		
74				6820
75		6820		
76			6820	
77			6820	
78		6821		
79	6821			
80		6822		
81		6870		
82				6857
83			6857	
84			7023	
85	7075			
86	7131			
87				7281
88		7424		

			3			
89		6817				
90	7074					
91	7076					
92	7104					
93			9273			
94	6488					
95			6612			
96			7600			
97			7675			
98	7735					
99			8493			
100	8537					
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>

44 Mr Brendan SMYTH Chief Minister

Mr Smyth - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on Monday 16 May 2005:

[In relation to the 2005-06 budget] What percentage cut has the Office of Sustainability suffered? [Is it] higher than 5%?

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

The Office of Sustainability has been expanded as a result of the transfer of functions from the Department of Treasury and from Environment ACT. The funds transferred along with these functions included funding for some programs that were due to finish at the end of the 2004/05 financial year, with reviews to be undertaken before further funding would be considered. Other programs started after the transfer of funds and functions.

Once all these programs have been accounted for, the cut taken by the Office of Sustainability for 2005/06 is 7.0%. The main impact of the cut has been to the proposed funding for the Water Resources Strategy. It results in a minimal reduction to the Strategy, with funding going from \$2.071 million in 2004/05 to \$2.018 million in 2005/06. The impact on delivery of the Strategy is expected to be managed through efficiencies achieved during the first year of implementation.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

Date:.....

45 Dr Deb FOSKEY Treasurer

Ms Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 16 May 2005:

*DR FOSKEY: Yes, you now include greenhouse, which is moved over from the Department of Environment. I've got quite a few questions here, so I hope you'll bear with me. I was just wondering how much is being spent on greenhouse measures, because, as you're aware, the budget just gives large lumps, it doesn't give breakdowns. I'm interested in how much is being spent and how that compares with last year?*

*Mr Ottesen: I'll give you are greenhouse and energy program was about half a million dollars, but I can't give you specifics and a breakdown at this point, but I can certainly take that on notice.*

*DR FOSKEY: And I'm wondering - I must - and these are probably questions for the minister.*

*Mr Stanhope: Yes, I'm listening, Dr Foskey.*

*DR FOSKEY: No, I just thought you might have something to add.*

*Mr Stanhope: No.*

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

The funds allocated by the Government to the Office of Sustainability to implement greenhouse and energy efficiency measures during 2005/06 total \$665,000.

Details of the greenhouse and energy efficiency programs for 2005/06 are:

The Home Energy Advice Team (HEAT) has been allocated an additional \$80,000 over four years, with a total of \$420,000 now allocated over the next three years to deliver a free energy efficiency advice service to ACT residents. \$140,000 has been allocated for 2005/06. However, historically take-up of rebates by clients is generally slower over early program periods so a lesser actual expenditure may result.

The ACT Energy Wise program launched in December 2004 was funded in the 2004/05 Budget under the name Home Energy Efficiency Incentive Program. \$1.2 million was allocated for this four-year program. \$300,000 has been allocated for 2005/06.

The ACT Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme (GGAS) that was introduced on 1 January 2005 has been allocated \$318,000 over the next three years of which \$75,000 is allocated for 2005/06.

The 2004/05 Budget allocated \$150,000 for energy efficiency audits of ACT government buildings. The audit program commenced in March 2005 and will be completed by September 2005.

In addition to the budget for the Office of Sustainability, the Government allocated allocated to ACT Housing one-off funding of \$1 million in 2005/06 to improve the water and energy efficiency of public housing.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

Date:.....

BRENDAN SMYTH: To ask the Minister for Planning:

In relation to the redevelopment of Section 84 in City:

In relation to the redevelopment of Section 84 in City:

- (1) What was the amount of change of use charge assessed on the development application for Section 84?
- (2) How was this value determined?
- (3) Could you provide all of the papers supporting the valuation assessment to the Estimates Committee?
- (4) How does the change of use charge assessed for Section 84 compare to the prices received for the sale of land at public auction in City over the last 12 months, such as for Section 61 in City?
- (5) In respect of the latest development application received for Section 84 (DA No. 200501473), how does the valuation estimate prepared by the developer compare to the sale of land with similar development rights at public auction?
- (6) Could the Minister provide all of the papers supporting this valuation assessment to the Estimates Committee?
- (7) Given that the Minister has approved (using his call in powers) an additional 29,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of office development rights for Section 84 and is considering an application for a further addition of 24,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of office development rights, what impact will this increase in the area of office development have:
  - (a) on the Land Development Authority's program for the release of land;
  - (b) on the Land Development Authority's revenues;
  - (c) the overall ACT Budget deficit?
- (8) If, instead of granting the two extensions identified in part (7) above, the land with similar development rights was sold by the Land Development Authority, what revenue would be expected?
- (9) What is the car park generation rate for the addition of 24,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of office space in the latest application from QIC for additional development rights (DA No. 200501473)?
- (10) On the basis of the onsite car parking requirement for Civic of one space per 100 m<sup>2</sup> GFA, why does the latest development application propose only 130 additional spaces rather than 240 additional spaces?
- (11) In respect of the latest application by QIC for additional development rights (refer DA No. 200501473), will this result in building up to RL617 across the Section 84 precinct as defined in the original Section 84 Master Plan?
- (12) Was a Preliminary Assessments required in respect of DA No. 200501473; if not, on what basis was this decision made?

- (13) Has part of Section 84 been changed to Section 89?
- (14) On what basis was this decision made?
- (15) On what date was the decision made to change the Section number?
- (16) What process was followed in making the decision to change the Section numbering?
- (17) What role did the Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) have in changing the Section numbering to Section 89?
- (18) Are there any other planning consequences that follow from the change of Section number and, if so, what are these consequences?
- (19) Given the ACT Labor Government's commitment to the Green Star rating system, is the Section 84 development required to satisfy a minimum 4 Green Star rating?
- (20) If Section 84 is not required to satisfy a 4 Green Star rating, why is this so, given that Section 61/Block 16, for example, must have a minimum 4 Green Star rating?
- (21) Does the development proposed for Section 84 satisfy the objects of the *Planning and Land Act 2002*; if not, in what way/s will this development be inconsistent with this Act?
- (22) Does the development on Section 84 satisfy the Planning and Land Authority's water sensitive urban design guidelines; if not, why not?
- (23) Does the development on Section 84 satisfy requirements in relation to the use of recycled materials and to the elimination of PVC; if not, why not?
- (24) Does the development on Section 84 satisfy the requirement for undertaking an intergenerational equity analysis; if so, will the Minister release this analysis; if not, why has this analysis not been performed when it is a requirement of the Planning and Land Act?

47 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: proposed redevelopment of the Burnie Court Site

- a) What zoning arrangements currently apply to the old Burnie Court Site in Lyons?
- b) Would an 8 story construction fit within the current zoning arrangements?
- c) Are there any plans to allow construction of buildings greater than 3 stories on that site?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

48 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: ACT Planning and Land Authority Budget Accountability Indicators:

- a) What supporting data is available to confirm the percentage measures applied to these outcomes?
- b) Why is there no variation between the 2004-05 estimated outcomes and the 2005-06 Targets?

## 49 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: Time frames in which Design Applications are assessed

- a) Of the 90% outcome of assessments of development applications achieved within statutory time frames, how many were assessed within 30 days?
- b) How many development applications submitted in 2004-05 were subject to an extension of time?
- c) Have the target outcomes for 2005-06 taken account of the Auditor General's observation that time frames might have been 'inappropriately enhanced'?
- d) What measures have been taken to address the criticisms made by the Auditor General whilst at the same time maintaining the expected 90% target outcome?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: the 2003-4 Annual Report of the Land Development Authority

- a) What activities has the Land Development Authority undertaken in respect of housing for the aged with a view to fulfilling its commitment in the 2003-04 Annual Report to take account of the social objectives of the government...such as housing for the aged?
- b) Where in the Budget for 2005 can allocations be identified which meet the objective of providing housing for the aged?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

51 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: the 2003-4 Annual Report of the Land Development Authority

- a) How many extra jobs are expected to be created in the Land Development Authority in 2005/2006?
- b) What is the breakdown by designation and classification of those positions?
- c) What functional area of the Authority will they be allocated to?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

52 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: Provision of a second service station at Gungahlin

- a) What is the Governments intentions for Section 23 Block 2, currently identified as a site for a second Service Station in Gungahlin?
- b) When will land be released in Gungahlin for the purposes of providing an alternative service station?
- c) Where will that site be if in fact Section 23 Block 2 is not offered for sale?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

53 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: Budget paper 4 re increased cost of legal services of \$575,000

- a) On what basis is the increase in cost of legal services identified, and what percentage increase does this represent over the previous year?
- b) What is the nature of representations that require legal services and what was the outcome of all cases finalized in 2003/04?
- c) What has been the impact on target outcomes of matters that were lost by the Land Development Authority?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

54 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: Belconnen Town Centre Infrastructure (\$1.9m)

- a) What infrastructure does this land release relate too?
- b) What are the complex design issues and when do you expect them to be resolved?
- c) Has there been any cost escalation for these works arising from the delays which have occurred?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

55 Mr Zed SESELJA Planning

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: 2004-05 Works, Forward Design list for:

Woden Town Centre car park structure,  
Wells Station Drive, Hoskins St to Flemington Rd  
Gungaharra Creek stormwater infrastructure

- a) What is the current status of these projects?
- b) Where in the budget papers does funding for these projects appear?
- c) Do these projects remain a priority ?
- d) Will you table the design reports?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

Zed Seselja MLA : To ask the Minister for Planning

In relation to: City Hill future plans

a) Was the plan for the redevelopment of the City Center presented to Cabinet prior to its public release in March 2005?

If so, did Cabinet respond favorably?

b) Does the allocation of \$500,000 for the study of Constitution and Edinburgh Ave extensions pre-empt the outcome of the recently launched 'Living City' program?

c) Will the 'Living City' plan, and others that may be brought forward, be given full consideration as part of the Canberra Central Task Force?

d) On what basis has the decision been made to study the extension of Constitution and Edinburgh Ave in particular without reference to other options still to be considered?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

Mr Seselja - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Tuesday, 31 May 2005:

- a) How much funding has the ACT Government provided to fund the management of the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre in the years:
- 2002/03  
2003/04  
2004/05
- b) Is the Cultural Centre open to visitors during business hours? Does the Centre offer visitors the opportunity to view any cultural exhibitions, activities or functions?
- c) Does the Centre offer any conference facilities for organisations to utilise on a cost recovery basis?
- d) What will the ACT Government do with the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre when the contract to manage the Centre, in place with the Burringiri Association, expires in June 2006?

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

1. ACT Government provided the following funds for the management of the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre in the years:

2002/03-	Nil
2003/04-	\$123,000
2004/05-	\$63,000

2. The Cultural Centre is open to visitors during business hours.

The Cultural Centre has offered limited opportunity for visitors to view cultural exhibitions, activities and functions.

The Cultural Centre does offer conference facilities for organisations to utilise on a cost recovery basis.

4. The ACT Government will consider the future management of the Centre prior to June 2006.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

58 Mr Zed SESELJA Health

ZED SESELJA, MLA : To ask the Minister for Health. Can the Minister advise:

- a) What is the rate of health inspections carried out by departmental officers on facilities within premises such as hotels, motels, cafes and restaurants that relate to the handling and preparation of food/beverages for patrons.
- b) How many reports have been collated on such premises listed above during 2004/05.
- c) Is there any evidence of reports being written up on premises without a full inspection being conducted.

*Zed Seselja, MLA*

*May 2005*

## 59 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services:

With reference to comments made in the Estimates Hearing on 20 May 2005, can the Minister advise:

1. As at the end of April 2005, in which suburbs were the nine properties purchased by Housing ACT, at a cost of \$3.3 million.
2. What types of dwellings (ie number of bedrooms) were purchased and what was the cost of each dwelling.
3. In which suburbs were the 12 vacated properties across Canberra, with a value of \$3.8 million, allocated for homelessness.
4. In which multi-unit complexes are the 17 properties, at a value of \$2.7 million located.

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

1. The nine properties purchased by Housing ACT were located in the following suburbs:
  - Amaroo 1
  - Calwell 1
  - Dunlop 3
  - Gungahlin 2
  - Ngunnawal 1
  - Palmerston 1
2. The types of dwellings purchased and their costs were:
 

• Dunlop	3 bedroom house	\$336,000
• Dunlop	3 bedroom house	\$336,000
• Dunlop	4 bedroom house	\$356,000
• Gungahlin	4 bedroom house	\$411,000
• Gungahlin	5 bedroom house	\$428,000
• Ngunnawal	3 bedroom house	\$312,000
• Palmerston	3 bedroom house	\$352,000
• Calwell	3 bedroom house	\$312,000
• Amaroo	3 bedroom house	\$347,000

3. The 12 vacated properties allocated for Homelessness were located in the following suburbs:

- Ainslie 2
- Chisholm 2
- Cook 1
- Dunlop 1
- Flynn 1
- Giralang 1
- Isabella Plains 1
- Kaleen 1
- Narrabundah 2

4. The 17 properties were located in the following multi-unit complexes:

- Stuart Flats;
- Strathgordon Court;
- Red Hill Flats;
- Gowrie Court;
- Owen Flats; and
- in a private body corporate complex in Scullin

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

60 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Mr Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services:

1. As part of the 2005/06 budget, what assessment has been conducted on the initial settlement of refugees into the ACT:
2. How many temporary protection visa holders are being housed in the ACT through the refugee resettlement services program.

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

1. Extensive discussions have been held with refugee settlement groups in the ACT throughout 2004 and 2005. These discussions continue as we identify ways to address issues affecting refugees in the ACT.
2. There are currently five households consisting of eight adults and eleven children.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

## 61 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing &amp; Community Services

ZED SESELJA, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing & Community Services.

1. With reference to comments made in the Estimates Hearing on 20 May 2005 concerning the Gallop Report, can the Minister advise:
  - a) From the Fourth and Final Six Monthly Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the Report of the Board of Inquiry into Disability Services, September 2004, how much funding has been allocated by the department to respond to each of the 31 recommendations of the Gallop Report that the ACT Government agreed to act upon.
  - b) How was the funding targeted to each of the agreed recommendations and is there an ongoing reporting process in place to monitor the expenditure of funds in response to the Gallop Report.

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

1. a. The Government agreed to 43 of the recommendations of the Board of Inquiry into Disability Services.

The figures provided to the Estimates Committee hearing on 20 May were over a four year period. The additional funding for disability services of \$75.7m referred to by the Treasurer in the Budget speech was from 2002-03 to the end of this forward estimates period (2008-09).

The majority of the Board of Inquiry's recommendations agreed to by the Government related to establishing a structure to support the provision of person-centred quality services for people with a disability, and not to resource allocation.

*Future Directions: A Framework for the ACT 2004. 2008*, tabled in this Assembly in February 2005, builds on and provides the mechanism to advance the implementation work already undertaken within the Government's response to the Recommendations of the Board of Inquiry.

Monitoring of expenditure under Future Directions 2004-2008 will be through the Select Committee on Estimates, the Annual Report and the governance structures established following the Board of Inquiry recommendations, including Disability ACT, the Disability Services Commissioner and the Disability Advisory Council.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

62 Mr Zed SESELJA Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Seselja - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 1 June 2005:

- a) What justification was given for awarding \$18,245 to the recipient organization, Journey of Healing (Inc) to conduct a Ngun(n)awal Elders Heritage Project.
- b) What activity was specified in the recipient's application and the benefit it would offer to the ACT that led to the awarding of the grant.
- c) Who are the key individuals that operate Journey of Healing (Inc).
- d) To date, what has the heritage project achieved.

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

In the 2003/2004 round of the ACT Heritage grants program \$18,244.56 was provided to Journey of Healing for the "Ngunnawal Elders' Heritage Project".

- a) The Minister made the decision to award this grant in a competitive grants round of 59 applications of which 18 were successful. This project met funding priority "Aboriginal heritage projects initiated by or involving the local Aboriginal communities". It was Highly Recommended by the Heritage Council Grants Taskforce to the Minister, stating that the proposed oral histories in this project would also enable gaps to be met in the Heritage Register, however emphasised the need to involve a specialist with expertise in this area.
- b) The application (originally seeking \$21,860 in funding) stated that the project would fund a "heritage camp to provide opportunities for Ngunnawal Elders to strengthen their cultural base as a foundation for unity, leading to concerted action on community issues, especially relating to young people. Cultural content of the camps will include story telling, sharing lore and culture, music, dance, language, art dance and bush lore. Oral histories of the most senior Elders will also be recorded." The project aimed to work towards cultural unity in the longer term.

c) The key individuals that operate Journey of Healing (Inc) are:

President: Ms Jilpia Napaljari Jones (Indigenous)  
 Deputy President: Mr David Wilson  
 Secretary: Ms Pauline Quinane  
 Committee Members: Ms Violet Sheridan (Ngunnawal)  
 Ms Ricki Dargavel  
 Ms Carrie Fowlie  
 Ms Glenda Hyde (Ngunnawal)

The Project subcommittee was Ms Ricki Dargavel (Project Secretariat) and Ms Roslyn Brown, Project Manager. Mrs Agnes Shea was an adviser to the project (now a life member of Journey of Healing).

d) The project was completed in November 2004 achieving its objectives, and delivered the following:

- 1) Ngunnawal Elders Heritage workshops held from 30 January to 2 February 2004 on the theme *Ngunnawal life stories*. All Ngunnawal Elders were invited to participate and 38 Elders and 'Elders in training' attended the camp. All the Ngunnawal families were represented. The workshops included a component on significant sites and the importance of preserving them. After an initial introduction to oral histories and discussion of likely content, 20 Elders agreed to participate in the recordings in three family groups. These tapes have been completed with the assistance of David Johnston, Indigenous archaeologist and heritage researcher, and all were provided to the ACT Heritage Unit. Copies have been provided to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies and some (subject to the agreement of the individual) to the National Library of Australia.
- 2) a report of the heritage camp, and an independent evaluation;
- 3) recorded oral histories of the participating Ngunnawal Elders; and
- 4) a display of banner and message sticks created in the camp and put on public display in Civic in March 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

## 63 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services:

Can the Minister advise:

1. What is the current operational status of Betty Searle House.
2. Who is eligible to access the facility and for what periods of time may someone utilise the facility.
3. Are all those who use the facility residents of the ACT, or is it accessible to people within the ACT region.

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

1. Betty Searle House is currently operational.
2. Betty Searle House provides affordable accommodation for women over 55 who have experienced elder abuse, family breakdown, financial hardship or who are homeless. Housing ACT eligibility criteria apply.

The service providers can exercise discretion in relation to the Housing ACT asset criterion. For example, women who are homeless following separation from their partner are still able to access Betty Searle House, if their equity in the family home exceeds the Housing ACT asset threshold.

Residents are able to stay at Betty Searle House permanently.

3. As Housing ACT criteria apply, residents of Betty Searle House need to be ACT residents. However, in exceptional circumstances, women from outside the ACT have been provided with accommodation. An example would be women who are fleeing domestic violence. The service's discretion to waive the residency criteria is consistent with the discretion exercised by the Commissioner for Housing over Housing ACT applications.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

64 Mr Zed SESELJA Chief Minister

Mr Seselja - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Tuesday, 31 May 2005:

1. What is the role of the Indigenous Elders United Council?
2. Who are the members?
3. How often does the Council meet?
4. As a collective body, who do they represent?

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

1. The role of the Ngunnawal Elders Council is to advise the ACT Government on ACT-specific Ngunnawal issues such as heritage, language and cultural issues.
2. The Ngunnawal Elders Council comprises several Ngunnawal family members who represent their individual family groups from within the ACT and surrounding areas.  
The representatives are:  
Louise Brown  
Agnes Shea  
Loretta Halloran  
Glenda Hyde  
Josephine Ingram  
Joan Medway  
Carl Brown  
Cyril Phillips  
Helen Wallace  
Michelle Phillips-Freeman  
Hilary Crawford  
Dorothy Dickson
3. The Ngunnawal Elders Council meets up to 4 times a year.
4. The Ngunnawal Elders Council represents the several family groups.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

65 Mr Zed SESELJA Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Seselja - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 31 May 2005:

1. Where exactly, geographically, is the grave site located near Tharwa;
2. What tender process (informal or formal) was used to assess the successful tenderer to carry out the works;
3. Who made the decision for funding to be released; when was this funding awarded;
4. Who was the successful tenderer and/or eventual provider for the works and what was the total cost of the agency funded project;
5. What form of interpretive signage was erected at the site;
6. Who did the Government seek advice from on how the content of the signage should be presented.

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

1. I understand the question refers to the grave site of Onyong, a prominent Aboriginal of the region in the early 1800's. Based on historical records, it is thought that Onyong's grave is located on the western side of the Murrumbidgee River downstream of Tharwa Bridge. An exact site is not known.
2. The 2004-05 Budget provided funding for development of a Murrumbidgee River Heritage Trail from Angle Crossing to Uriarra. The project will include interpretive material at points of particular heritage significance and interest. A consultant has been engaged to develop an interpretation plan for the Murrumbidgee River Heritage Trail project. The plan will include signage standards and design, and relevant text and illustrations for signs. An interpretive sign in the general location of Onyong's grave is planned. The consultant was selected in accordance with ACT procurement policy, involving assessment of quotations received from three applicants against a detailed project brief.

3. Funding for the Murrumbidgee River Heritage Trail project was provided in the 2004-05 Budget. The interpretation plan component of this initiative was committed when the consultancy agreement was signed in March 2005.
4. The successful applicant for the interpretation plan component of the Murrumbidgee River Heritage Trail project is R & E Beckman and Associates. \$44,000 is provided for this consultancy. A further \$32,000 is available for manufacture and installation of interpretive material and fixtures.
5. No interpretive signage has been installed for Onyong's grave. The interpretation plan is still under development and a final plan has yet to be accepted. The terms of the consultancy require that interpretive material for Onyong's grave be developed.
6. The consultant is required to consult with relevant groups and stakeholders in the development of interpretive material for the Murrumbidgee River Heritage trail. Relevant Aboriginal groups will be consulted in relation to interpretive material about Aboriginal heritage matters, including Onyong's grave.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

66 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Page 320, can the Minister advise:

How much revenue did Housing ACT raise from the rents of the 14% of full market renters to assist in subsidising the 86% of tenants on a rental rebate in the 2004/05 financial year.

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

In 2004-05 non-rebated tenants paying market rent for their public housing property are expected to contribute about \$18.223m.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

## 67 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Page 324, can the Minister advise:

1. Why has the Operating Result from Budget paper 4 (2004/05), page 267 of -\$13.610 million for 2005/06 estimated outcome, been revised to -\$19.686 million for 2005/06 budget on page 324, Budget paper 4 (2005/06).
2. How will Housing ACT achieve a positive turnaround in the Operating Result to achieve the figures reach of -\$16.384 million in 06/07, -\$13.481 million in 07/08 and -\$12.81 million in 08/09.

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

1. The operating result as predicted in the 2004-05 Budget of a loss of \$13.160m has been revised as part of the 2005-06 Budget to take account of changes in operations over the year. These include changes in revenue projections and expenditure estimates. The major items are identified below:
  - increased revenues for the rollover of the community housing grant funding of \$2.383m, additional funding from government for the water and energy initiative and supplementation for increase in general rates offset by savings (\$0.652m) and higher rental receipts of \$1.171m;
  - transfer of funds for the Linkages Program to community Services (\$0.550m);
  - cessation of funding for the Social Housing Subsidy Program (\$0.245m);
  - lower profit on sales of \$3.000m and reduced interest earnings of \$0.142m;
  - increased expenditures on grants of \$6.142m and higher costs for general rates (\$0.940m), water and energy improvements (\$0.420m) and other costs such as vehicles, property costs, insurance and general indexation (\$0.885m) offset by savings of \$0.302m; and
  - Lower costs for depreciation of \$1.379m due to the re-assessment of remaining useful lives of the multi-unit properties and lower employee costs due to the revision of leave provisioning (\$0.361m).
2. The major factor causing the improvement in the operating result from 2005-06 to 2006-07 is the reduction in grant expenditure as the grant funds for community housing are expended in 2005-06 (\$6.6m). In 2007-08 and 2008-09, the results are improved by the share of profits being returned from the investment in the joint ventures.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

68 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

ZED SESELJA, MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005-06), Page 284, can the Minister advise:

1. Why has the total revenue of \$84.754 million, as anticipated to occur in 2004-05, been revised to \$93.964 million in the 2004-05 estimated outcome, an increase of \$9.210 million.
2. In relation to this, can you also clarify why there has also been an increase of \$9.922 million in total expenses, from \$86.343 million to \$96.265 million estimated outcome 2004-05.

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

1. The increase in total revenue in the 2004-05 estimated outcome principally reflects funding for the functions transferred to the Department under the Administrative Arrangement Orders (AAOs) announced on 4 November 2004 (\$5.244m). Additional funding was also provided through the Supplementary Appropriation for the impact of wage increases and other initiatives and cost pressures (\$2.168m). The remainder of the increase reflects funding for projects rolled over from the previous year, and additional revenue from external clients and interest.
2. The increase in total expenses in the 2004-05 estimated outcome reflects expenditure against the additional funding outlined in (1) above and an expected increase in depreciation expenses. Additional expenditure of \$0.692m associated with the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program will also be incurred.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

69 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

ZED SESELJA, MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005-06), Page 284, can the Minister advise:

1. Why has the operating result of -\$1.589 million, as anticipated to occur in 2004-05, been revised to -\$2.301 million.
2. How will a positive 20 percent turnaround from an operating result of -\$2.301 million for 2004-05 estimated outcome to -\$1.850 million for 2005-06 budget be achieved.
3. How will this turnaround be achieved, given that operating results, as shown on page 284, continue to show further negative results -\$1.881 million 2006-07 estimate, -\$2.121 million for 2007-08 estimate, and -\$2.244 million for 2008-09 estimate.

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

1. The revision in the operating result from -\$1.589m to -\$2.301m is due to an expected increase in depreciation expenses and additional expenditure from cash reserves of \$0.692m. The latter is associated with the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.
2. The turnaround in the operating result for 2005-06 will be achieved because the expenditure from cash reserves mentioned in (1) above will not occur in 2005-06.
3. In relation to the negative operating results in 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, this is due to the fact that the Department does not receive funding for depreciation. As a result, the Department will always show negative operating results equivalent to its depreciation expenses.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

## 70 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Page 308, can the Minister advise:

Why is the 2004/05 Estimated Outcome of \$30.242m for government payment for outputs, set to increase to \$32.418 million, for government payment for outputs in 200/06 budget.

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

The increase in Government Payment for Outputs by \$2.176m over the estimated outcome for 2004-05 and that budget for 2005-06 is due to the following:

- increased funding under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement (\$0.451m);
- funding by the Government to improve energy and water efficiency in public housing (\$0.420m);
- supplementation for the increased cost of general rates in 2005-06 (\$0.940m);
- the net rollover of grant funding from 2004-05 into 2005-06 for community housing (\$1.853m); offset by
- transfer of the Community Linkages Program funding to Community Services (\$0.535m);
- general savings (0.708m); and
- cessation of the Social Housing Subsidy Program funding that lapses from 30 June 2005 (\$0.245m).

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

## 71 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Appendix, Page 73, can the Minister advise:

1. Further to footnote 6, please expand on why there was an apparent revision in expenditure on property management from \$84.361 million down to \$81.160 million.
2. How have the reduced depreciation charges impacted upon the under expenditure on property management during 2004/05.
3. How is the re-assessment on the remaining useful lives of the multi-unit complexes related to the reduction of funds expended on property management in 2004/05, given that a number of dwellings in multi-unit complexes were not occupied by tenants during the 04/05 financial year and are set for redevelopment and/or refurbishment.

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

1. The lower than budget expenditure on property management costs (\$3.2m) are largely the result of the following:
  - lower depreciation charges as a result of the re-assessment of the (remaining) useful lives of multi-unit properties. As part of the 2004 revaluation of the public property portfolio, the independent valuers re-assessed the useful lives of the multi-unit properties. The original useful lives of the multi-unit properties was revised to 80 years, extending the remaining useful lives and as a result reducing the depreciation expense for these properties by about \$1.9m;
  - lower water rates and consumption charges during 2004-05 by about \$0.6m, largely as a result of the water restrictions imposed during the year;
  - lower demolition and property write-off costs (\$0.5m) as a result of deferring the refurbishment of Hartigan Gardens; and
  - lower employee costs due to the revision of leave provisioning and the timing of recruitment actions that deferred filling of vacancies.
2. The lower depreciation costs (referred to above) are a major factor in the reduced costs for property management during 2004-05. However, it should be noted that although depreciation and the write-off of the properties demolished are included in the costs of operations, they are non-cash items, i.e. there is no cash outflow associated with these expenses.

3. In calculating depreciation for any property, the following are taken into account; the depreciable value of the asset, the estimated useful life, residual value and the method of depreciation, i.e. straight line, diminishing value or other method of calculating depreciation.

In determining remaining useful life, consideration is given to the age of the building, the level of maintenance carried out to maintain the property at its operating capacity over its life and the form and structure of the building.

Properties that are scheduled for demolition and/or refurbishment are generally nearing the end of their remaining useful lives and would require major expenditure to restore, refurbish or upgrade to extend their useful lives. The valuers take this into account when determining the remaining useful life of a property.

The valuers assessed the value of the buildings at the same time that the remaining useful life was reviewed. For those properties identified for refurbishment or redevelopment such as Currong, Hartigan Gardens and Fraser Court, the building values were substantially reduced as a result of the state of the properties and the level of work identified to refurbish them to enable them to continue to be rented for the longer term. The non-occupation by tenants during the year did not materially affect the valuers' judgement in assessing the remaining useful life: It was the level of expenditure required to maintain the rental capacity of the property which also affects the remaining useful life and the value of the buildings, that affected the depreciation expense for these properties.

The change in depreciation and the effect on the financial statements was referred to in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2004 (refer to note 11 of the financial statements).

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

**72 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services**

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Appendix, Page 73:

Under "Total Cost", why is there a difference in the 2004/05 Estimated Outcome of \$4.064 million from the 2004/05 Target.

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

The estimated outcome for 2004-05 for the total cost of public housing is below the original target due to the lower depreciation charges during the year of about \$1.916m as a result of the re-assessment of the useful lives of multi-unit properties as part of the 2004 revaluation of the public housing portfolio (refer page 330 Budget Paper No. 4).

In addition, there was an under-expenditure against budget for water rates and consumption charges of about \$0.600m due to water restrictions during the year and below budget expenditure on employee costs of almost \$1m during the year due to a revision of leave provisioning and the timing of recruitment actions to fill vacancies during the year.

Also, costs for bad debts and doubtful debts and property write-off costs were lower by \$0.550m than expected for the year.

These explanations are referred to in note 6 on page 73 of Budget paper No 4 Appendix and the explanatory notes on pages 329 – 330 in Budget Paper 4.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

73 Dr Deb FOSKEY Attorney General

Dr Foskey - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 1 June 2005:

- a) How did it come to be that this initiative would target 60 offenders?
- b) Noting that this program aims to provide accommodation and drug and alcohol rehabilitation support to the 60 offenders, where will these offenders be housed?
- c) How does the delay on the expansion of Karralika or other drug rehabilitation facilities affect this program?

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

- a) The Reducing Property Crime Program budget proposal for 2004-05 envisaged that the program would have capacity to intensively supervise 20 high risk, recidivist offenders at any one time, and between 60 and 80 offenders in the course of one year. These figures were based on the available capacity to provide supported accommodation and frequent face-to-face contact to offenders within the financial limits of the proposal. The reduced funding allocated to the program would see that between 10 and 15 offenders are supervised under the program.
- b) The original concept envisaged leasing housing to accommodate a number of offenders which would be staffed permanently by ACT Corrective Services. However, the funding allocated will not cover the considerable staffing costs involved so the supported accommodation component will not be implemented. Under the program, offenders will continue to be supervised in the community.
- c) As the supported accommodation component of the Reducing Property Crime Program was never intended as a drug rehabilitation facility, it is unlikely that the delay on the expansion of Karralika will have any impact on the program.

Dr Foskey - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 30 May 2005:

- a) Is the south district community policing team an ongoing project?
- b) How many officers are involved in the project at any time?
- c) What are the objectives of the south district community policing team?
- d) How are these objectives implemented?
- e) What have been the outcomes of this project?
- f) Will this project be expanded to other suburbs?
- g) Are there currently any other community policing projects being implemented within Canberra?

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

- a) The South District Community Patrol Team (SDCPT) commenced in December 2004 and has been an on-going proactive initiative since that time. The continuation of the strategy will be determined upon a full review of its performance and impact.
- b) The SDCPT has a core element of seven members and one Team Leader. There is flexibility to increase this number as operational demands require.
- c) The primary objective of SDCPT is to proactively target anti-social behaviour in and around licensed premises and public places throughout Canberra's South District. This was undertaken in a three stage process, firstly to conduct proactive patrols in company with ACT Liquor Licensing Inspectors to advise of potential breaches of regulations. Secondly, a meeting hosted by ACT Policing to advise licensees on their obligations under the liquor Act as well as expectations of ACT Policing relating to responsible service of alcohol, and thirdly to examine areas for legislative reform to assist authorities to effectively deal with matters in this area. In addition, the SDCPT is also deployed to those areas which, from time to time, impact on the general safety of the community, such as burn-outs and street racing.

- d) ACT Policing utilises an intelligence-led model to determine operational priorities. The SDCPT utilises this model to target problematic areas and provide a proactive police presence to curb anti-social and other criminal behaviour.
- e) SDCPT has been extremely successful. The AFP PROMIS database shows a reduction in reported anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of 34% throughout South District. Between February and April of this year SDCPT attended to 382 incidents, made 38 apprehensions, including 23 arrests. A further 5 summonses were issued, 8 criminal cautions issued, and 2 people were arrested on warrants. A total of 145 proactive patrols of licensed premises were conducted with 7 matters being referred to the ACT Liquor Licensing Authority for non-compliance with the regulations.
- f) The SDCPT currently assists the North District Beats Team in dealing with problematic areas such as late night anti-social behaviour in and around Civic and the Gungahlin area where traffic offences such as burn-outs are reported. ACT Policing adopts a regional perspective when prioritising its resource deployment to deal with this type of criminal behaviour and the SDCPT is deployed consistently with this arrangement.
- g) ACTP utilises an intelligence led model to determine priorities both in response to reported crime and proactive initiatives. The Operations Committee determines the operational priorities on a fortnightly basis and resources are deployed in line with those priorities.

75 Dr Deb FOSKEY Police & Emergency Services

Dr Foskey - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 30 May 2005:

In 2004, the Minister for Police at the time, Mr Bill Wood, announced a study into ACT's future policing needs, looking at issues such as: the resources required to provide a dynamic and highly responsive police service; and, the type and nature of policing services required by the ACT.

I believe this report has been concluded and submitted to the ACT Government.

- a) Why has this report not been publicly released?
- b) Why has the ACT Government not provided a copy of this report to the AFPA?
- c) What did this report recommend in relation to ACT policing numbers?
- d) Did this report consider how the ACT Police service could further engage in community policing? And if yes, what were its recommendations on this matter?

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

The study into ACT's future policing needs is currently in the final draft stage and has not been submitted to the ACT Government.

Dr Foskey - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 1 June 2005:

1. Is the ACT Government conducting education and awareness programs in relation to GLBTI?  
If so what are they?  
How much funding is allocated to each of these projects in 2005/06?
2. Is the ACT Government currently planning on doing anything to collect data and consultation, or needs assessment studies, relating to the needs of GLBTI people in the ACT?
3. Given the high unemployment rate amongst sex and gender variant people, and the special health needs of such people, does the ACT Government allocate any funding to programs that assist sex and gender variant people in the fields of health, workplace and education?
4. Is there a central unit within the ACT Public Service that leads the Whole of Government response to policy issues relating to GLBTI people? Or is the Government considering forming one?
5. Has the Government looked into ways to more appropriately allow for the inclusion of transgender and intersex people in sport?  
Is so what are they?  
How much funding is allocated to each of these projects in 2005/06?

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

1. The government is not conducting any specific education and awareness programs in relation to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (GLBTI people). There are a number of general programs where these issues may be included. These programs are as follows.

The Human Rights Office conducts community education workshops which include information on the provisions of the *Discrimination Act 1991* which prohibit discrimination on the ground of sex, sexuality, transsexuality and relationship status.

The Human Rights Office produces fact sheets on a range of discrimination issues, including vilification on grounds of race, sexuality, transsexuality and HIV/AIDS status.

The Human Rights Office is currently consulting with groups representing GLBTI people on issues relating to recognition of their relationships and anticipates that one of the outcomes of this will be the development of a more coordinated and high-profile community education strategy on discrimination and human rights issues relating to sexuality and gender identity in 2005/2006.

The Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services, through the Disability and Sexual Health (DASH) Project, is developing a policy framework to improve the way that it promotes and protects the sexual health rights of people with disabilities. Included in the project is a review of relationship and sexuality issues affecting people with disabilities, including specific issues relating to gay, lesbian or bisexual people.

Similarly, while ACT Health does not directly conduct such programs a number of non-government organisations funded by ACT Health do conduct such programs:

*AIDS Action Council of the ACT*

The Review of ACT Sexual and Reproductive Health Services (by McCallum & Young Consultants in April 2001) recommended that the Council examine the feasibility and desirability of delivering its health promotion program within a broad gay and lesbian health framework. The Council offers:

- free counselling to GLBTI people because these groups are at increased risk of HIV;
- broader health promotion programs;
- sexual health information and testing outreach in non-clinical settings in partnership with the Canberra Sexual Health Centre and the ACT Division of General Practice;
- support services for younger and older gay men; and
- facilitates Stepping Out workshops targeting same sex attracted young women.

*Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT)*

SHFPACT is ensuring that its services cater for GLBTI individuals. Its Statement of Directions and Strategic Plan 2002-2006 identifies GLBTI communities as a target group.

SHFPACT aims to positively support GLBTI communities. For example, providing support groups, improving access to services, input to policy development and providing in-service training for staff in relation to GLBTI issues.

*ACT Division of General Practice*

The ACT Division of General Practice is funded to provide high quality, accessible and effective primary care services and counselling and education services. This includes the provision of ongoing education and peer support for GPs who are caring for HIV/AIDS patients.

Through this, the Interchange General Practice develops expertise in addressing the needs of patients from a range of sexual backgrounds. Therefore, GLBTI individuals may feel more comfortable attending the Interchange General Practice rather than more traditional health services.

There are already some services and support networks in place in the ACT that relate to GLBTI individuals. For example:

- broad health promotion campaigns reinforcing safe sex and other health messages;
- University of Canberra and ANU networks for 'queer' young people;
- Q radio program on 2XX Community Radio 98.3fm;
- 'GILBerT's friends' peer-led support group for same-sex attracted youth;
- Qnet online internet community for young same sex attracted people (funded by Healthpact as a project of the AIDS Action Council of the ACT);
- The 'There's 2 Every Classroom' project - a training program for teachers, school counselors and youth workers which promotes health and increases the awareness of the needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students (run by SHFPACT); and
- relevant publications.

The Ministerial Advisory Council on Sexual Health, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C and Related Diseases (SHAHRD) gives consideration to discrimination issues in relation to the provision of health care services to GLBTI individuals.

The Department of Education and Training has policies and guidelines related to sexual harassment that include reference to the links with gender and homophobia and the need to provide safe supporting learning environments for all students regardless of their sexual orientation.

One of the ten principles of the new curriculum framework currently being developed for ACT Government schools is that curriculum should be equitable and inclusive.

The Department of Education and Training has adopted the Gender Equity Framework for Australian Schools (1997) which is currently being revised. This framework outlines how schools can include curriculum and teaching approaches to ensure students have an understanding of gender construction.

Each ACT Government school has a minimum of one Anti-Sexual Harassment Contact Officer for Students who provide advice and support for students. Specific training for contact officer includes matters of gender, power and homophobia as they relate to harassment and discrimination.

Equity and Diversity Contact Officers for staff assist personnel in matters of discrimination, harassment or vilification.

2. In November 2004, ACT Health convened a GLBTI Health Forum facilitated by Julie McCrossin (ABC Radio, Life Matters). The forum was attended by over 120 people and gathered useful information on health and broader issues. A report, together with recommendations, is in preparation.

ACT Health funded a local Gay Community Periodic Survey (coordinated by the National Centres in HIV Social Research and the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research) in 2000 and 2003. The survey gathers data on levels of safe and unsafe sexual practice and other health issues related to gay and homosexually active men. It is intended to repeat the survey every three years.

ACT Health will have access to data from the "Private Lives Survey" which is to be released in September. This national survey, conducted between February and May 2005 by the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society in conjunction with Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria, has recruited 5,500 GLBTI respondents. The survey is a comprehensive analysis of GLBTI health and wellbeing issues and status and statistically significant samples have been gathered in each state and territory (with the exception of the Northern Territory). Survey data will be aggregated out by state/territory and comparative analysis will be possible.

The ACT Homelessness Strategy has identified (at action 4.2.1) the need to scope the research requirements to implement an integrated service response to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the ACT. The scoping exercise will occur in conjunction with the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program Forum over the next twelve months.

3. See answer to question 1.

4. There is no central unit within the ACT Public Service that leads the Whole of Government response to policy issues relating to GBLTI people. The government is not considering forming one at this point in time.
5. The ACT Government looks at issues around the inclusion of transgender and intersex people in sport as part of its general programs for increasing participation by all people in sport. Recognised structured sporting competition in the ACT is organised by each individual sport's local peak body, which in turn is governed by their national and, where applicable, international sporting body. Accordingly, each sport has established, and administrates, its own competition rules and policies that determine the eligibility and conduct of participants at all levels. Generally, rules regarding transgender participation are in place only to address any potential size and strength advantage that might occur.

There is no funding allocated specifically to this in 2005/2006.

77 Dr Deb FOSKEY      Treasurer

Dr Deb Foskey: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the Insurance Authority:

1. Is it true that the:
  - Insurance Authority made a loss of around \$20 million in 2003/04?
  - ACT government provided a capital injection of \$10 million in 2004-05 to the Insurance Authority?
  - ACT government will provide a capital injection of \$23 million in 2005-06 to the Insurance Authority?
2. How is the \$33 million in capital injections being spent?
3. What does the Insurance Authority currently do to assist community organisations?
4. Has the Insurance Authority looked into (via research or consultation) providing insurance for community organisations that the ACT Government funds, as currently occurs under the Department of Human Services in Victoria?  
If so, what were the outcomes of this research or consultation?

RICHARD MULCAHY: To ask the Minister for Planning in relation to various matters associated with planning activities:

1. Is the term “historic cottage” defined in any legislation, the Territory Plan or the Heritage Register? If so, what is the definition and where is it defined?
2. Is the house on Block X Section X Reid listed as a significant property in any legislation, the Territory Plan or the Heritage Register? If so, where is this information and what does it say?
3. Does ACTPLA have the authority to consult with individuals, organisations, companies or incorporated bodies during the period of assessing an application to amend a Development Approval, if those individuals, organisations, companies or incorporated bodies did not lodge an objection to the original Development Application? If ACTPLA has this authority, where is that authority defined and what is the nature of this authority?
4. Does a delegate have the authority to determine with whom consultations should take place when determining the outcome of an application to amend a Development Approval? If a delegate has this authority, where is this authority defined and what is the nature of this authority?
5. What practices and processes exist within ACTPLA to ensure delegates remain impartial when determining Development Applications, or applications to amend a development approval that is already in place? What evidence must be retained to establish that impartiality has been maintained?
6. What is the policy in relation to informing members of the public, who lodge late objections to a Development Application, of the outcome of any subsequent amendment that may be sought to the original Development Approval?
7. If a delegate with responsibility for approving a Development Application or any subsequent amendment to an Approval meets with one party that claims to be affected by an Application, is the delegate required to meet or consult with all other parties affected by that Application, including the applicant, to ensure that all parties are informed of all views relating to the development such that any decision on that Application is fair and is based on all relevant information?

8. How does ACTPLA ensure that decisions taken by delegates are consistent with the law?
9. Are Stop Work notices made available to the public by any means, other than being obtained via a Freedom of Information request?
10. When a member of the public lodges a complaint alleging deviation from an approved controlled activity either during construction or after construction has been completed, what processes are used to check the veracity of the complaint? What evidence must be retained to establish that these processes have been followed?
11. When a Government agency, other than ACTPLA, alleges deviation from an approved controlled activity either during construction or after construction has been completed, what processes are used to check the veracity of these claims? What evidence must be retained to establish that these processes have been followed?
12. If a member of the public undertaking a controlled activity under approval of a development application writes, faxes or emails ACTPLA on any matter, does ACTPLA respond to these letters, faxes or emails? If so, within what time limits must these responses be made?
13. If a brief is provided by ACTPLA to either a Department Head or a Minister, what processes exist to ensure the information contained in the brief is accurate? If a brief provided by ACTPLA to a Department Head or a Minister is found to contain inaccuracies, are these inaccuracies corrected? Is the public record corrected to show the corrected version of the brief?
14. What information is ACTPLA authorised to release to parties that have not objected to a development once that development that has been approved?
15. In what ways does ACTPLA ensure that information given to members of the public is consistent and accurate?
16. Is “maintenance” defined in legislation? If so, what is the definition and where is it defined?
17. Does maintenance work on a property require development approval? If yes, how does ACTPLA regulate those involved in maintenance work to ensure appropriate approvals are obtained?

18. Is a development approval required to make changes to vegetation in an existing garden on a residential property?
19. Is a development approval required to incorporate or make changes to hard landscape features in an existing garden on a residential property?
20. When more than one agency is involved in a development (e.g. the Heritage Unit), and a decision by a delegate is taken on appeal to the AAT, does ACTPLA ensure relevant documents held by other agencies are submitted as part of the T Documents to the AAT?

97 Mr Zed SESELJA Chief Minister

Mr Seselja - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Tuesday, 31 May 2005:

1. Who is authorised to grant indigenous status to individuals for the purpose of receiving ACT Government funded assistance to conduct projects and activities of cultural and Heritage significance in the ACT?
2. What is the process for the granting of indigenous identity?
3. What is the process for the granting of recognition by Ngun(n)awal Indigenous Elders to non-Indigenous people to be recognised as Ngun(n)awal community members?

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

1. The ACT Government is guided by the modern Commonwealth definition (1981) of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander:
  - a) is a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
  - b) and is accepted as such by the community in which he (she) lives.

The *Heritage Act 2004* makes particular provision for recognition, registration and conservation of Aboriginal places and objects, and for the involvement of Aboriginal people in decisions made about those places and objects. As an interim measure, consultation is undertaken with the three *relevant Aboriginal organisations* that have been declared under Section 81 of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*. These organisations are the:

- Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation;
- Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation; and
- Ngunnawal Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The Heritage Council also consults with the Aboriginal members of the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board.

The Interim Namadgi Advisory Board is established in accordance with the 2001 *Agreement between the Australian Capital Territory and the ACT Native Title Claim Groups*.

2. Consistent with practice across Australia, this is a matter for Indigenous communities.
3. Consistent with practice across Australia, this is a matter for Indigenous communities.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

98 Mr Zed SESELJA Chief Minister

Mr Seselja - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Tuesday, 31 May 2005:

1. What criterion is followed that allows a person, who claims Ngun(n)awal identity, to have a voice on the United Ngun(n)awal Council?
2. Is there any legislative condition or obligation in the ACT to consult with Ngun(n)awal identified descendents on matters of culture and heritage?

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

1. The United Ngunnawal Elders Council (UNEC) comprises representatives of the several Ngunnawal family groups. Each family group nominates their representative for the council.
2. The *Heritage Act 2004* makes particular provision for recognition, registration and conservation of Aboriginal places and objects, and for the involvement of Aboriginal people in decisions made about those places and objects.

Currently, no Representative Aboriginal Organisation has been declared under the provisions of the Heritage Act. As an interim measure, consultation is undertaken with the three *relevant Aboriginal organisations* that have been declared under Section 81 of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*. These organisations are the:

- Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation;
- Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation; and
- Ngunnawal Local Aboriginal Land Council

The Heritage Council also consults with the Aboriginal members of the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board.

The Interim Namadgi Advisory Board is established in accordance with the *Agreement between the Australian Capital Territory and the ACT Native Title Claim Groups*. The board is required to have five Aboriginal members nominated by the Aboriginal signatories to the Agreement. The Agreement requires the Interim Namadgi Advisory Board to be consulted:

- in the preparation of the draft Plan of Management for Namadgi National Park; and

- in relation to any decision about consenting to particular types of activities in Namadgi National Park that are regulated by the *Nature Conservation Act 1980*.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

On 31 May 2005, Mr Seselja asked "With reference to comments made in the Estimates Hearing on 20 May 2005 concerning the Community Services Obligations (CSO) Budget Paper 3 (2005/06), page 133, can the Minister advise?"

1. As highlighted by Departmental staff in the Estimates Hearing on 20 May 2005, the scheme of offering part subsidy to taxi fares for eligible persons with a disability is a very high volume scheme, that is a paper based voucher system, and requires a higher level of administrative work. Has any consideration been given to moving towards a charge card system.
2. If a card system is deemed to be viable by the Department, is it possible for the charge card to be offered to people with a disability who are eligible on either on a permanent or temporary basis, in order to have the subsidy deducted at the point of use of the taxi service.
3. Given that in the order of 13,000 vouchers are issued each month, what cost savings could the Department achieve by moving from a voucher system to a direct charge card system.
4. What procedures are put in place within the Department to ensure that fraudulent activities are monitored in relation to the issuing of the taxi subsidy vouchers for people with a disability.
5. How often is a financial audit conducted to ensure that each account, of each applicant for the voucher system, is properly acquitted and accounted for by the Department.

Answer:

The answer to Mr Seselja's questions are as follows:

1. Some preliminary investigation of a card system was undertaken as part of a review of the Taxi Subsidy Scheme in 2003/04.
2. The Department does not yet have sufficient information to decide whether a card system is viable, however, the Taxi Subsidy Scheme administration is observing the implementation of a 'Smart Card' system in NSW with a view to learning what we can from the NSW experience.

3. The Department is unable to give an opinion on possible cost savings as a card system has not been costed.
4. The procedures in place to mitigate against fraudulent activities include:
  - Applications for membership of the Taxi Subsidy Scheme must be supported by a person's treating medical practitioner, who is required to complete part 'B' of the application form;
  - Applicants must provide proof of residency;
  - A sample of redeemed vouchers are examined each month to ensure that they are for appropriate amounts, correctly completed and are current vouchers;
  - Each voucher issued is numbered and a record is kept of the numbers issued to each member.
  - The member will not be issued the next voucher book until the previous book (comprising only the voucher butts) has been returned to the TSS office.
5. There are no individual accounts to audit. Each applicant receives 126 vouchers per year, issued at a rate of 42 vouchers, or pro rata, each 4 months. Not all applicants use all vouchers issued.

Members may apply for additional vouchers. The purpose of additional vouchers is to allow for travel for employment, education, community programmes, vocational training and for medical therapy. The purpose of the associated journeys, number of associated journeys and frequency per week is to detailed in the application for additional vouchers. The allocation of additional vouchers is strictly limited to these activities and will not be granted for any other purpose. Evidence of the stated activities is requested for the allocation of all additional vouchers. The maximum amount of additional vouchers available per week is limited to 14.

The Department will be conducting an audit of vouchers in 2005/06.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

## 101 Mr Zed SESELJA Arts, Heritage &amp; Indigenous Affairs

Mr Seselja - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 1 June 2005:

- 1 – What justification was given for awarding \$30,000 to Enlightening Productions in the 2005 ACT Arts Funding Program to “assist with cost of printing a catalogue and developing a website for ‘Embassy’ in 2005’.
- 2 – What type of activity was specified in the recipient’s application and the benefit it would offer to the ACT that led to the awarding of the grant.
- 3 – Which of the six ‘Arts Capital Key Result Areas’ were cited by the applicant as relevant to the application for funding.
- 4 – What equipment and activities were specified in the application that the funding allocation would be used to assist with the production of the documentary.
- 5 – Has the film company that was awarded the funding, released the documentary ‘Embassy’ for public viewing.

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

1. Through the 2005 ACT Arts Funding Program Project round, Enlightening Productions received funding of \$30,000 to assist with costs of developing a 30 minute documentary *Embassy* or to assist with the development of the documentary for pre-sale as a feature-length documentary.

Relative to the other applications submitted to the 2005 ACT Arts Funding Program Project round, Enlightening Productions’ application strongly met the published criteria. The application demonstrated a strong contribution to the achievement of one or more of the six *Arts Capital* Key Result Areas; demonstrated a need for ACT Government funding for a project that would not otherwise occur; demonstrated the ability of the people involved to deliver the stated outcomes; and presented a realistic and sound project budget.

2. The applicant requested funding to support the development of a documentary *Embassy*. The application demonstrated that the activity would contribute to: the sustainability of ACT based arts enterprises; ACT arts being visible locally, nationally and internationally; the ACT being recognised as a region of excellence and innovation in the arts; the ACT being a place to develop ideas,

cultivate artists and practice the arts; and the ACT being at the forefront in the creation and development of digital arts and the use of emerging technologies in the arts sector.

3. The application demonstrated a contribution to the following *Arts Capital* Key Result Areas:

- ACT based arts enterprises grow and are sustainable (**Sustainability**);
- ACT based arts are visible locally, nationally and internationally and visitors have a distinctive local arts experience (**Cultural Tourism**);
- the ACT is recognised as a region of excellence and innovation in the arts (**Excellence and Innovation**);
- the ACT is a place to develop ideas, cultivate artists and practice the arts (**Places and Spaces**); and
- the ACT is at the forefront in the creation and development of digital arts and the use of emerging technologies in the arts sector (**Digital Art and Emerging Technologies**).

4. Funding would support story and script development, archival footage, and expenses for production personnel.

5. The activity is not due to be completed until 30 June 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs

102 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

ZED SESELJA, MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005-06), Page 277, can the Minister advise:

Why there is a \$104,000 difference between the initial target for 2004-05 of \$3.781 million and the 2004-05 estimated outcome of \$3.885 million to deliver exactly the same outputs for the provision of services to support the Housing Commissioner.

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

The \$104,000 relates to an increase in cost of providing organisational services to Housing ACT primarily due to associated wage rises and does not impact on the level of outputs for services to support the Commissioner for Housing..

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

### 103 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

Zed Seselja, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper 4 (2005/06), Page 320, can the Minister advise:

Reference is made to a target of 288 community housing properties for 2005/06 on Page 320.

Why do the targets of 340 properties for 2004/05 and estimated outcome of 327 properties for 2004/05, as indicated in the Budget Paper 4 (2005/06) Appendix, Page 74 not appear on Page 320 of Budget Paper 4 (2005/06).

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

The measure for community housing property numbers in the 2005-06 Budget papers is a different measure to that in the 2004-05 Budget Papers.

The target number of community housing properties of 288 in the 2005-06 Budget papers refers only to those properties that are controlled by the non-government community-housing sector.

The number of community housing properties included in the 2004-05 output measures included a number of properties owned by Housing ACT but counted in the community housing numbers such as the boarding houses. The measure last year also included properties leased from the private sector under the Private Rental Leasing Scheme, which is winding up as the leases expire.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

Mr R Mulcahy MLA: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the investment by Totalcare in the Williamsdale Quarry:

1. What was the sale price of Williamsdale Quarry?
2. Did the funds received from the sale cover all liabilities arising from ownership and operation of the quarry?
3. If not, how much was the shortfall?
4. If there was a shortfall, was it written off and by whom?
5. What were the debts of Williamsdale Quarry when it went into liquidation?
6. Who were/was the creditors/creditor?
7. What assets did Williamsdale Quarry have just prior to liquidation?
8. What assets were sold, for how much and who received the proceeds from the sale of assets?
9. What were the processes for appointment of the liquidator of Williamsdale?
10. Who was the liquidator appointed?
11. Who paid the liquidator's fee?
12. What was the process followed to settle the debts of Williamsdale Quarry?
13. Was there any communication between the creditor(s) and the Government?
14. Was a public examination of the directors of Williamsdale Quarry scheduled.
15. If so, what was the outcome?
16. Was any payment made by the liquidator or owners of Williamsdale Quarry to the creditor(s)?

The answer to the Member's question is as follows

In relation to question 1, a similar QON, taken on 10 February 2004, regarding the sale price of the Williamsdale Quarry was asked by Mr Smyth. The response to this question was:

*"The terms and conditions of the sale agreement with Pioneer Constructions Material Pty Ltd are subject to confidentiality provisions and cannot be released publicly."*

In relation to question 2, 3 and 4, on 10 September 2002 Totalcare issued a press release stating that it lost \$6.518m from its investment in the Quarry including a loss on its sale and trading losses in the 2001--02 financial year. The release also noted that it had lost \$5.3m during the life of its investment in the Quarry.

The answer to question 10 is Senatore Brennan Rashid.

In regard to the other questions:

- there are currently no employees within Totalcare who had dealings with the Quarry to any extent so as to confirm the accuracy of any formal response to the questions asked;
- the liquidator of Williamsdale Operations Pty Ltd owns all of the company records and access is limited;
- the files not in the hands of the liquidator are either in the hands of Totalcare's lawyers or are archived at Totalcare's former Mitchell site;
- notwithstanding that the records are now in good order, a considerable cost would be involved in researching and collating answers to this volume of questions, based on a search of the files; and
- the responses to the questions would in any case be qualified, due to their sole reliance on the records available.

As a consequence of the above, it is not possible to answer the remaining questions reliably. Matters concerning the sale of Williamsdale Quarry have previously been addressed via earlier questions on notice. A copy of my response of 14 April 2004 is attached.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Treasurer

Date:.....

108 Mr Richard Mulcahy

Health

Richard Mulcahy : To ask the Minister for Health – In relation to surgery at the Canberra Hospital:

1. In percentage terms, what was the average utilisation rate of TCH's operating theatres in 2003-04;
2. In percentage terms, what was the average utilisation rate of TCH's operating theatres in 2004-05 to date.

Richard Mulcahy MLA  
May 2005

Mr Smyth - Asked the Minister for Environment upon notice on 23 May 2005 to provide details of the changes in environmental flow volumes that would result if the draft environmental flow guidelines were to replace the current environmental flow guidelines. As a second question Mr Smyth asked why the base flow requirements below the Cotter Reservoir were the same under drought as under normal conditions.

Mr Stanhope - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

Below the Cotter Reservoir the environmental flow requirements comprise two components under normal conditions; a baseflow and a riffle maintenance flow. These serve different purposes. The baseflow keeps the channel wetted and so maintains basic ecosystem processes in the stream. The riffle maintenance flow cleans sediment from the rocky areas of the stream. Both these components are set at the minimum volumes that meet these ecological needs. During periods of drought the environmental flow requirements are reduced to just the baseflow component. The riffle maintenance component can be postponed until the drought is over without permanent damage to aquatic ecosystems. The baseflow component itself cannot be further reduced without significant risk to the aquatic ecosystems in the section of river.

In relation to the question about changes to the volumes required under the draft environmental flow guidelines I attach the following table.

	<b>Catchment</b>	<b>Environment Allocation (ML) 1999 Guidelines</b>	<b>Environment Allocation (ML) 2005 Guidelines</b>
<b>Murrumbidgee and tributaries</b>	Michelago	2314	2304
	Tharwa	8806	8801
	Kambah	6643	6625
	Uriarra	15580	15382
	Woodstock	1225	1221
	Guisies	1935	1935
<b>Gudgenby and tributaries</b>	Naas	35619	35619
	Gudgenby	46569	46569
	Tennent	6884	6884

<b>Required release below lowest Cotter River reservoir</b>		38158	6075
<b>Cotter tributary</b>	Paddys	36571	36571
<b>Tuggeranong Ck</b>	Tuggeranong	7193	7193
<b>Molonglo and tributaries</b>	Upper Molonglo	1160	1160
	Kowen	4896	4896
	Fyshwick	1712	1712
	Jerrabomberra	4236	4236
	Lake Burley Griffin	5116	5116
	Coppins	4832	4832
	Woolshed	2173	2173
	Sullivans	5726	5726
	Woden	6191	6191
Weston	3628	3628	
<b>Queanbeyan River tributary</b>	Lower Queanbeyan	20	20
<b>Required release below lowest Cotter River reservoir</b>		9432	4250
<b>Ginninderra Ck and tributaries</b>	Gungahlin	4727	4727
	Lake Ginninderra	5456	5456
	Parkwood	5150	5150
	<b>Total</b>	<b>271954<sup>A</sup></b>	<b>242024<sup>A</sup></b>

Note A In calculating total environment flow requirements, in the Cotter and Queanbeyan systems the volume required to be released at the lowest reservoir (Cotter and Googong respectively) is used.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Minister for the Environment

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Treasurer on notice on 3 June 2005, in relation to the ACT Government providing services to people who are not residents of the ACT-

1. What is the cost to the ACT of providing services relating to administration of justice to people who live outside the ACT?
2. What action is being taken to recover the cost to the ACT of providing those services from the jurisdiction in which the people receiving them reside?

These questions were referred to the Attorney General for response.

Ms Gallagher – The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. It is difficult to estimate the cost to the ACT of this group of people as cost data are not kept on the basis of place of residence. Agencies affected include ACT Policing, the courts, the DPP, Corrective Services and Youth Justice.
2. The 'services' being provided generally take the form of prosecution for the commission of an offence. Where the costs of this 'service' are recovered, it is generally in the form of fines, fees, and costs orders imposed by the courts. Where the 'services' take the form of civil litigation, the parties to the action pay various fees to the courts for commencement of the action and filing of documents

**111 Mr Richard Mulchay Children, Youth & Family Support**

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to the ACT Government providing services to people who are not residents of the ACT:

1. What is the cost to the ACT of providing services from the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support to people who live outside the ACT; and
2. What action is being taken to recover the cost to the ACT of providing those services from the jurisdiction in which the people receiving them reside?

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

1. The costs incurred by the ACT in relation to services provided by the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in 2004-05 to people who live outside the ACT are estimated to be \$33,000. This relates to staff resources in referring clients to appropriate services in their jurisdiction and case managing a small number of children and young people on interstate care and protection orders.

People who live outside the ACT who access ACT services such as Family Support Services, are referred to the relevant NSW provider. In the instances where Youth Justice services are required a reciprocal arrangement is in place operating on a fee for service basis. Children on interstate care and protection orders residing in the ACT may receive case management support by ACT Care & Protection staff. All direct expenses are met by the originating jurisdiction. This is reciprocated by other jurisdictions in the case of a child or young person on an ACT Care and Protection Order residing interstate.

Where the child or young person relocates interstate on a permanent basis, statutory arrangements are in place for the Order to be permanently transferred.

2. There is no financial gain for the ACT to recover the minimal costs for Care and Protection services from the jurisdiction in which the people receiving them reside. This would only serve to hinder current positive working relationships that exist and would not be in the best interests of the child or young person. The case management arrangement for children and young people on orders is reciprocated by interstate jurisdictions which may be providing case management support for a child or young person on an ACT

care and protection order. The ACT is not billed from any other jurisdictions for this service.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support

Date: .....

113 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Treasurer

Mr Mulcahy to ask the Treasurer – in relation to the ACT Government providing services to people who are residents of the ACT - :

1. What is the cost to the ACT of providing services to people with a disability who live outside the ACT?
2. What action is being taken to recover the cost to the ACT of providing those services from the jurisdiction in which the people receiving them reside?

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

1. Disability ACT funds and provides services to people who are ACT residents. Services to non-residents are provided on a cost recovery basis.
2. The cost of providing these services is recovered either under contract or by invoicing the home state. Monthly meetings are currently held between officers from the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services and the Southern Region of the New South Wales Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, to discuss cross-border issues including cost recovery matters.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services      Date: .....

114 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Treasurer

MR MULCAHY - asked the Treasurer on 1 June 2005:

In relation to the ACT Government providing services to people who are not residents of the ACT -

3. What is the cost to the ACT of providing schooling to children who live outside the ACT?
4. What action is being taken to recover the cost to the ACT of providing those schooling services from the jurisdiction in which the children receiving them reside?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

1. The cost of providing schooling to children living outside of the ACT is the same as the cost of providing schooling to children that reside in the ACT.

	2005-06 (Per Student)	NSW Enrolments (February 2005)	Total Cost to the ACT Government for NSW Cross border students
<b>Government Schooling</b>	\$11,445	1,551	\$17.8 m
<b>Non Government Schooling</b>	\$1,500	2,909	\$4.4 m
<b>Total</b>		4,460	\$22.2 m

Notes:

Per Student cost for Government Schools is calculated by total budgeted cost for Government School Education divided by total number of enrolments. (Source: 2005-06 Budget paper no. 4)

Per Student funding for Non Government Schools is calculated by total ACT funding to non government schools divided by total number of enrolments. (Source: Budgeted funding to Non Government Schools Finance Section DET)

The figures on NSW enrolments are those where the parents have given a NSW address at the time they enrolled their child.

Excludes Jervis Bay Primary School.

2. The ACT is partially compensated for cross border students through adjustments in the Commonwealth Grants Commission methodology in allocating GST revenue among the States and Territories.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to policy advice provided to the Chief Minister (refer to BP4, Output 1.1):

1. What is the formal process for evaluating that advice?
2. What criteria are used for assessing the usefulness of that advice to the Chief Minister?
3. What is the process by which officials are informed of how the quality of their advice can be improved?

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

1. A survey for the assessment of quality and timeliness has been provided to the Chief Minister for completion each Quarter during the 2004-05 reporting year in accordance with Output Class 1 Principal Measures as detailed in the 2004-05 Budget.
2. The criteria used for assessing the usefulness of advice to the Chief Minister are as follows:

*Quality*

- The advice is clearly stated and answers the questions set
- The advice is presented concisely, in an effective format
- Other affected parties are consulted when appropriate
- The assumptions behind the advice are explicit and the argument is logical and supported by facts
- The facts provided are accurate
- The problems of implementation, technical feasibility, timing and consistency with other policies have been considered

*Timeliness*

- Specified deadlines are met

The Chief Minister provides a rating out of 10 for each Output Class.

3. To date, the Chief Minister has been satisfied with the quality of advice.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

116 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Chief Minister

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Wednesday, 1 June 2005:

In relation to government information, public relations and communications –

1. What is the total estimated expenditure for the ACT Government in 2004-05?
2. What is the total estimated expenditure for the ACT Government in 2005-06?
3. How many officials (in terms of FTEs) of the ACT Government are employed?

Mr Quinlan (Acting Chief Minister) - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The Chief Minister's Department does not centrally maintain the information requested. A whole of government response would require coordination across departments and the significant use of resources. It would also involve information outside the Chief Minister's portfolio responsibilities.
2. Please refer to (1) above.
3. The number of Public Relations staff across Government excluding marketing, website, graphic design or public education officers are as follows:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>03/04</b>
ACTPLA	4	4
ACTION	1	1
ACT Health	7	7
Tourism	1	1
Education	3.7	3.3
ESA	3	4
ACT Workcover	1	1
Disability Housing and Community Services	3.75	3.75
Business ACT	1	1
LDA	1	1
Environment ACT	1	1
ACTEW	1	1
ActewAGL	3	3
JACS	0	1
CMD	3.8	2
DUS	4	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>39.25</b>	<b>40.05</b>

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

117 Mr Richard MULCAHY Chief Minister

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005:

In relation to international travel undertaken by employees of the ACT Government

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1. What is the total estimated expenditure on international travel by all departments and agencies in 2004-05?
2. What is the estimated expenditure on international travel in 2004-05 by department and agency?
3. What is the total estimated expenditure on international travel by all departments and agencies in 2005-06?
4. What is the estimated expenditure on international travel in 2005-06 by department and agency?
5. What is the number of overseas visits in 2004-05 by agency?
6. What is the expected number of overseas visits in 2005-06 by agency?
7. How many employees of the ACT Government have undertaken international travel in 2004-05?
8. How many employees of the ACT Government are expected to undertake international travel in 2005-06?
9. How many credit cards to cover payments chargeable to the ACT Government have been issued to ACT Government employees in 2004-05?

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

The Chief Minister's Department does not centrally maintain the information requested.

A whole of government response would require coordination across departments and the significant use of resources. It would also involve information outside the Chief Minister's portfolio responsibilities.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
**Acting Chief Minister**

Date:.....

## 118 Mr Richard MULCAHY Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 1 June 2005:

1. What justification was given for awarding \$10,000 to a recipient in the 2005 ACT Arts Funding Program to assist with cost of printing a catalogue and developing a website for 'Not in My Name' in 2005.
2. What type of activity was specified in the recipient's application and the benefit it would offer to the ACT that led to the awarding of the grant.
3. Which of the six 'Arts Capital Key Result Areas' were cited by the applicant as relevant to the application for funding.
4. What is the website address that the recipient of this grant proposed to develop.
5. Is a copy of the printed catalogue also produced by the recipient of the grant available for viewing.

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

1. Relative to the other applications submitted to the 2005 ACT Arts Funding Program Project round Silvia Velez's application strongly met the published criteria. The application demonstrated a strong contribution to the achievement of one or more of the six *Arts Capital* Key Result Areas; demonstrated a need for ACT Government funding for a project that would not otherwise occur; demonstrated the ability of the people involved to deliver the stated outcomes; and presented a realistic and sound project budget.
2. The applicant requested funding to support the development of a printed catalogue and website for a photo-based work titled Not in My Name. The application demonstrated that the activity would contribute to: the ACT being recognised as a region of excellence and innovation in the arts; the ACT being a place to develop ideas, cultivate artists and practice the arts; and the ACT being at the forefront in the creation and development of digital arts and the use of emerging technologies in the arts sector.

3. The application demonstrated a contribution to the following *Arts Capital* Key Result Areas:

- the ACT is recognised as a region of excellence and innovation in the arts (**Excellence and Innovation**);
- the ACT is a place to develop ideas, cultivate artists and practice the arts (**Places and Spaces**); and
- the ACT is at the forefront in the creation and development of digital arts and the use of emerging technologies in the arts sector (**Digital Art and Emerging Technologies**).

4. The activity is not due to be completed until 31 December 2005.

5. The activity is not due to be completed until 31 December 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs

119 Ms Karin MacDonald

Treasurer

Ms MacDonald MLA: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the new performance measurement framework and noting the information already available in 'A guide to changes in 2005-2006 Budget presentation' and Budget 2004-2005 – Supplementary Paper 'Framework for Future Budget Presentation Discussion Paper':

1. What has been the process for developing individual portfolio areas' strategic and accountability indicators?
  - a) Has each area been responsible for developing their own indicators?
  - b) Were agencies given guidelines or principles to follow in developing new indicators? If so, can you please provide a copy of those guidelines/principles?
  - c) Have indicators been 'moderated' or 'reviewed' by a central agency to ensure a consistency of approach across Government?
  
2. Since the release of the 2004-2005 'Framework for Future Budget Presentation Discussion Paper' what stakeholder involvement has there been in the development of the new performance measurement framework (ref: p.18)? Specifically, to what extent were the general community and target groups empowered to provide feedback on these issues by either individual agencies or the Government as a whole?
  
3. What steps are the Government as a whole, and individual agencies, taking to consult/seek feedback from the community and targeted groups on the new framework and individual indicators?

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

1. Generally, the process adopted was a collaborative and participatory one.
  - a) Yes. Departments have been responsible for the development of their respective strategic and accountability indicators. These have been developed in consultation with Treasury.
  
  - b) Yes. All departments were contacted in October of 2004 and, *inter alia*, asked to develop indicators of relevance to individual departments' stakeholders using the 2004-05 Supplementary Budget Paper as a conceptual guide. The response to this request informed a Further Discussion Paper.

The Further Discussion Paper was released to MLAs and departments in February 2005. No response was received from MLAs in relation to this discussion paper.

The Further Discussion Paper provided broad guidelines and principles for departments to follow in the development of their own strategic and accountability indicators. It highlighted indicators already reported against in the ACT such as those within the *Canberra Plan* and those reported to Commonwealth agencies and included in the *Report on Government Services* (Productivity Commission) and *Australia's Health* (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare). This Discussion Paper also provided an Exposure Draft of a department's (ACT Health's) possible budget chapter including strategic and accountability indicators. The Further Discussion Paper is attached.

In addition to the formal guidance outlined above, Treasury consulted extensively with departments during the development of the 2005-06 Budget, with a focus on specific strategic and accountability indicators. During these discussions, significant and specific guidance was given to individual departments on specific indicators.

- c) Yes. Treasury has worked extensively and collaboratively with officers in all departments to develop and refine all accountability and strategic indicators. While the individual indicators are the responsibility of relevant departments, throughout the completion of the budget process Treasury had a significant input into each department's indicators to ensure consistency and a whole of government perspective.
2. The Department of Treasury released a Further Discussion Paper to MLAs and a draft of this to the Auditor-General in February 2005. The Auditor-General provided feedback on the draft paper, much of which was incorporated into the final version. No feedback on the Further Discussion Paper was received from MLAs.

In addition to this, during the 2005-06 Budget Consultation process, the Government sought the input of the broader community on a range of issues including the adoption of Triple Bottom Line reporting. Several submissions received from the community addressed the adoption of Triple Bottom Line reporting in the ACT. These comments were supportive of an approach which will involve stakeholders in the ongoing development of performance indicators.

It is acknowledged that stakeholder involvement in the absence of a well-developed framework is often difficult. It was considered that the development and implementation of revised performance indicators would provide stakeholders with a better basis for providing input.

Individual agencies will continue to manage consultation with relevant stakeholders and are committed to obtaining input and feedback through existing mechanisms. This will be an ongoing process, the aim of which will be to develop indicators which are meaningful in assessing the government's performance.

Treasury has also consulted with the Auditor-General about the revised presentation of indicators within the Budget Papers as well as other technical issues.

3. I welcome any feedback on both the framework and the individual indicators included within the 2005-06 Budget. It is anticipated that it may be easier to provide feedback on the revised framework now that specific measures have been developed and released.

Individual agencies will continue to seek feedback on their individual indicators and the Framework as a whole through their usual interactions with stakeholders and the community.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Treasurer

Date:.....

# **Framework for Future Budget Presentation**

**A further discussion paper**

February 2005

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of the 2004-05 Budget, the Government released a discussion paper on a framework for a revised future budget presentation. That paper addressed the issues involved in moving towards a revised performance management framework underpinned by Triple Bottom Line (TBL) principles. It also foreshadowed the possible impacts of changes in Accounting Standards.
- 1.2 While there is no single and commonly agreed definition of Triple Bottom Line, the approach proposed in the Government's discussion paper was to adopt it as a philosophy, consistent with Government's sustainability policy People Place Prosperity. Such an approach involves the development of a framework for decision-making, measuring and reporting that has:
- a scope and focus which is wider than financial and economic dimensions, and seeks the incorporation of social and environmental dimensions within the management framework;
  - transparency beyond the financial domain;
  - accountability to the community, which also extends to future generations in regards to economic, social and environmental sustainability; and
  - decision-making that supports sustainability, and links strategic planning with operations.
- 1.3 There would be little dispute over the underlying philosophy of Triple Bottom Line or sustainability. There is a broad range of opinion, however, on what specifically constitutes Triple Bottom Line, and the degree of subjectivity is not dissimilar to that associated with the notion of 'equity'.
- 1.4 Rendering the philosophy to public sector financial management, while maintaining its objective accountability mechanisms, has some obvious difficulties due to a broad range of views on what constitutes sustainability and sustainable practice. This raises the need for extensive consultation with the Legislative Assembly and the community, not only to develop the framework, but also to develop a set of meaningful performance measures that meets their needs. It is envisaged that the development and implementation of a conceptual framework, with input from stakeholders, will take a significant amount of time.
- 1.5 However, it will be possible to commence improvement to parts of the existing framework, where the changes are not inconsistent with the broader direction of the Triple Bottom Line implementation.

- 1.6 This discussion paper addresses the principles which will form the basis for any amendments to the performance management framework. It also proposes several changes to the format and structure of budget papers to improve useability for and accountability to the community and Members of the Legislative Assembly. Changes arising from revised Accounting Standards and accounting treatments are also addressed.

## **2. The Financial Management Framework**

### *2.1 Incorporating TBL principles into the current ACT Framework*

- 2.1.1. Financial management frameworks in the public sector, and for governments, are underpinned by the principles of accountability and transparency for the use of public resources. Traditionally, these principles had been achieved through the exercise of central control and compliance. The focus of such frameworks, however, had been on what is consumed rather than what is produced.
- 2.1.2. The adoption by the ACT, and indeed all jurisdictions in Australia, of a financial management framework based on outputs, and accrual budgeting and reporting sought to expand accountability by making transparent as to ‘what is produced, with what resources?’. The framework shifted focus from control to performance, and provided flexibility (within the bounds of Government policy) for service areas to deliver outputs in the most efficient manner.
- 2.1.3. Triple Bottom Line seeks to identify the non financial resources (in addition to financial inputs) consumed, and the flow-on social and environmental impacts of Government’s decisions and its operations. The questions that such a framework would address would be, *what is produced, with what resources (including non financial), how well, and to what end?*
- 2.1.4. Accountability and transparency still remain the key principles underpinning the framework. Any expansion in the scope of management and reporting (from economic and financial to include environmental and social aspects) should not lead to diminished or diluted accountability – the purpose of Triple Bottom Line is to enhance accountability and make transparent the hitherto opaque aspects of government operations.
- 2.1.5. No fundamental changes to this model are considered necessary. It is proposed that integral aspects of the current model be retained, including outputs and output classes, ownership agreements, Chief Executive responsibilities and devolved cash management.

- 2.1.6. The discussion paper *Framework for Future Budget Presentation* indicated that principles of Triple Bottom Line/Sustainability would be incorporated through an appropriate set of performance indicators, in preference to additional bottom line metrics or extended financial accounts incorporating the environmental and social impacts of production and consumption activities.
- 2.1.7. A revised performance management framework, in particular the development of relevant and meaningful performance measures will, therefore, be necessary.
- 2.1.8. The current performance information measures the delivery of agency outputs, and is based around providing targets for quantity, quality, timeliness and cost. This structure has resulted in a level of detail which has been criticised for being inwardly-focussed, and measuring only activities and stocks, rather than the impact of government policies on outcomes important to the ACT community.
- 2.1.9. The original intention of the ACT's financial management framework was to make the performance information relevant for the community, Legislative Assembly, Ministers, central agencies and internal management. The resultant set, which sought to address the diverse needs of all the stakeholders, is unmanageably large, and costly to maintain and audit.
- 2.1.10. Those stakeholders and uses still remain relevant. It is important, however, that the performance information is developed and structured in a hierarchy that corresponds to its uses and to stakeholders.
- 2.1.11. A hierarchical structure also allows for appropriate accountability arrangements to be established at various levels, commensurate with the extent of control exercised by the entity (such as the business unit, agency, Government) on the outcome.

## **2.2 Performance Management Framework**

- 2.2.1 In moving to a Triple Bottom Line framework, performance indicators will need to be developed which can provide meaningful measures of the impact and outcomes of government's social, economic and environmental initiatives. Such indicators may be difficult to measure and audit, particularly over a shorter time-frame, and, in some cases, the most relevant and meaningful measures may capture outcomes for which the government cannot be held solely responsible, such as a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The hierarchy ensures appropriate levels of accountability for social and environmental outcomes.

- 2.2.2 In achieving this aim, it will be important to ensure that performance measures are reliable and measurable, within the context in which they are defined. For example, measures relating to an agency's accountability should have a higher degree of verifiability annually, compared to those relating to community outcomes for well-being.
- 2.2.3 A balance will also need to be struck in identifying a best possible set of measures (particularly in environmental and social dimensions) without creating an administrative burden which outweighs the benefits of the information collected and reported. Finally, the measures need to have policy relevance, i.e., apart from being informative to the community, they should have the potential to inform or influence strategic policy or resource allocation decisions.
- 2.2.4 Performance reporting is well established across Australia. Besides the existing measures in the budget papers, agencies report extensively to a range of national bodies such as the Productivity Commission, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, the Commonwealth, Ministerial Councils and the Council of Australian Governments. A broad range of performance measures, and the associated data sets, therefore already exist. It is not envisaged that new indicators will need to be defined, or new measurement sets will need to be created. The challenge is to identify 'fit for audience' sets of measures.
- 2.2.5 In summary, the revised performance management framework should reduce the level of performance information at the lower level, and replace it with performance information which measures the Government's performance in delivering its key policy outcomes, such as those specified by the Canberra Social and Spatial Plans and Economic White Paper, and agencies' performance in delivering services to the community.
- 2.2.6 It is considered that while this may result in a reduction of information over the shorter term, the longer-term outcome will be better performance information that is more meaningful in evaluating the performance of government.
- 2.2.7 It is recognised that some of the most meaningful and relevant performance indicators aimed at measuring government outcomes over a longer timeframe may not lend themselves to traditional audit procedures. It is proposed that performance reporting be segregated from the annual financial statements, to allow a separate audit opinion to be prepared. This will allow the auditors to apply, where appropriate, less rigorous auditing standards for performance measures than for audited financial statements.

### 3. Proposed changes to Budget Paper 4 format

#### 3.1 Overview

3.1.1 The proposed changes to the performance management framework will necessitate substantial changes to the presentation of performance information in budget papers. This provides an ideal opportunity for improving the format and structure of Budget Paper 4 (BP4) to improve its usefulness and accountability to the Legislative Assembly and the ACT community.

3.1.2 It is recommended that the structure of the BP4 format be changed to focus on the objectives, deliverables and performance of the agency. The aim of this change would be to better present the information currently in BP4 to inform users of the budget papers of the reason for an agency's existence, what its major outputs are, and how well it is achieving these objectives. While not specifically addressed in this discussion paper, the changes to the performance framework proposed will naturally flow through to information presented in annual reports.

3.1.3 An exposure draft of the proposed format for the 2005-06 BP4 chapters is provided at **Attachment A**. Much of the information currently provided in BP4 is retained, but the presentation is rearranged to focus on what the agency will achieve, how its performance will be measured and how it will be funded.

3.1.4 The proposed structure of BP4 chapters is:

- Objectives of the agency;
- Highlights for the budget period;
- Key performance indicators and financial targets;
- Schedules of capital works;
- Changes to appropriations;
- Commonwealth specific purpose payments;
- Financial statements and variance analysis.

### 3.2 Performance information

3.2.1 As the first step in incorporating Triple Bottom Line principles into performance measurement, it is proposed that the performance information be better targeted to measure the outcomes and impacts of government. The objective will be to improve performance criteria at the levels of community and government outcomes, while reducing some of the unnecessary measures which measure lower-level activities.

3.2.2 It is envisaged that this will lead to an overall reduction in the *quantum* of performance information in BP4, as a trade-off to including *better* performance information. As a minimum, the current performance schedules at output level will not be included in future budget papers. A description of output classes and the range of activities and expenses incurred in each output class will be retained and better-targeted performance indicators included.

3.2.3 Some of the useful performance information could be retained at output level, but should be carefully reviewed to ensure that it is useful to either community stakeholders or government decision-making and resource allocation. It may be more appropriate to retain this information as internal management information, or in ownership agreements or business plans, rather than in budget papers.

### 3.3 Presentation of financial information

#### 3.3.1 Appropriations to Territory authorities

3.3.1.1 The FMA currently only allows appropriations to departments. Appropriations made to Territory authorities are made indirectly through departments. This is considered, in most cases, to be unnecessarily administratively cumbersome, and causes additional complexity in financial statements. The FMA will be amended to allow appropriations to be made directly to Territory authorities. This will allow flexibility for appropriations to be made directly to Territory authorities, where appropriate.

#### 3.3.2 GAAP/GFS Harmonisation

3.3.2.1 The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) is currently undertaking a project to harmonise reporting requirements under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the Government Finance Statistics (GFS).

3.3.2.2 The project is being undertaken in two stages, with the revised accounting standard applying to whole-of-government reporting to be finalised first. It was originally anticipated that this stage would be finalised prior to the 2005-06 Budget. However, the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) has had significant

difficulties in resolving issues involved in the development of revised accounting standards. As a result, final accounting standards will not be available in sufficient time to allow implementation in the 2005-06 budget.

3.3.2.3 Budgeted financial statements will therefore be presented consistent with the current format of budget papers, as shown in **Attachment A**.

### 3.3.3 Capital injection appropriations to the PTE sector

3.3.3.1 Capital appropriations to PTE agencies such as ACTION and Housing are currently accounted for as an expense in the general government sector (GGS) and an equity contribution in the PTE sector. This has a direct impact on the GGS operating result. In the 2004-05 Budget, this accounting treatment had a negative impact of \$5m on the operating result. This accounting treatment is inconsistent between the GGS and PTE sectors and is not considered appropriate.

3.3.3.2 The Territory will henceforth adopt the accounting treatment consistent with Urgent Issues Group (UIG) Abstract 38 Contributions by owners made to wholly-owned public sector entities which recognises such payments as equity contributions by the owner. This change is consistent with practices in other Australian jurisdictions.

### *3.4 FMA Amendments*

3.4.1.1 Some amendments to the FMA will be required to support the changes outlined in this discussion paper. In particular, amendments will be prepared to segregate performance reporting from the annual financial statements, to allow a separate audit opinion to be prepared. Such an amendment will allow the auditors to apply, where appropriate, less rigorous auditing standards for performance measures than for audited financial statements. Amendments will also be prepared to allow the direct appropriation to Territory authorities.

#### **4. Consultation process**

- 4.1 The Government is currently seeking community input into the development of a revised framework for future budget presentation. Consultation is currently being undertaken on the broader agenda to incorporate Triple Bottom Line principles into Government decision-making and accountability documents. This consultation process is based on the discussion paper released with the 2004-05 Budget.
- 4.2 Community and Legislative Assembly input is also sought on the more specific and immediate issues raised in this discussion paper and the proposed changes to Budget Paper 4 as shown in the attached Exposure Draft.

# **Future Budget Paper presentation**

## **Proposed Budget Paper 4 presentation**

### **Exposure Draft**

**February 2005**

## **Preface**

This Exposure Draft proposes a revised Budget Paper 4 (BP4) presentation. It is presented to form the basis of consultation with the ACT community and Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The changes are aimed at restructuring BP4 to focus on the objectives, deliverables and performance of the agency. The aim of this change is to better present the information currently in BP4 to inform users of the budget papers of the reason for an agency's existence, what its major outputs are, and how well it is achieving these objectives.

### Performance management framework

The major change proposed to the presentation of information in budget papers is a move towards a performance framework underpinned by Triple Bottom Line principles. Ongoing consultation will be undertaken with the Legislative Assembly and with community stakeholders regarding the development of relevant and meaningful performance indicators to be included in budget papers.

It is envisaged that a hierarchy of performance information will be developed which will support accountability of government, Ministers and Chief Executives to relevant stakeholders.

As a minimum, it is proposed that the performance information be better targeted to measure the outcomes and impacts of government. The objective will be to improve performance criteria at the levels of community and government outcomes, while reducing some of the unnecessary measures which measure lower-level activities.

It is envisaged that this will lead to an overall reduction in the *quantum* of performance information in BP4, as a trade-off to including *better* performance information. As a minimum, the current performance schedules at output level will not be included in future budget papers. This exposure draft includes an indication of possible key performance indicators for ACT Health. It should be noted that this is indicative only, and does not represent the final performance indicators, which will be developed in consultation with key stakeholders over the budget development period. The possible performance indicators provided in the exposure draft are intended as an example only.

### *The Exposure Draft*

This exposure draft is based on information included in the 2004-05 budget for ACT Health. It does not represent any policy decision taken since presentation of the 2004-05 Budget, but simply presents the same information in a revised format.

As a result, some of the tables may not be technically accurate, but rather are provided as an indication of the proposed format of the 2005-06 Budget Papers.

The exposure draft only includes a proposed format for agency information presented in Budget Paper 4, and does not address proposed changes at whole-of-government level.

## **ACT HEALTH**

### **Objectives**

ACT Health aims to increase the community's capacity for healthy living by planning, providing and purchasing quality community based health services, major trauma and tertiary health care, managing public health risks, and promoting health and early interventions, while at the same time ensuring that access to health services is fair and equitable and addresses the needs of disadvantaged groups.

ACT Health's objectives are to:

- increase the community's capacity to live healthily;
- ensure access to health and community services is fair and equitable;
- ensure health services in the community are appropriate and of a high quality;
- gain best value for the community through promoting efficiency and sound resource management;
- meet consumers' needs for services that are better coordinated and integrated;
- ensure quality information drives effective decision making; and
- build an effective organisation with a skilled, satisfied and accountable workforce.

### **2005-06 Highlights**

Strategic and operational issues to be pursued in 2005-06 include:

- increasing general surgery through the commissioning of an operating theatre at The Canberra Hospital, extra Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) to provide elective and acute services, surgical inpatient beds and anaesthetist sessions;
- improving access to elective surgery for joint replacement and cataract removal surgery;
- increasing the availability of beds in the Intensive Care Unit at The Canberra Hospital;
- implementing a range of indigenous health measures including hearing, dual diagnosis and midwifery programs;
- implementing child and youth health measures such as newborn hearing, childhood obesity, and alcohol and drug school education programs;
- improving access to the home oxygen scheme;
- supporting aged care through a residential liaison nurse and matching of Commonwealth growth for the Home and Community Care (HACC) program;
- reconfirming commitment to medical school and sub-acute facilities;
- increasing the capacity of the renal service;
- providing for growth in medical, emergency department and cancer services; and
- implementing a Manual Handling Project.

<b>Output Classes</b>
-----------------------

	Total Cost		Government payment for outputs	
	Est outcome 2004-05 (\$'000)	Budget 2005-06 (\$'000)	Est. outcome 2004-05 (\$'000)	Budget 2005-06 (\$'000)
<b>Output Class 1: Health and Community Care</b>	<b>611 905</b>	<b>619 860</b>	<b>491 073</b>	<b>497 457</b>
<b>Acute Services</b> - Provision of high quality hospital based treatment and care services in line with the needs of the community	431 596	437 207	324 058	328 271
<b>Mental Health Services</b> - Provision of mental health services including specialist clinical services within acute care, supported accommodation and community based settings	43 326	43 889	41 708	42 250
<b>Community Health Services</b> - Negotiation and obtaining of high quality community based, consumer focused human services from government and non-government service providers to meet the health and community care needs of specific population groups. Develop and administer service performance contracts with government and non-government service providers	112 888	114 356	103 062	104 402
<b>Public Health Services</b> - Through provision of government services and services obtained from non-government agencies, provide high quality health and community services to the ACT and surrounding region, including the supply of blood and blood products.	24 198	24 513	22 245	22 534
<b>Output Class 2: Community and Health Services Complaints Commissioner</b>	<b>1 042</b>	<b>1 056</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>997</b>
The objectives of the service are to:	1 042	1 056	984	997
– provide an independent, fair and accessible mechanism for resolving complaints about health services and protect the public from malpractice, unsafe products and processes;				
– improve health and disability services and enable consumers and providers to contribute to the review and improvement of health and disability services and continuity of care; and				
– promote the rights of consumers of health and disability services, ensuring that the ACT public has better informed choices of appropriate services.				

## Key Performance Indicators

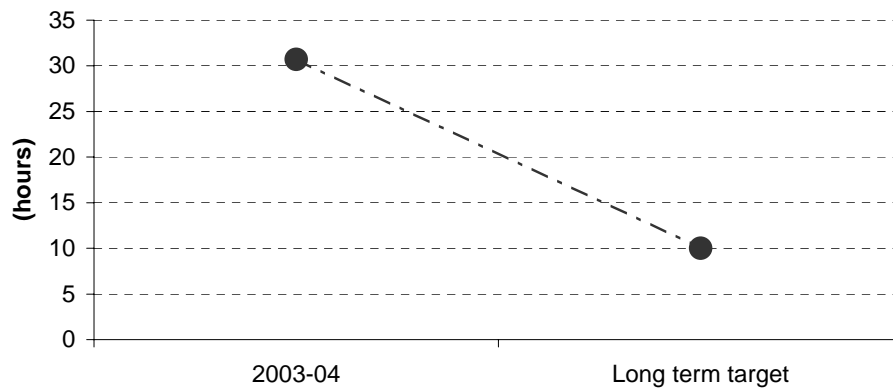
### OUTPUT: HOSPITAL SERVICES

Canberra's two public hospitals provide acute care inpatient and outpatient services, treating patients for episodes of illness and conditions resulting from disease or trauma. These hospitals deliver accessible and responsive patient focused emergency and elective acute care services. Although both hospitals provide mental health services, these are detailed in a separate output.

The two strategic indicators that measure the Government's overall performance in managing acute care services are as follows.

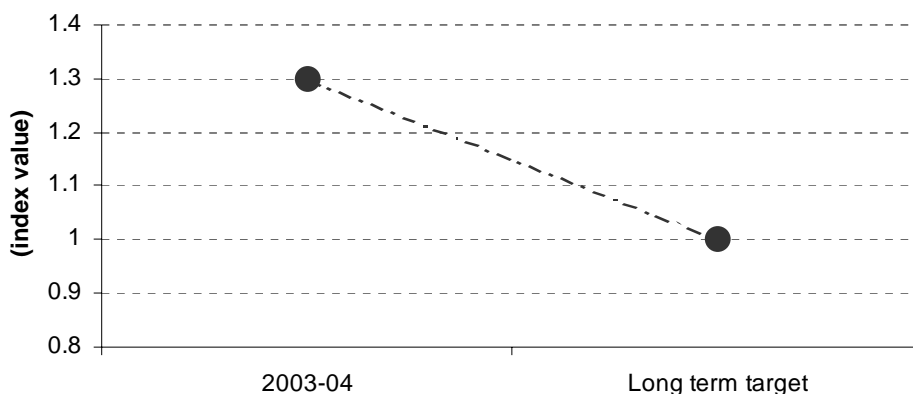
- **Bypass hours** - the number of hours that The Canberra Hospital, as the principal provider of acute care, was unable to accept additional patients. This indicator provides an indication of hospital responsiveness to need.

Average Monthly Hospital Bypass Hours



- **Relative Stay Index** - compares patient time in hospital for particular conditions with the average length of stay for that condition in public hospitals of a similar size and type. The indicator is a measure of overall hospital efficiency. It may also indicate the extent of community services that support timely discharge to home, or other

Relative Stay Index



care settings.

## OUTPUT: HOSPITAL SERVICES

The strategic indicators are those for which the Government has some accountability, although it cannot be held fully responsible as there are other factors that influence the result. These indicators are supported by a group of output performance indicators for which the Government and ACT Health are accountable.

The five output accountability performance indicators that measure hospitals' effectiveness and efficiency are:

- **patient separations** - the number of patients discharged from hospital, transferred to another hospital or other health care facility or who die in hospital gives an indication of volume of care provided by hospitals;
- **total cost of hospital services** - the full cost of hospitals and the actual Government allocation for the services;
- **bed occupancy rate** - compares actual occupied bed days with maximum capacity bed days to give an indication of the difference between optimal and actual usage of hospital resources;
- **rate of unplanned hospital admissions** - where adverse health conditions associated with hospital care led to unforeseen readmissions; and
- **hospital response times** - Emergency Department and elective surgery waiting times are an indicator of the timeliness of hospital responses to patients.

Hospital services performance indicators	2004-05 Targets	2004-05 Estimated Results	2005-06 Targets
<b>Patient separations</b> - Inpatient separations - Outpatient separations - Emergency Department separations			
<b>Total budgeted and actual cost of hospital services</b> - Budget allocation - Total cost			
<b>Bed occupancy rate</b>			
<b>Unplanned hospital readmissions</b>			

<b>Hospital response times</b>			
--------------------------------	--	--	--

- |                                                                                                                                |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Emergency Department response times</li><li>- Elective surgery waiting times</li></ul> |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|

**Key financial performance indicators**

<b>Description</b>	<b>2004-05 Est. Outcome</b>	<b>2005-06 Target</b>
Operating result	\$15.622 million	\$16.367 million
Current ratio	0.42 to 1	0.45 to 1
Total Assets	\$431.091m	\$438.027m
Total Liabilities	\$97.660m	\$96.338m

## Changes to Appropriation

### Changes to Appropriation

Government Payment for Outputs	2004-05 Est. Outc. \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>2004-05 Budget</b>	<b>429 099</b>	<b>449 678</b>	<b>468 406</b>	<b>487 704</b>	<b>487 704</b>
<b>3rd Appropriation</b>					
Wage Negotiations	12 146	28 388	35 402	39 431	39 991
<b>2005-06 Budget Policy Adjustments</b>					
Newborn Hearing Screening Program	0	201	131	134	136
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Peoples Hearing Health Program	0	200	205	210	215
Dual Diagnosis	0	140	144	147	151
Aboriginal Midwifery Access Program	0	191	196	201	205
Childhood Obesity Measures	0	207	422	430	395
Increased General Surgery	0	3 225	4 500	4 600	4 700
Reduce Waiting Times for Cataract and Joint Replacement	0	1 000	1 025	1 051	1 077
Ensuring the Viability of Men's Link	0	100	103	105	108
Practice Nurse for the Junction	0	91	68	70	72
Strategy for Radiation Therapists	0	102	103	105	106
Breast Care Nurse Positions	0	160	162	165	167
Strategy for Pharmacists	0	95	97	98	99
Intensive Care Unit Beds	0	2 767	2 787	2 797	3 017
Peak Winter Demand for Hospital Services	0	300	310	320	330
Identify and Implement School Alcohol and Drug Education Programs	0	100	150	154	158
Develop Protocols for a Collaborative Approach to Case Management	0	100	103	105	108
Improved Enforcement of Tobacco Legislation	0	150	155	166	171
Residential Aged Care Liaison Nurse	0	32	100	103	106
Home and Community Care (HACC)	0	846	846	846	846
Corrections Health Program	0	198	202	207	212
Suicide Prevention Initiatives	0	365	328	336	344
Sub-Acute Facility - recurrent funding	0	400	3 903	8 167	9 743
Relocation of Health functions from North Building	0	125	250	250	250
Home Based Oxygen Scheme	0	145	149	152	156
Community Based Forensic Mental Health Team	0	300	308	315	323
Continuation of Growth Initiative	0	0	0	0	11 000
2005-06 Capital Works Program	0	4 168	6 207	0	0
<b>2005-06 Budget Technical Adjustments</b>					
Revised Indexation Parameters	0	-1 102	-1 130	-1 158	8 013
Superannuation - Government Funded Expense	-1 200	2 633	2 683	2 733	2 785
Whole of Government Communications Savings	0	-1 028	-1 054	-1 080	-1 107
Return of Unused Funds	-1 650	-400	-400	-400	-400
Commonwealth Funding	-949	-364	-1 059	32	1 220
Transfer of Nurses from DEYFS	0	160	162	164	166
<b>2005-06 Budget</b>	<b>437 446</b>	<b>489 505</b>	<b>519 757</b>	<b>548 660</b>	<b>572 567</b>

**Changes to Appropriation**

<b>Capital Injection</b>	<b>2004-05 Est. Outc. \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Budget \$'000</b>	<b>2006-07 Estimate \$'000</b>	<b>2007-08 Estimate \$'000</b>	<b>2008-09 Estimate \$'000</b>
<b>2004-05 Budget</b>	<b>25 432</b>	<b>11 900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2005-06 Budget Policy Adjustments</b>					
Manual Handling	0	1 553	0	0	0
2005-06 Capital Works Program	0	12 172	6 100	0	0
<b>2005-06 Budget Technical Adjustments</b>					
Transfer appropriation to EBT	0	-565	0	0	0
Transfer appropriation to EBT for Sub-Acute facility	0	-5 020	0	0	0
Rollover - Capital Works Program	-9 021	9 021	0	0	0
<b>2005-06 Budget</b>	<b>16 411</b>	<b>29 061</b>	<b>6 100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Capital Works****Departmental**

	Estimated Total Cost \$'000	Expenditure Previous Years \$'000	2005-06 Estimated Expenditure \$'000	2005-06 Financing \$'000	Expected Completion Date
<b>New Capital Works</b>					
<i>Financial and Risk Management</i>					
<b>Financial and Economic Business Case</b>					
Bush Healing Centre	100	0	100	100	Sep 2005
<b>Construction Projects</b>					
Office Fitout	3 017	0	3 017	3 017	May 2005
Renal Dialysis Satellite - Northside	2 200	0	500	500	Mar 2007
Incorporate 'Junction' Youth Health Service into City Youth Centre	780	0	780	780	Mar 2006
<i>Community Health</i>					
<b>Minor New Works</b>					
Refurbishment of the Independent Living Centre (ILC) - Weston	175	0	175	175	Mar 2006
Dickson Health Centre - Extend and Refurbish	135	0	135	135	Dec 2005
Womens Health Service - Refurbishment	110	0	110	110	Dec 2005
TCH - Bldg 7 Opioid Treatment Centre - Safety Measures	85	0	85	85	Sep 2005
Belconnen and Phillip Health Centre - A/c improvements	100	0	100	100	Nov 2005
Phillip Health Centre - Replacement of flooring	75	0	75	75	Aug 2005
Belconnen HC - Exterior Paint and Finishes	50	0	50	50	Mar 2006
Narrabundah Health Centre upgrade to accommodate Winnunga	50	0	50	50	Sep 2005
<i>Mental Health</i>					
<b>Construction Projects</b>					
Extension of Psychiatric Secure Unit	1 000	0	1 000	1 000	Feb 2006
<b>Financial and Economic Business Case</b>					
New Psychiatric Secure Unit	70	0	70	70	Oct 2005
Mental Health Forensic Centre	70	0	70	70	Oct 2005
Adolescent Mental Health Services Infrastructure Plan	60	0	60	60	Oct 2005
Crisis Assessment and Treatment Team	100	0	100	100	Feb 2006

*The Canberra Hospital*

**Construction**

ANU Medical School (Supplementary)	6 400	0	2 000	2 000	Sep 2006
Building 10 Lifts and Dumb Waiter Upgrade	650	0	650	650	Jun 2006

	<b>Estimated Total Cost \$'000</b>	<b>Expenditure Previous Years \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimated Expenditure \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Financing \$'000</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
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Orthopaedic Theatre Refurbishment	470	0	470	470	May 2006
Anatomical Pathology Laboratory Refurbishment	450	0	450	450	Jun 2006
Imaging Department Reception and work area refurbishment	375	0	375	375	Jun 2006

**Financial and Economic Business**

**Case**

Early Warning Intercom System and Emergency Public Address System Financial and Economic Business Case	250	0	250	250	Nov 2006
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**Minor New Works**

Building 10 Generator Replacement	350	0	350	350	Mar 2006
Hospital Keying System Project	330	0	330	330	Jun 2006
Carpark Gaunt Place	180	0	180	180	Dec 2005
Loading Dock Wash Down	120	0	120	120	Dec 2005
Pathology Building, Airlock to Main Entrance	120	0	120	120	Mar 2006
Canberra Community Dialysis Centre, Staff / Meeting Room Refurbishment	110	0	110	110	Mar 2006
Floor Coverings Replacement Project	100	0	100	100	Nov 2005
Food Services Refrigeration Plant	90	0	90	90	Dec 2005
Haemodialysis Nurses Station Refurbishment	70	0	70	70	Dec 2005
Pathology Core Laboratory, Specimen Reception Office Accommodation	30	0	30	30	Nov 2005

<b>Total New Capital Works</b>	<b>18 272</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12 172</b>	<b>12 172</b>	
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**Works in Progress**

**Construction**

ANU Medical School	5 700	0	5 700	5 700	Sep 2006
Refurbish Level 5 Moore Street (Incl Drug and Alcohol Level 1)	1 451	700	751	751	Jan 2006
Redevelopment of Karralika Drug and Alcohol Therapy Facilities	5 085	50	5 035	5 035	TBA
Refurbish Paediatric Wards	4 050	200	3 850	3 850	Jun 2006

<b>Total Works in Progress</b>	<b>16 286</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>15 336</b>	<b>15 336</b>
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<b>Total Departmental Capital Works</b>	<b>34 558</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>27 508</b>	<b>27 508</b>
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<b>Commonwealth Grants</b>
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The major Commonwealth payments for which the Portfolio has responsibility are:

<b>Name of Grant</b>	<b>Activities Funded by Grant</b>	<b>2005-06 Estimate \$'000</b>
Australian Health Care Agreement	This relates to patients treated in the ACT. It also includes national mental health, palliative care and quality improvement.	102 821
Home and Community Care	Expansion and development of home and community care services designed to provide basic maintenance and support services for identified target groups.	9 329
National Public Health Outcomes Agreement	Provide a range of public health services including: breast cancer screening; national childhood immunisation; family planning; funds to combat AIDS; drug education campaigns; women's health program; female genital mutilation; alternative birthing; and cervical cancer screening.	6 034
High Cost Drugs	Provision of highly specialised drug therapies under section 100 of the National Health Act.	5 676
Pathways Home Program	Provide rehabilitation/transitional and psychogeriatric services to support persons who have completed an acute hospital episode but require intensive period of recuperation and rehabilitation in order to successfully return to community living.	2 600
Aged Care Assessment Team	Commonwealth funds are provided to support 'assessment' services for aged people.	446
Youth Health Services (IHSY)	Funding of a range of innovative health services for homeless youth in the ACT.	54
<b>Total</b>		<b>126 960</b>

<b>Financial Statements</b>
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**ACT Health**  
**Statement of Financial Performance**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>Revenue</b>							
492 057	Government Payment for Outputs	492 057	519 757		548 660	572 567	X
90 109	User Charges - Non ACT Government	90 109	91 824		94 031	96 119	X
3 097	User Charges - ACT Government	3 097	3 174		3 253	3 334	X
5 676	Grants from the Commonwealth	5 676	5 818		5 963	6 112	X
1 147	Interest	1 147	650		600	600	X
5 038	Other Revenue	5 038	5 164		5 293	5 425	X
303	Resources Received free of charge	303	311		319	327	X
<b>597 427</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>597 427</b>	<b>626 698</b>		<b>658 119</b>	<b>684 484</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
266 475	Employee Expenses	266 475	279 633		292 384	302 753	X
34 153	Superannuation Expenses	34 153	35 003		35 921	36 394	X
169 975	Supplies and Services	169 975	178 356		185 778	196 989	X
14 244	Depreciation and Amortisation	14 244	15 270		15 231	15 231	X
5 836	Cost of Goods Sold	5 836	5 982		6 132	6 285	X
120 003	Grants and Purchased Services	120 003	126 503		133 936	138 854	X
2 261	Other Expenses	2 261	2 318		2 376	2 435	X
<b>612 947</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Expenses</b>	<b>612 947</b>	<b>643 065</b>		<b>671 758</b>	<b>698 941</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>-15 520</b>	<b>Operating Result From Ordinary Activities</b>	<b>-15 520</b>	<b>-16 367</b>		<b>-13 639</b>	<b>-14 457</b>	<b>X</b>
0	Extraordinary Revenue	0	0		0	0	
102	Extraordinary Expense	102	0		0	0	
<b>-15 622</b>	<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>-15 622</b>	<b>-16 367</b>		<b>-13 639</b>	<b>-14 457</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>319 992</b>	<b>Total Equity From Start of Period</b>	<b>319 992</b>	<b>333 431</b>		<b>323 164</b>	<b>309 525</b>	<b>X</b>
29 061	Capital Injections	29 061	6 100		0	0	X
0	Inc/Dec in Net Assets from Admin Restructure	0	0		0	0	X
<b>333 431</b>	<b>Total Equity At The End of Period</b>	<b>333 431</b>	<b>323 164</b>		<b>309 525</b>	<b>295 068</b>	<b>X</b>

**ACT Health  
Statement of Financial Position**

Budget as at 30/6/05 \$'000		Est.Outcome as at 30/6/05 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/06 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/07 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/08 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/09 \$'000	
				Var %			
<b>Current Assets</b>							
1 445	Cash	1 445	1 506		1 580	1 654	x
14 731	Receivables	14 731	14 731		14 731	14 731	x
4 963	Investments	4 963	4 080		3 206	2 332	x
4 827	Inventories	4 827	4 827		4 827	4 827	xx
1 658	Other	1 658	1 658		1 658	1 658	x
<b>27 624</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>27 624</b>	<b>26 802</b>		<b>26 002</b>	<b>25 202</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>							
3 000	Investments	3 000	3 000		3 000	3 000	x
395 939	Property, Plant and Equipment	395 939	394 996		384 533	374 188	xx
954	Intangibles	954	900		846	792	x
3 574	Capital Works in Progress	3 574	0		0	0	x
<b>403 467</b>	<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>403 467</b>	<b>398 896</b>		<b>388 379</b>	<b>377 980</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>431 091</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>431 091</b>	<b>425 698</b>		<b>414 381</b>	<b>403 182</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>							
19 319	Payables	19 319	18 519		17 719	16 919	x
1 200	Interest Bearing Liabilities	1 200	1 200		1 200	1 200	x
22	Finance Leases	22	0		0	0	x
43 542	Employee Benefits	43 542	46 796		48 239	50 616	xx
2 317	Other	2 317	2 317		2 317	2 317	x
<b>66 400</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>66 400</b>	<b>68 832</b>		<b>69 475</b>	<b>71 052</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>							
999	Payables	999	999		999	999	xx
66	Finance Leases	66	66		66	66	x
30 195	Employee Benefits	30 195	32 637		34 316	35 997	x
<b>31 260</b>	<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>	<b>31 260</b>	<b>33 702</b>		<b>35 381</b>	<b>37 062</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>97 660</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>97 660</b>	<b>102 534</b>		<b>104 856</b>	<b>108 114</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>333 431</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>333 431</b>	<b>323 164</b>		<b>309 525</b>	<b>295 068</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>							
332 956	Accumulated Funds	332 956	322 689		309 050	294 593	x
475	Reserves	475	475		475	475	x
<b>333 431</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>	<b>333 431</b>	<b>323 164</b>		<b>309 525</b>	<b>295 068</b>	<b>x</b>

**ACT Health  
Statement of Cashflows**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>							
<b>Receipts</b>							
489 505	Cash from Government for Outputs	489 505	519 757		548 660	572 567	x
93 206	User Charges	93 206	94 998		97 284	99 453	x
1 147	Interest Received	1 147	650		600	600	x
5 676	Grants Received from the Commonwealth	5 676	5 818		5 963	6 112	x
27 161	Other Revenue	27 161	27 237		27 366	27 498	x
<b>616 695</b>	<b>Operating Receipts</b>	<b>616 695</b>	<b>648 460</b>		<b>679 873</b>	<b>706 230</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
294 865	Related to Employees	294 865	308 940		325 183	335 089	x
171 172	Related to Supplies and Services	171 172	178 845		186 259	197 462	x
120 003	Grants and Purchased Services	120 003	126 503		133 936	138 854	x
30 220	Other	30 220	30 373		30 581	30 793	x
102	Extraordinary Payments	102	0		0	0	x
<b>616 362</b>	<b>Operating Payments</b>	<b>616 362</b>	<b>644 661</b>		<b>675 959</b>	<b>702 198</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>333</b>	<b>NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>3 799</b>		<b>3 914</b>	<b>4 032</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>							
<b>Payments</b>							
44 841	Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	44 841	10 699		4 714	4 832	x
<b>44 841</b>	<b>Investing Payments</b>	<b>44 841</b>	<b>10 699</b>		<b>4 714</b>	<b>4 832</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>-44 841</b>	<b>NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>-44 841</b>	<b>-10 699</b>		<b>-4 714</b>	<b>-4 832</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>							
<b>Receipts</b>							
29 061	Capital Injection from Government	29 061	6 100		0	0	x
<b>29 061</b>	<b>Financing Receipts</b>	<b>29 061</b>	<b>6 100</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
27	Repayment of Finance Lease	27	22		0	0	x
<b>27</b>	<b>Financing Payments</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>x</b>

**ACT Health  
Statement of Cashflows**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
29 034	NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	29 034	6 078		0	0	x
-15 474	NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	-15 474	-822		-800	-800	x
23 682	CASH AT BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD	23 682	8 208		7 386	6 586	x
8 208	CASH AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD	8 208	7 386		6 586	5 786	x

Notes to the Budget Statements

Significant variations are as follows:

*Statement of Financial Performance*

- government payment for outputs:  
the increase of \$9.007m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to funding to cover wage increases for nurses, clerical, professional, technical, GSO and VMOs (\$12.146m) and deferred commonwealth projects (\$0.660m). The increases are partially offset by reductions for employer superannuation (\$1.2m), delays in the medical school (\$1m), commonwealth funded projects (\$0.949m) and the return of SACS and Hepatitis C funds (\$0.650m).

The increase of \$49.336m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates to the flow on effects of funding in third Appropriation Bill (\$16.242m), new initiatives (\$11.540m), the flow on effects of funding in growth (\$8.288m), indexation (\$6.230m), employer superannuation (\$3.833m), the full year impact of medical school (\$2.350m) and insurance premium increases (\$1.753m), higher Commonwealth grants (\$0.791m) and increased funding for blood sharing arrangements (\$0.5m). These are off-set by reduced charging for IT services by InTACT (\$1.028m) and lower levels of deferred Commonwealth projects (\$2.973m).

- user charges – non ACT Government: the increase of \$6.757m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates to increased cross border revenue from NSW (\$2.897m), higher third party revenues at The Canberra Hospital (\$2.080m), higher levels of supply services activity than planned (\$1.350m) and the transfer of the Sterilising Services function from Totalcare (\$0.430m);
- user charges – ACT Government: the increase of \$1.099m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to new service level agreements with the Departments of Justice and Community Services and Disability, Housing and Community Services. The increase of \$1.130m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to the full year impact of these service level agreements;

- interest: the increase of \$0.691m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates to higher levels of investments held by the Department due to deferral of Commonwealth funded projects, plant and equipment purchases, information technology systems and capital works projects;
- other revenue: the increase of \$2.494m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to increased third party revenue at The Canberra Hospital (\$1.415m) and the transfer of Howard Florey Centenary House from the Department of Urban Services (\$1.174m). The decrease of \$1.757m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to the Howard Florey transfer;
- employee expenses: the increase of \$7.805m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to the estimated impact of the nursing (\$5.686m) and general (\$1.743m) EBA negotiations. The increase of \$21.142m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to wage increases (\$12.697m), new initiatives (\$4.118m), growth funds (\$3.156m) and the full year effect of the medical school (\$0.750m);
- superannuation expenses: the decrease of \$0.979m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to lower than expected payments following the revision to PSS/CSS contribution rates in 2003-04. The increase of \$5.887m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to a further contribution rate adjustment, as well as the transfer of Sterilising Services (\$0.297m), new initiatives and wage increases;
- supplies and services: the increase of \$7.521m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to VMO contract renegotiations (\$3.640m) and higher administrative expenses at The Canberra Hospital matched by increased revenue (\$3.241m). The increase of \$12.322m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to indexation (\$3m), new initiatives (\$3.179m), growth funds (\$2.914m), insurance premium increases (\$1.753m), full year effect of the medical school (\$1.6m), VMO contract renegotiations (\$0.595m) and increased blood product funding (\$0.5m). These are off-set by a reduction for savings in InTACT charging (\$1.028m);
- cost of goods sold: the increase of \$1.350m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates to higher supply sales to Calvary Public Hospital and new activity from John James Hospital. The increase of \$0.853m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates to the full year impact of these increases;
- grants and purchased services: the increase of \$3.877m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to VMO contract renegotiations (\$1.560m) and other employee pay rises including nurses (\$1.717m). The increase of \$7.327m in the 2004-05 Budget from the estimated outcome relates mainly to new initiatives (\$3.849m) and pay rises including nursing (\$3.975m); and
- other expenses: the increase of \$0.397m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates mainly to expected Hepatitis C Financial Assistance Scheme payments (\$0.283m).

### *Statement of Financial Position*

- investments: the increase of \$15.947m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to unspent Commonwealth funded projects, deferred plant and equipment purchases, information technology systems and delays in Capital Works projects. The decrease of \$15.430m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates to the utilisation of these funds for the items referred to above;
- property, plant and equipment: the decrease of \$6.984m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to delays in Capital Works projects and deferred equipment purchases. The increase of \$37.436m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome is due to a catch-up in Capital Works and equipment purchases as well as the new 2004-05 Capital Works program worth \$12.172m, planned completion of the 2003-04 program (\$9.9m), and the manual handling project (\$1.553m);
- intangibles: the decrease of \$2.108m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to the reclassification of capitalised software from intangibles to property, plant and equipment following the 2002-03 audit;
- capital works in progress: the increase of \$3.574m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to delays in new projects;
- current employee benefits: the increase of \$6.970m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to the flow-on effect of the 2002-03 audited outcome (\$4.3m) and the estimated impact on employee provisions for the nursing (\$1.585m) and general (\$1.169m) wages negotiations;
- other current liabilities: the increase of \$3.260m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to higher than anticipated deferred Commonwealth projects. The decrease of \$2.552m in the 2004-05 Budget from the 2003-04 estimated outcome relates to the utilisation of these funds;
- non current payables: the increase of \$0.999m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates to the lease payments in connection with the acquisition of the St John of God pathology service; and
- non current employee benefits: the decrease of \$2.245m in the 2003-04 estimated outcome from the original budget relates mainly to the flow-on effect of the 2002-03 audited outcome (\$2.662m), which results in the transfer of some employee provisions to current liabilities.

**ACT Health**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenses on Behalf of the Territory**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>Revenue</b>							
8 436	Payment for Expenses on behalf of Territory	4 756	15 881	234	8 916	2 772	2 836
666	Taxes Fees and Fines	666	679	2	695	712	728
107 838	Grants from the Commonwealth	113 043	121 284	7	126 590	130 653	137 685
<b>116 940</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>118 465</b>	<b>137 844</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>136 201</b>	<b>134 137</b>	<b>141 249</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
8 436	Grants and Purchased Services	4 756	15 881	234	8 916	2 772	2 836
108 504	Transfer Expenses	113 709	121 963	7	127 285	131 365	138 413
<b>116 940</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Expenses</b>	<b>118 465</b>	<b>137 844</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>136 201</b>	<b>134 137</b>	<b>141 249</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Equity From Start of Period</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>Total Equity At The End of Period</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**ACT Health**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities on Behalf of the Territory**

Budget as at 30/6/05 \$'000		Est.Outcome as at 30/6/05 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/06 \$'000	Var %	Planned as at 30/6/07 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/08 \$'000	Planned as at 30/6/09 \$'000
	<b>Current Assets</b>						
76	Cash	110	284	158	284	284	284
224	Receivables	190	16	-92	16	16	16
<b>300</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>300</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
	<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
300	Payables	300	300	-	300	300	300
<b>300</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>300</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>REPRESENTED BY FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>						
0	Accumulated Funds	0	0	-	0	0	0
<b>0</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**ACT Health**  
**Budgeted Statement of Cashflows on Behalf of the Territory**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>							
<b>Receipts</b>							
8 436	Cash from Government for EBT	4 756	15 881	234	8 916	2 772	2 836
666	Taxes, Fees and Fines	666	679	2	695	712	728
107 838	Grants Received from the Commonwealth	113 043	121 284	7	126 590	130 653	137 685
429	Other Revenue	61	1 517	#	621	0	0
<b>117 369</b>	<b>Operating Receipts</b>	<b>118 526</b>	<b>139 361</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>136 822</b>	<b>134 137</b>	<b>141 249</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
8 436	Grants and Purchased Services	4 756	15 881	234	8 916	2 772	2 836
603	Other	235	1 343	471	621	0	0
108 504	Territory Receipts to Government	113 709	121 963	7	127 285	131 365	138 413
<b>117 543</b>	<b>Operating Payments</b>	<b>118 700</b>	<b>139 187</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>136 822</b>	<b>134 137</b>	<b>141 249</b>
<b>-174</b>	<b>NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>-174</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>-174</b>	<b>NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD</b>	<b>-174</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>250</b>	<b>CASH AT BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>-61</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>
<b>76</b>	<b>CASH AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>284</b>

<b>Notes to the Budget Statements</b>
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Significant variations are as follows:

- Total revenues have increased by... due to ...
- Total expenses have increased by xxx due to xxx
- Total assets have increased by xxx due to xxx
- Total liabilities have increased by xxx due to xxx

<b>Output Classes: Statements of Financial Performance</b>
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**Output Class 1: Health and Community Care  
Statement of Financial Performance**

<b>2004-05 Budget \$'000</b>		<b>2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 Budget \$'000</b>	<b>Var %</b>	<b>2006-07 Estimate \$'000</b>	<b>2007-08 Estimate \$'000</b>	<b>2008-09 Estimate \$'000</b>
<b>Revenue</b>							
491 073	Government Payment for Outputs	491 073	518 742		547 628	571 518	x
90 109	User Charges - Non ACT Government	90 109	91 824		94 031	96 119	x
3 097	User Charges - ACT Government	3 097	3 174		3 253	3 334	x
5 676	Grants from the Commonwealth	5 676	5 818		5 963	6 112	xx
1 147	Interest	1 147	650		600	600	x
5 038	Other Revenue	5 038	5 164		5 293	5 425	x
259	Resources Received free of charge	259	266		273	280	x
<b>596 399</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>596 399</b>	<b>625 638</b>		<b>657 041</b>	<b>683 388</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
265 845	Employee Expenses	265 845	278 981		291 723	302 084	x
34 058	Superannuation Expenses	34 058	34 905		35 822	36 293	x
169 702	Supplies and Services	169 702	178 076		185 491	196 695	x
14 244	Depreciation and Amortisation	14 244	15 270		15 231	15 231	x
5 836	Cost of Goods Sold	5 836	5 982		6 132	6 285	x
120 003	Grants and Purchased Services	120 003	126 503		133 936	138 854	x
2 217	Other Expenses	2 217	2 273		2 330	2 388	x
<b>611 905</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Expenses</b>	<b>611 905</b>	<b>641 990</b>		<b>670 665</b>	<b>697 830</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>-15 506</b>	<b>Operating Result From Ordinary Activities</b>	<b>-15 506</b>	<b>-16 352</b>		<b>-13 624</b>	<b>-14 442</b>	<b>x</b>
0	Extraordinary Revenue	0	0		0	0	
102	Extraordinary Expense	102	0		0	0	x
<b>-15 608</b>	<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>-15 608</b>	<b>-16 352</b>		<b>-13 624</b>	<b>-14 442</b>	<b>x</b>

**Output Class 2: Community and Health Services Complaints Commissioner  
Statement of Financial Performance**

2004-05 Budget \$'000		2004-05 Est.Outcome \$'000	2005-06 Budget \$'000	Var %	2006-07 Estimate \$'000	2007-08 Estimate \$'000	2008-09 Estimate \$'000
<b>Revenue</b>							
984	Government Payment for Outputs	984	1 015		1 032	1 049	x
44	Resources Received free of charge	44	45		46	47	x
<b>1 028</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Revenue</b>	<b>1 028</b>	<b>1 060</b>		<b>1 078</b>	<b>1 096</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
630	Employee Expenses	630	652		661	669	x
95	Superannuation Expenses	95	98		99	101	x
273	Supplies and Services	273	280		287	294	x
44	Other Expenses	44	45		46	47	x
<b>1 042</b>	<b>Total Ordinary Expenses</b>	<b>1 042</b>	<b>1 075</b>		<b>1 093</b>	<b>1 111</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>-14</b>	<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>-15</b>		<b>-15</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>x</b>

Karin MacDonald MLA : To ask the Minister for Economic Development –

In relation to ACTTAB:

Increasing the use of “self-serve bet placement options” is mentioned under 2005-2006 highlights. (BP4, pg 455). Can the Minister explain:

1. How this works;
2. What equipment/machinery is required for this to function; and
3. How much will it cost to purchase further equipment?

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005:

In relation to the digital divide program -

1. How is the government assessing and monitoring whether the Digital Divide defined as the inequalities in the use of the Internet and new telecommunication services across different social groups is closing and what impact the implementation of the Community IT Access Plan initiatives have had?
2. Initiative 1 of the Community IT Access Plan provides funding to Community Technology Centres which ends next year:
  - a) What will happen to the computers currently provided at these centres after the funding comes to an end?
  - b) Does the Government have data regarding who uses these computers and the volume of use?
  - c) Does the Government have any evidence that alternative access is available to people currently using the Community Technology Centres?
3. Has there been a change in the original use of the funding allocated through Initiative 5 of the Community IT Access Plan which provided funds to the Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services?
4. Has the Roving Trainer Program which provides IT training for users and staff of community organisations been evaluated and what will happen to this in 2006?
5. Has the ACT Management Fund undertaken an audit of all ACT Government websites to ensure compliance with disability access standards?
6. What progress has been made on the PC Reuse scheme (initiative 13 of the Community IT Access Plan) and the Internet Access Service Obligation (initiative 14 of the Community IT Access Plan)?

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

1. In November 2004, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) completed a report on the Digital Divide in the ACT. The report, commissioned by Chief Minister's Department, assessed the current state of the Digital Divide in the ACT, including National and International comparisons, and reported on specific initiatives undertaken as part of the Community IT Access Plan.

The report indicates that although there are some identifiable areas of continuing disadvantage, the ACT is very well placed in terms of access to computers and connectivity to the Internet, having one of the highest proportions of any population accessing IT, both nationally and internationally.

Data from the ABS report indicates a marked narrowing of the digital divide in the ACT over time, with the latest ABS data, from 2003, showing 81% of the ACT population having access to a home computer and 67% having home Internet access. These figures compare most favourably with national figures that show 66% having home computer access and 53% with home Internet access.

It should be noted that these figures are some 18 months old and unlikely to have recorded the full effect of many of the initiatives contained in the CITAP. We know, for example, that since the survey was conducted some 500 PCs have been distributed to the local community under the ACT PC Reuse Scheme, and this should be reflected in an increase in the numbers of Canberrans with home computers following the 2006 census.

- 2(a) The computers and other IT related equipment provided to community organisations under the Community Technology Centre initiative are the property of the organisations.
- 2(b) The CTC initiative was deferred until 2004-05 to provide additional time for the development of this community based proposal. In consultation with the Community IT Advisory Group an ACT CTC model was developed. The six community organisations that received assistance to establish a CTC under this arrangement have only recently commenced operation and usage figures are not yet available.
- 2(c) Free access to IT and the Internet is available to all Canberrans through a number of community organisations and all ACT Government Libraries.

3. No. ACT Health received the funding allocated for this initiative as they were better placed to establish a grants program for organisations that assist the mobility impaired and their carers. Four community groups received funding to provide IT equipment and training to the homebound. Residual funds from the grants program were used to purchase recycled PCs through the ACT PC Reuse scheme and these PCs were distributed to nominated mobility impaired individuals, mainly by Carers ACT.

4. The Canberra Institute of Technology, which is responsible for managing the Roving Tutor Program, has recently conducted an evaluation of the program. This review indicates that the program has been effective in achieving its aims of promoting IT awareness within the community and providing basic IT training to those in the digital divide target groups. However, the review also highlighted evidence of servicing that was outside the scope of the program and low attendance rates. As indicated in the Community IT Access Plan, the Roving Tutor program will finish in June 2005.

5. To audit every Government website is a significant undertaking. ACT Information Management does undertake ad-hoc reviews of a sample of ACT Government websites to ensure they comply with international accessibility standards. Website guidelines have been developed and promulgated to agencies and a panel of advisors has been established to provide specific advice to agencies during website design.

6. The PC Reuse scheme was launched in August 2004. Infoxchange Australia was funded to establish the ACT PC Reuse scheme through its Green PC subsidiary. In addition to their PC recycling service Green PC is also assisting in the distribution of PCs to individuals and community organisations nominated by Government Agencies. The development of a CSO with telecommunications and Internet Service Providers is not being pursued at this time. A telecommunications survey of needs currently being conducted on behalf of ACT Information Management could be used to assist in framing a future CSO.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Ms MacDonald - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Wednesday, 1 June 2005:

In relation to the Office for Ageing:

1. In the absence of a budget initiative to support the promised retribution in aged care facilities inquiry, can you please report on:
  - a) Whether the terms of reference have been developed and are they available for comment?
  - b) When will the inquiry be undertaken?
  - c) What resources will be allocated to this inquiry?
2. With regard to the Government's progress in responding to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Care's Report Elder Abuse:
  - a) Have inter-agency protocols in relation to the detection and intervention of elder abuse been developed?
  - b) Has there been any evaluation of the elder abuse prevention information telephone hotline?
  - c) Has there been a review of the function of all Power of Attorney provisions and development of safeguards?
3. Has the new Seniors Grants program (listed as a priority in the Chief Minister's Department Annual Report 2003-04) been implemented?
4. How does the Government plan to implement the recommendations arising from the Mature Age Employment Strategy?
5. Will the Government undertake an internal review of current Government employment practices on mature age workers?
6. In the absence of any transport initiatives for older people in the 2004-05 budget, how does the Government plan to respond to the need to promote responsive public and community transport services to increase access and mobility for older people identified in the ACT Advisory Council on Ageing Strategic Plan 2003-05?

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

1a. Terms of reference have not been developed for the investigation into alleged retribution in aged care facilities. However, a framework has been developed to enable the ACT Government to deal with complaints that may arise, and to determine the most effective strategies to address this matter.

The Commonwealth Government is responsible for the provision and funding of aged care accommodation, and accordingly has established a Complaints Resolution Scheme to deal with grievances relating to Commonwealth funded aged care services. Further, the ACT Government has established a complementary complaints framework involving the ACT Community and Health Services Complaints Commissioner, which provides further opportunities for people to raise their concerns about ACT aged care facilities.

1b. The working group established to look at this matter is currently in dialogue with officers from both the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and the ACT Disability and Aged Care Advocacy Service, and will consider the number, type and status of reports of retribution to assist in identifying the most effective strategies to address the issue.

1c. The working group is made up of - the Chair of the Elder Abuse Prevention Taskforce, the Community and Health Services Complaints Commissioner and representatives from the Chief Minister's Department, ACT Health and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

2a. In 2004, the ACT Office for Ageing facilitated a series of workshops involving a large number of people from ACT Government agencies and non-government organisations to guide the preparation of agency protocols. In addition, the Office is currently preparing a whole-of-government elder abuse policy framework that will enable ACT Government agencies to further develop in-house elder abuse prevention protocols and assist the induction process of new staff. The completion of this package will fulfil the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Health and Community Care in relation to a whole-of-government approach in developing policy and service delivery responses in the area of elder abuse.

2b. A review of the elder abuse prevention information telephone service is currently underway, and is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2005.

2c. The review of the Power of Attorney legislation and support mechanisms has been completed. The Department of Justice and Community Safety is currently considering legislative changes to the *Power of Attorney Act*

1956 consistent with the outcomes of the consultation process undertaken during the review.

3. The first round of the new ACT Seniors Grant Program was announced by the Chief Minister in April 2005. Grants totalling almost \$76,000 were identified for more than thirty-eight (38) community organisations to support a broad range of seniors' projects and activities.

4. The work currently being undertaken by the Mature Age Employment Strategy Working Group includes the development of an Action Plan, which incorporates priority areas for attention. The Plan is expected to be completed in the near future, and will be referred to the Joint Council for endorsement, and then to Government for its consideration.

5. A number of reviews of the ACTPS have been undertaken including *The Retirement Intentions Survey* (2003). Government policies and the provisions of Certified Agreements promote flexible working arrangements and other strategies to retain and attract older workers. For example, there are opportunities for staff to apply for part time work and job-sharing arrangements, together with home based work under the current template agreement provisions. Potential changes to Commonwealth superannuation arrangements are also likely to provide further incentives for mature age workers. The Commissioner for Public Administration's State of the Service Report will continue to track workforce data.

6. Access to public transport for older people is being addressed through the ACT Government's ongoing program of acquiring accessible buses. As well as being wheelchair accessible, these buses provide far easier access and egress for the elderly d people with mobility difficulties. The Intertown 300-series bus routes have been operated with accessible buses since the new ACTION network was rolled out in April 2005. Similarly, the new FlexiBus evening services use accessible buses. The ACT Government's ongoing upgrade of bus stops with concrete pads will also aid the access of elderly people or people with mobility difficulties.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

123 Dr Deb FOSKEY Disability, Housing & Community Services

Deb Foskey – on 1 June 2005, asked the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services in relation to the Renew Community Infrastructure and Facilities Program:

1. How much funding was allocated for distribution through this program in 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08
2. How much funding was distributed through this program in 2004-05?
3. How much funding will be distributed through this program in 2005-06?
4. Has any funding been withdrawn from this program? If so, why is that the case?
5. In relation to the assessment of application of this funding:
  - a) How are applications assessed?
  - b) Are guidelines publicly available?
  - c) Do government service providers have access to these funds?
  - d) Does the Government ensure that these funds are not used to pay for general maintenance on government owned buildings and facilities?

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

1. \$1.5m 2004/05, \$500,000 2005/06, nil 2006/07, nil 2007/08
2. \$1.5m has been allocated to projects for 2004-05.
3. \$500,000
4. Yes, the original budget for 2005/06 was \$1.5m. This has been reduced by \$1m, as a cost saving measure as part of the 2005/06 ACT budget.
5.
  - a) Firstly by a panel comprising asset managers from ACT government agencies and then be panel comprising the Director, Multicultural and Community Branch, DHCS as the Chair, an Asset Manger in DHCS and representatives from two peak community bodies.

b) Yes, they are part of the Renew Community Infrastructure and Facilities Program Round 2 Application Kit.

c) No, only community organisations and groups in the ACT.

d) Yes.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services

Date: June 2005

Ms Foskey MLA: To ask the Treasurer:

Gallop Response

1. Please provide a detailed breakdown of the additional funding for disability service of \$75.7 million as a response to the Gallop Report, stated in your budget speech (Budget Paper 1, page 1).
  - a. Please clarify whether this funding includes indexation applied to existing services levels.
  - b. Can the funding be linked back to specific Gallop recommendations?
  - c. Can you identify Gallop recommendations that have not yet been funded and estimate how much funding would be required to implement these?

Vardon Response

2. Please provide a detailed breakdown of the additional funding for child protection and family support of \$154 million....with \$10.6 million in 2005-06, stated in your budget speech (Budget Paper, page 2).
  - a. Can you identify for me how much of this additional funding has been allocated to family support?
  - b. Has the funding allocated to consolidating the office accommodation of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support and the funding for Business Support Costs been included in the figure?

Revenue Initiative

3. Has the Department of Treasury undertaken any analysis of how the land tax increases will impact on housing affordability in the ACT?

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

1. Please refer to Attachment A.
  - a) No. Indexation is applied to base funding, but is not contained in the \$75.7m. You should note that the initiatives contained in Attachment A, with the exception of two, are indexed.
  - b) It is not practical to link the additional funding in Attachment A to specific Gallop recommendations, as many initiatives addressed multiple recommendations.

c) The Government has either completed or made a significant progress for the agreed recommendation of the Gallop Report. All agreed recommendations have been managed within budget.

2. Please refer to Attachment B.

a) It is impracticable to quantify the funding allocated solely to family support, as new funding addresses complex and intertwined issues concerning the welfare of children and families in the ACT.

In addition to the continuation of support for important family support services such as Schools as Communities and the Parents and Teachers program, the Government has recognised, through provisions in recent Budgets, that early intervention and family support are paramount to a robust child protection system.

For example, in the 2003-04 amended Budget the Government invested \$6m in supporting children at risk. Part of these additional funds were targeted towards recruiting qualified child protection workers, expanding early intervention and prevention services for children, young people and families most at risk, and providing training and resources for the implementation of the Triple P – positive parenting program.

Most recently the 2005-06 Budget contained additional funding for the recruitment of qualified staff and the expansion of an ATSI unit. Both these initiatives, along with other benefits for the child protection system, will help to improve family support services.

The expansion of funding for the Child and Family Centres is another example of the Government's commitment to family support.

b) Yes. Please see Attachment B.

3. The Member's question is taken to refer to rental affordability in the ACT residential housing market.

In the 2004-05 and 2005-06 Budgets, the ACT Government adjusted both the marginal rates and the thresholds within which land tax is applied, with a net result of \$5.2m revenue forgone in 2004-05 and a further \$8.1m in 2005-06. However, across this period there have been ongoing increases in average unimproved values such that the total revenue from land tax has continued to grow.

It is difficult to assess how the land tax increase has impacted on affordability, as movements in rents are not automatically linked to land tax. The level of rent paid by a household is driven by vacancy rates which, in turn, reflect supply and demand in the broader rental market. There are numerous factors at play over and above the level of land tax, including household income, employment, and eligibility for Commonwealth Rental Assistance.

Although Canberra's median rents remain high relative to the other jurisdictions, there has been little to no growth in local rents over the last four quarters. Median rents for a three-bedroom house in Canberra have fluctuated between \$290 and \$300 since the December quarter 2003, with the most recent data (December quarter 2004) showing the median weekly rent at \$300.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Treasurer

Date:.....

**Disability Services (\$75.7m)**

**Recurrent**

		<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2002-03</b>								
	Respite Care	1,000	1,020	1,041	1,062	1,089	1,116	1,144	<b>7,471</b>
	Disability Services	2,500	2,563	2,627	2,692	2,759	2,828	2,899	<b>18,869</b>
		<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,583</b>	<b>3,668</b>	<b>3,754</b>	<b>3,848</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>4,043</b>	<b>26,340</b>
<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2003-04</b>								
	Addressing Individual Support Needs of People with a Disability		600	800	1,000	1,500	1,538	1,576	<b>7,013</b>
	Building A Single Therapy Service		460	615	615	615	615	615	<b>3,535</b>
	Introduction of Lift Fee for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis		148	159	171	183	188	192	<b>1,041</b>
			<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,786</b>	<b>2,298</b>	<b>2,340</b>	<b>2,383</b>	<b>11,589</b>
	<b>2003-04 2nd Appropriation</b>								
	Special Needs Support for Clients with Complex Behaviours		650	662	674	687	704	722	<b>4,099</b>
			<b>650</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>4,099</b>
	<b>2003-04 3rd Appropriation</b>								
	Transport Initiatives for People with Disabilities		160	241	247	254	260	267	<b>1,429</b>
	Increase in Costs for Relief Disability Support Staff		803	626	642	658	675	692	<b>4,096</b>
			<b>963</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>5,524</b>
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2004-05</b>								
	Intensive Care and Treatment Program for People at Risk			0	717	1,242	1,267	1,299	<b>4,525</b>
	Addressing Unmet Need for People with Disabilities			1,250	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	<b>7,250</b>
	Autism Assessment and Support Services			318	430	437	445	456	<b>2,086</b>
	Transport Initiatives for People with Disabilities			120	123	125	127	130	<b>625</b>
				<b>1,688</b>	<b>2,770</b>	<b>3,304</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>3,385</b>	<b>14,486</b>



**Child Protection and Family Support (\$154m)**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Description of Initiative</b>	<b>2002-03 \$'000</b>	<b>2003-04 \$'000</b>	<b>2004-05 \$'000</b>	<b>2005-06 \$'000</b>	<b>2006-07 \$'000</b>	<b>2007-08 \$'000</b>	<b>2008-09 \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2002-03</b>								
	Substitute Care Demand Increase	1,545	1,583	1,623	1,664	1,706	1,748	1,792	11,661
		<b>1,545</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>1,706</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>11,661</b>
<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2003-04</b>								
	Strengthening statutory response to Children and Young People at Risk of Abuse and Neglect		500	513	526	539	552	566	3,197
			<b>500</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>3,197</b>
	<b>2003-04 3rd Appropriation</b>								
	Supporting Children at Risk		7,382	9,043	9,243	9,488	9,658	9,899	54,713
			<b>7,382</b>	<b>9,043</b>	<b>9,243</b>	<b>9,488</b>	<b>9,658</b>	<b>9,899</b>	<b>54,713</b>
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2004-05</b>								
	Increased Payments to Foster Carers			350	359	368	377	386	1,840
	Indigenous Foster Care			63	127	130	133	136	589
				<b>413</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>2,430</b>
	<b>Revised Budget</b>								
	Supporting Children at Risk			6,000	6,193	6,394	6,516	6,679	31,782
				<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,193</b>	<b>6,394</b>	<b>6,516</b>	<b>6,679</b>	<b>31,782</b>
	<b>2004-05 2nd Appropriation</b>								
	Revise Child Protection Manual			100	150	100	0	0	350
	Care and Protection Staff			536	2,667	2,752	2,793	2,835	11,583
	Individual Support Packages			3,100	0	0	0	0	3,100
	Additional support for Children Health and Young Persons System (CHYPS)			384	535	544	558	563	2,584
	Business Support Costs			699	2,532	2,387	2,419	2,459	10,496
	Accommodation consolidation			1,478	356	754	786	856	4,230
				<b>6,297</b>	<b>6,240</b>	<b>6,537</b>	<b>6,556</b>	<b>6,713</b>	<b>32,343</b>
<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2005-06</b>								
	Therapeutic services - feasibility/ forward design				50	0	0	0	50
	ATSI Unit				700	724	736	748	2,908

Individual support package				3,161	3,240	3,321	3,404	<b>13,126</b>
Accommodation consolidation				513	510	518	525	<b>2,066</b>
				<b>4,424</b>	<b>4,474</b>	<b>4,575</b>	<b>4,677</b>	<b>18,150</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>9,465</b>	<b>23,889</b>	<b>28,776</b>	<b>29,636</b>	<b>30,116</b>	<b>30,849</b>	<b>154,276</b>

Dr Deb Foskey to ask the Minister for Economic Development in relation to the Small and Micro Business Program:

In relation to the six initiatives funded under the small and micro business program, totalling \$13.139M over 4 years:

- a) What research was undertaken to identify the likely impact of these initiatives and appropriate resourcing levels?
- b) Are these initiatives subject to quality assurance requirements, data reporting and evaluation?
- c) Is there any clear evidence of the impact of any of these initiatives on micro and small business and the ACT economy?
- d) What have been the key activities and outcomes achieved by the Knowledge Fund over the past 12 months?
- e) Why has the knowledge fund been singled out from the other five for continued funding beyond 2007-08?

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June 1, 2005

Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Question on Notice No. 127

1. In relation to the Athletes in Schools Program:

- a) When did this program begin?
- b) How much funding has it received each year of operation?
- c) Which schools are involved with the program (an aggregate number of primary schools and high schools would be sufficient)?
- d) Is this program being evaluated or are there any plans to undertake an evaluation?

Question on Notice No. 134

1. What has been the government allocation to the Athletes in Schools program for each of the last five years?
2. Is the increase in this funding based on CPI?

The answers to the member's questions are as follows:

127 (a)

The Athletes in Schools program began in 1998/99.

127 (b) and 134.1

The Government does not have a specific annual funding allocation for the Athletes in Schools program. Each year, the ACT Academy of Sport applies to Healthpact for a grant to fund the program. Healthpact Community Grants are administered by the Health portfolio, and provide funding to community organisations and government agencies in order to add health promotion value to their activities, to support health promotion projects and to provide sponsorships. Healthpact funding provided to the ACT Academy of Sport for the program since its inception is as follows:

1998/99	\$15,000
1999/00	\$15,000
2000/01	\$15,000
2001/02	\$15,000
2002/03	\$15,000
2003/04	\$18,000
2004/05	\$18,000
2005/06	\$15,000

127 (c)

The number of schools and students that have been involved with the program are:

2000/01	25 primary schools	3,777 students
2001/02	36 primary schools	4,198 students
2002/03	47 primary schools	4,513 students
2003/04	43 primary schools	3,409 students
2004/05	35 primary schools	5,544 students

127 (d)

The program is evaluated each year through a formal process that consists of: measuring the number of participants (students, teachers and athletes) and the number of schools that request repeat visits, obtaining feedback from the athletes involved at the completion of each session, and conducting follow-up phone calls to teachers.

134.2

Healthpact determines the level of funding that is provided for the program each year.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

*Minister for Sport and Recreation*

*Date:.....*

Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

In relation to Racing and Gaming:

1. In Budget Paper No.4, page 87, titled “Changes to Appropriation – Territorial”, it appears that an additional \$492,000 was provided in 2004-05 under the “Racing Development Fund”.

- a) Why was there such an adjustment in government spending in relation to the Racing Development Fund?
- b) Who was the funding awarded to and under what conditions?
- c) When in 2004/05 was this change made to the appropriations?

2. In Budget Paper 4, page 78, Output 2.1 details funding provided to “develop the capacity and capability of sport, recreation and racing sectors to deliver quality programs and services to the community”.

- a) Please provide a breakdown of how much funding is distributed through grants, programs, education and training to the a) racing and b) gaming sectors?
- b) The allocation discussed above appears to have increased by \$2.5M in 2005-06 can you please explain the rationale for this increase and how the funds will be used?

The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

(1) a) The figure of \$492,000 to the Racing Development Fund (the RDF) represents the transfer of the balance of the RDF from the Department of Treasury to the Department of Economic Development.

b) During the financial year 2004-05 I approved 4 grants from the RDF -

(i) \$711,572 (GST inclusive) to the Canberra Racing Club Inc for the completion of the first stage of the track and training facilities upgrade.

(ii) \$73,645.00 (GST inclusive) to the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club Inc to assist in providing Sky Channel coverage for Canberra greyhound race meetings during the financial year 2004-05.

(iii) \$27,115 (GST inclusive) to the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club Inc for the replacement of the 600 metre starting box at the Canberra Greyhound Racing Club's track.

(iv) \$2,227.54 (GST inclusive) to the Gambling and Racing Commission for reimbursement of expenses associated with the conduct of the Racing Appeals Tribunal.

c) The change in the appropriations was made during November 2004 at the time of the transfer of the administration of the RDF from the Department of Treasury to the Department of Economic Development.

(2) a) The figure under output 2.1 for racing and gaming represents payments to the Gambling and Racing Commission to enable it to provide appropriate regulatory services.

b) The amount of \$2.5 million represents the part year transfer of the funding arrangements for the Gambling and Racing Commission from Department of Treasury to the Department of Economic Development in November 2004.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

*Minister for Racing and Gaming*

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005:

In relation to whole of government communications:

1. What is the difference in roles between the Communications, Festivals and Events Section of the Chief Minister's Department and the Publishing Services section of Urban Services; and
2. Why are whole of government messages, such as staff bulletins, gazettes and special gazettes distributed by Publishing Services rather than Communications, Festivals and Events.

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

- 1) Communications and Events (which incorporates Festivals), within the Executive Support Branch of the Chief Minister's Department, has a broad ranging role providing the Chief Executive CMD and the Chief Minister with a range of communication and administrative support services. These include:
  - the development of communications strategies, distribution of key messages and overseeing on a whole of government basis, consistency in delivery;
  - management of major ACT Government events;
  - management of the ACT Festival Fund;
  - daily media monitoring service and management of whole of government contract for monitoring;
  - coordination of media releases and speeches for CMD; and
  - coordination of whole of ACT Government emergency communications including representation on ACT Emergency Management Committee, the National Counter Terrorism Media Advisory Group and the national DIGPRO (Dignitary Protection) Group

Publishing Services, within the Department of Urban Services, is a fee-for-service business providing services to ACT Government departments and agencies to assist in the production of cost-effective traditional and electronically published material and communication products.

Publishing Services work across all Government agencies and in all aspects of public communication programs, but do not formulate or initiate these programs. There is no obligation for departments to engage Publishing

Services, but many do so as a result of the depth of expertise and knowledge in the area and the impartial advice the business unit provides.

On behalf of client agencies, Publishing Services advise and assist agencies in delivering information about their products, programs and services, by:

- providing an integrated design, publishing and distribution service;
- helping agencies to meet government publishing standards and guidelines;
- establishing competitive pricing for printing and publishing work; and
- meeting Territory records, copyright and audit requirements.

(2) Publishing Services undertake a number of Whole of Government information services on behalf of client agencies (client agencies include Customer Services and Information in Urban Services, the Public Sector Management and Industrial Relations Group in the Chief Minister's Department and the Department of Justice and Community Safety).

The services provided include:

- whole of Government electronic messaging;
- electronic Staff Bulletin and Gazette;
- Government Contacts Phone book;
- the Telstra White Pages insert; and
- ACT Government legislation.

Publishing Services' role in these tasks is to provide the knowledge, access to services and publishing expertise to the responsible agencies according to policies and specifications outlined in legislation, contracts, memoranda of understanding and service agreements.

Publishing Services also has responsibility for the printing of staff gazettes, legislation and related material.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

**Dr Foskey** - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 2 June 2005:

- 1) What was the enrolment rate of young people in the ACT for each of the last five years?
- 2) How do the answers to question one compare to other states and territories?
- 3) To what degree did the 2004 ACT and Australian elections increase the enrolment rate of young people in the ACT?
- 4) How many schools does the Commission provides its education program to per year and what school levels is the program delivered to?
- 5) Has the Commission conducted any review into how students/young people could become more aware of the role of government and elections?

**Ms Gallagher** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) The ACT Electoral Commission has provided the following answers to these questions.

The enrolment rates of young people in each State, the ACT, the Northern Territory and nationally for 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2004 are shown in the attached tables 1-6. These rates were not calculated for 2002.

Some caution should be exercised in analysing these tables. The data consists of actual enrolment statistics compared to estimated eligible population. These population estimates are based on various assumptions applied to Australian Bureau of Statistics data and may overstate or understate the enrolment rates in some cases.

- 2) Comparative results for the other States and Territories are shown in the attached tables 2-6.

Comparison of table 1 with table 2 shows that the enrolment of people in each of the 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21-25 year old age brackets in the ACT at the time of the 2004 ACT election was above the national average. The proportion of ACT citizens enrolled in each of these age brackets was also higher than all other States in almost all cases.

- 3) Table 1 shows the ACT participation rates at the time of the 2004 ACT election. Table 2 shows the participation rates at the time of the 2004 federal election. Table 3 shows the participation rates at 30 June 2003.

It can be seen that the absolute number of young people enrolled in each category in the ACT increased from 2003 to 2004. The tables also indicate that the estimated proportion of eligible citizens enrolled in each category increased in all categories except 20 year olds. This drop in the 20 year olds category may indicate that the estimated population for this age group may have been understated for 2003 or overstated for 2004.

- 4) The ACT Electoral Commission's education program is delivered to senior students in primary schools and students at all levels in high schools and colleges.

Electoral education programs are delivered in 3 main ways:

- Electoral education sessions, usually including a mock election, are held at the ACT Legislative Assembly in conjunction with the Legislative Assembly Education Officer.
- Electoral education sessions, often including student representative council elections, are held at schools.
- Electoral education information is provided on the Commission's website, including instructions and materials aimed at equipping schools to conduct their own student representative council elections.

Each year, the Commission writes to all schools in the ACT offering its electoral education services. A list of those schools and colleges that receive education sessions in the first two of the above categories is included in each of the Commission's Annual Reports. The Commission has not collected statistics on the number of schools using its website material.

The following table summarises the number of school education sessions held in the last 5 years.

1999-2000	17
2000-2001	24
2001-2002	17
2002-2003	16
2003-2004	20

- 5) The ACT Electoral Commission is currently participating in two projects aimed at reviewing how students/young people could become more aware of the role of government and elections.

The Youth Electoral Study (YES) is a national study attempting to uncover the reasons why young people are less likely to enrol to vote than older groups. The study is also looking at what motivates Australia's young people to participate in voting. This four year national project is a major investigation into youth voting behaviour led by a team of researchers from the University of Sydney and the Australian National University working in conjunction with the Australian Electoral Commission. The project commenced in 2003.

The ACT Electoral Commission is receiving regular reports and briefings on the findings of the Youth Electoral Study. More information can be found at [www.aec.gov.au/\\_content/What/publications/youth\\_study\\_1/index.htm](http://www.aec.gov.au/_content/What/publications/youth_study_1/index.htm).

The ACT Electoral Commission is hosting a conference on electoral education to be held in Canberra in October 2005. This conference will focus on how to improve the delivery of electoral education programs. The conference will be attended by electoral educators from all national, State and Territory electoral authorities and will be held conjointly with a parliamentary education officers conference.

**Table 1 Youth enrolment by age and percent of eligible population – 17 September 2004 (ACT election roll close)**

Age	17		18		19		20		21-25	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	1,170	29%	4,020	90%	4,336	91%	4,543	87%	23,463	89%

**Table 2 Youth enrolment by age and percent of eligible population – 7 September 2004 (federal election roll close)**

Age	17		18		19		20		21-25	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	1,092	27%	3,822	86%	4,157	87%	4,432	85%	23,124	88%
NT	2,629	10%	1,263	45%	1,497	52%	1,803	65%	11,666	78%
NSW	10,326	13%	60,325	70%	67,827	80%	69,159	83%	338,747	83%
Qld	5,615	12%	35,969	70%	41,337	80%	42,435	83%	211,035	84%
SA	4,311	24%	14,908	74%	15,252	75%	16,087	79%	80,399	84%
Tas	1,577	25%	5,480	80%	5,684	83%	5,591	86%	25,805	91%
Vic	21,880	38%	49,826	80%	53,474	85%	54,702	87%	268,009	85%
WA	6,283	25%	19,940	74%	20,179	76%	20,571	80%	103,851	83%
NAT	47,436	22%	191,533	73%	209,407	80%	214,780	83%	1,062,636	84%

**Table 3 Youth enrolment by age and percent of eligible population – 30 June 2003**

Age	17		18		19		20		21-25	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	267	6%	2,132	46%	3,431	74%	4,460	93%	22,227	88%
NSW	13,958	16%	56,483	68%	66,953	82%	70,057	87%	335,982	87%
NT	110	4%	582	22%	1,279	48%	1,975	76%	11,342	74%
Qld	7,156	14%	25,363	51%	35,243	71%	42,647	89%	201,383	87%
SA	1,506	8%	8,051	42%	13,706	72%	16,804	89%	81,112	87%
Tas	990	15%	3,625	56%	5,551	85%	5,641	94%	25,661	94%
Vic	10,649	17%	39,614	65%	53,195	89%	54,739	91%	269,871	90%
WA	3,662	14%	12,143	47%	16,513	65%	21,143	87%	102,295	90%
NAT	38,298	15%	147,993	59%	195,871	79%	217,466	89%	1,049,873	88%

**Table 4 Youth enrolment by age and percent of eligible population – November 2001 (federal election roll close)**

Age	17		18		19		20		21-25	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	807	19%	4,071	87%	4,330	90%	4,384	87%	22,642	93%
NSW	8,696	11%	56,759	71%	56,836	70%	65,274	82%	337,337	83%
NT	183	7%	1,424	53%	1,580	61%	2,018	75%	11,957	76%
QLD	6,245	13%	35,618	75%	41,023	88%	41,766	91%	198,143	86%
SA	3,408	18%	14,849	81%	15,219	84%	16,626	94%	79,629	89%
TAS	1,168	18%	5,358	87%	5,254	89%	5,536	98%	25,122	96%
VIC	18,318	31%	49,741	84%	49,104	81%	53,656	88%	271,090	86%
WA	6,031	24%	19,034	77%	20,218	82%	21,200	86%	103,642	81%
NAT	44,856	18%	186,854	77%	193,564	79%	210,460	87%	1,049,562	85%

**Table 5 Youth enrolment by age as a percentage of population - December 2000**

Age	17		18		19		20	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	848	20%	1,910	42%	3,581	78%	4,200	86%
NSW	7,657	10%	21,126	27%	54,585	69%	65,346	83%
NT	149	6%	601	23%	1,420	57%	1,803	69%
QLD	5,117	11%	17,836	38%	36,117	78%	37,586	83%
SA	3,187	17%	8,592	47%	15,056	84%	16,212	93%
TAS	1,410	22%	3,031	49%	5,217	86%	5,449	96%

VIC	20,137	35%	31,467	54%	49,232	84%	52,291	88%
WA	6,579	26%	8,092	33%	18,233	75%	20,380	84%
National	45,084	19%	92,655	39%	183,441	76%	203,267	85%

**Table 6 Youth enrolment by age as a percentage of population - October 1999**

Age	17		18		19		20	
	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n	Enrolled	% of eligible Pop'n
ACT	229	5%	3,247	73%	4,390	90%	4,574	91%
NSW	4,037	5%	50,785	62%	65,616	81%	66,642	82%
NT	168	6%	1,095	42%	1,650	62%	1,917	73%
QLD	1,702	4%	28,100	59%	35,337	76%	38,428	83%
SA	797	4%	12,607	68%	15,608	86%	15,874	87%
TAS	587	9%	4,549	69%	5,555	90%	5,530	91%
VIC	17,912	30%	47,920	80%	52,564	87%	53,575	87%
WA	1,931	8%	17,673	71%	20,244	82%	20,704	83%
National	27,363	11%	165,976	67%	200,964	82%	207,244	84%

**Notes:**

Sources: Table 1 - ACT Electoral Commission; Tables 2 - 5 - Electoral Council of Australia.

The "% of eligible population" columns are based on Australian Bureau of Statistics estimated resident population data. These estimates are subject to statistical error as they make assumptions about citizenship status of residents and may overstate or understate the enrolment rates in some cases.

Dr Foskey - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 2 June 2005 in relation to justice programs:

Page 345, BP4 shows a decline in the number of justice programs from 13 to 10.

1. What programs are to be cut and what are the anticipated effects on the community?
2. What are the general consultative views that have been put to the ACT Government about these cuts?

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

1. As detailed at page 29 of the transcript of evidence for Select Estimate Hearings of Thursday 26 May 2005, the decrease in the number of programs relates to the change to the performance management framework of the department. The output classes have been rationalized in number with the output class in relation to policy advice and justice programs becoming an accumulation of a number of previous output classes. There are no actual "cuts", rather a change in the presentation of information.
2. Refer to question 1.

Dr Foskey - Asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to the revised Child Protection Manual:

- 1) When did the project "Revised Child Protection Manual" begin;
- 2) When is the revised Child Protection Manual expected to be completed;
- 3) How much government funding has been spent on the revised Child Protection Manual to date;
- 4) Have there been any revised timelines in regards to when this Manual was to be completed? And if so, what were they and why were they set back;
- 5) Will training on the new features of the Child Protection Manual be provided to government staff;
- 6) When will this training be provided; and
- 7) To which government staff will this training be provided?

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

- 1) The project to update the Policy and Procedures Manual for Care and Protection Services commenced in July 2004.
- 2) These procedures are subject to a process of continuous review and improvement both internally and in partnership with other agencies. Since its launch on 8 September 2004 various chapters of the manual have been updated and re-issued to staff.
- 3) The government has spent \$50,393 on this project to date.
- 4) The government gave a commitment to launch a revised manual in September 2004. This occurred on 8 September 2004.
- 5) Yes.
- 6) Training on the revised manual content has been provided specifically on three occasions during 2005. Training on distinct sections of the manual has been incorporated in 47 training sessions for Care and Protection Services staff. Ongoing training on the manual will be provided.

- 7) The manual relates to care and protection business and forms part of the core training for all ACT care and protection workers.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support

Date: .....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 2 June 2005:

- 1) Has the government publicly released the feasibility study that it commissioned into the seven-bed crisis support unit which will be set up in the new Canberra prison for mentally ill people who find themselves before the courts?
- 2) If not, will the government table it?
- 3) Will the seven-bed crisis support unit be located within the new Canberra prison be provided to both remandees and sentenced offenders? and will the remandees and offenders be segregated?
- 4) Will all ACT remandees and offenders that require the use of forensic mental health facility be located within the seven-bed crisis support unit located within the new Canberra prison? If not, where else will they be located?
- 5) How does the government currently deal with people presenting to court that may be suffering from a mental illness and are they provided with access to a time-out facility?
- 6) How does the government currently deal with ACT sentenced offenders that may be suffering from a mental illness and are they provided with access to a time-out facility?
- 7) How many ACT sentenced offenders and remandees are currently accessing forensic mental health facilities in the ACT, and then in NSW?
- 8) How does the location (ie in NSW) affect the ability of remandees and offenders to receive family and friends as visitors? And does the government assist family and friends of ACT remandees and offenders with transportation in order to make visits?

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

- 1) It is assumed Dr Foskey is referring to the Forensicare Victoria report "Feasibility Study into High Security Mental Health Care". It is understood that this document, which is not a Department of Justice and Community Safety document, has been publicly released.

- 2) Yes to both questions.
- 3) No. People whose mental illness is such that they need to be held in a secure forensic mental health facility will need to be placed in a facility outside the prison. The Forensic report provides details of a range of possible placement options.
- 4) Forensic Services, Mental Health ACT, has a Mental Health Court Liaison officer working full-time at the courts, who provides an important link between the judiciary and the mental health services and organizes crisis intervention, if required. If someone does present with mental illness, the judiciary has the option of referring the individual to the Mental Health Tribunal. With regards to a time-out facility, neither Mental Health nor Corrective Services are aware of one in the ACT.
- 5) ACT sentenced prisoners currently serve their sentences in NSW correctional facilities. The Detainee Mental Health Service to which all ACT remandees have access, provides NSW Corrections with all necessary information relating to the care of ACT sentenced prisoners, when they are transferred to NSW to serve their sentence. Under the terms of agreement with NSW, decisions relating to the day-to-day management of ACT sentenced prisoners are the responsibility of NSW Corrections. NSW Corrections does not have a time-out facility.
- 6) All remandees within ACT have access to the services of the Forensic Mental Health Service through the Detainee Mental Health Service. At present 62 persons are listed against this service. Sentenced ACT offenders serve their sentence in NSW correctional facilities and have access to NSW forensic mental health facilities.
- 7) The Forensic Community Outreach Service provides a service to offenders with mental illness who pose a risk of serious offending in the community. The service undertakes pre-release assessments for sentenced offenders returning to the ACT. Currently 1 person is listed against this service.
- 8) Visits to ACT prisoners held in NSW prisons, particularly those that are remote from the ACT, are difficult and this is one of the factors behind the government's decision to build a new prison and repatriate prisoners from NSW. Prisoners Aid ACT receive government funding in the order of \$96,000 p.a. for the provision of financial assistance to prisoners and their families, including assistance with travel. In 2003-04, around 300 visits to sentenced ACT prisoners in NSW were funded through Prisoners Aid ACT.

Dr Deb Foskey: to ask the Minister for Economic Development in relation to the Athletes in Schools program:

- 1) What has been the government allocation to the Athletes in Schools program for each of the last five years?
  - 2) Is the increase in this funding based on CPI?
-

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Thursday, 2 June 2005:  
In relation to the Auditor-General's report, '2003-04 Financial Audits' of  
6 December 2004:

Under the section titled Budget Management, it states in regards to capital works, "the management of allocated capital works funding remains an area of concern. Although showing improvement in 2003-04, the large amount underspent indicates that the management and delivery of capital projects needs to be further improved."

However the report also states "as the Audit Office does not audit the individual capital works projects when completing the financial statement audits of these agencies, no opinion is expressed on how well these capital works projects were being managed".

- 1) Will the Auditor General be reviewing this issue? And if not, is the Auditor General aware of by whom or when this issue will be reviewed?
- 2) Does the Auditor General have the capacity to review that area that manages the capital works? Is this to occur?
- 3) Could you please advise me if the Auditor General has made any recommendations or comments to the ACT Government about the under spending, and if so what they were and if the ACT Government has noted or adopted them?
- 4) Does this under spending cause any great liabilities to the ACT Government in that there are many capital works from the past yet to be concluded, and many new initiatives to begin?

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

- 1) The Auditor-General does not audit individual capital works projects when undertaking annual financial statement audits. However the Auditor-General's Office has its own audit program and it would be necessary to ask the Auditor-General if any audits of this nature were proposed.
- 2) If the Auditor-General so chose, performance audits of capital works projects, including issues around specification, management and delivery of capital works projects, could be undertaken in any ACT Government agency.

- 3) No recommendations were made regarding the under spending of the capital works program in the Auditor-General's report. The Government made no comments in this regard to the Auditor-General's report.
- 4) Any deferral or re-appropriation of funding relating to the capital works program means that cash available to the Government is set-aside for these purposes, and therefore that it is not available for other purposes.

In regards to liabilities, contingent or actual liabilities would exist where agencies have entered into contracts with future payments for services. This would normally occur once contract negotiations with service providers had concluded and construction has commenced.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy – asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

- 1) In relation to child care and protection:
- 2) How many days of out-of-home care have been provided in 2004-05;
- 3) How many days of out-of-home care have been used in 2004-05;
- 4) Comparing 2004-05 to 2005-06, how will the average daily cost of out-of-home care be reduced from \$193 to \$178;
- 5) Will there be any staff reductions in the provision of out-of-home care in order to fund the reduction in average daily cost from \$193 to \$178;
- 6) How is the quality of out-of-home care assessed? What assessment criteria are used?
- 7) As a result of the expected saving, will there be any reduction in the quality of out-of-home care provided according to the assessment criteria: and
- 8) How many child protection reports have been received in 2004-05?

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

- 1) As at 1 June 2005, 113,691 days of out-of-home care have been provided.
- 2) As at 1 June 2005, 113,691 days of out-of-home care have been used.
- 3) The daily cost of out-of-home reduces due to the consolidation of the contract management function of out-of-home care contract management and a lower allocation of corporate overheads to the cost of this service, which is due to the corporate overheads being attributed over increased services and staff.
- 4) There will be no staff reductions in the provision of out-of-home care as a result of the reduced average daily cost.
- 5) The quality of out of home care is assessed according to a range of criteria. The criteria includes selection of carers and residential staff; recruitment and training strategies for staff and carers; compliance with legislation including

the Children and Young People Act and other Territory legislation and the program and care environment for children and young people receiving care through the out of home care service. The experience and capacity of an agency in the delivery of high quality out of home care services is also considered.

- 6) No, there is no reduction in the quality of out-of-home care provided according to the selection criteria.
- 7) As at 1 June 2005, 7385 child protection reports have been received.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support

Date: .....

RICHARD MULCAHY: To ask the Minister for Health, in relation to the activities of HealthPACT:

1. What strategy will be implemented to ensure that the asset base of HealthPACT is re-established after the use of investment funds to provide additional funding for grants programs in 2004-05?
2. For each of 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 (as relevant):
  - a) What is the quantum of funds allocated to HealthPACT's grants programs?
  - b) How much has been, and is estimated will be, spent by HealthPACT on the administration of its grants programs?
  - c) How much will be spent on the HealthPACT Research Centre?
3. How much is being spent by HealthPACT on the project that is analysing equity in funding programs? What is the objective of this project, when was it scheduled for completion and when will it be completed?
4. Who determines the research priorities for projects to be undertaken by the HealthPACT Research Centre and what evaluation processes are in place to assess the quality and the outcomes of the research projects?

*(Richard Mulcahy)*

June 2005

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005:

In relation to the scoping study for refurbishment of Albert Hall -

1. When will the study be conducted?
2. How long will the study take?
3. Who will conduct the study?
4. What criteria were used, or will be used, for choosing the person(s) to conduct the study?
5. What is the basis for the cost estimate of \$40,000 for the study?

Mr Quinlan, Acting Chief Minister - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Territory Government is committed to see the Albert Hall restored to its former glory. The Territory Government has allocated \$40,000 as an initial appropriation to begin the process. Budget Paper No. 4 (page 86) identifies \$40,000 within the Department of Economic Development (DED) Budget to begin the upgrade project.

DED will use the funds outlined in the 2005-06 Budget for the preparation of feasibility studies as the first stage of the Albert Hall upgrade project.

Given the heritage significance of the Albert Hall, the funding will be used to develop a Conservation and Landscape Management Plan.

It is anticipated that the study will commence shortly and that the Conservation and Landscape Management Plan will be finalised over the next couple of months. Given consultants have not yet been appointed, it is unknown who will conduct the study. The successful consultant will be able to deliver the study within the specified timeframe, offer value for money and have demonstrated experience in this field.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

RICHARD MULCAHY: To ask the Treasurer in relation to the recovery from the January 2003 bushfire disaster:

- 1) Why, out of the estimated total cost of the recovery effort of \$137 million, are total receipts from the Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements (NDRA) estimated to be only \$15.2 million?
- 2) Will any further applications be made for funding under NDRA? If so, when will this application/these applications be made? If not, why not?
- 3) Are there any other sources of funding for the ACT to pursue in seeking to offset some of the costs of recovery efforts? If so, what has been the outcome of these actions? If not, why have these sources not been pursued?
- 4) Was an application made to the Prime Minister, following his offer of assistance made on 19 January 2003? If so, what was the response to this application? If not, why was such an application not made?

*(Richard Mulcahy)*

June 2005

## 140 Mr Zed SESELJA Disability, Housing & Community Services

ZED SESELJA, MLA: To ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Budget Paper3 (2005/06), page 186, 'Initiatives Explained'- Children with High and Complex Needs (including Autism) and Additional Therapy Support for Children with High and Complex needs (including Autism), Can the Minister advise:

1. *In relation to the two initiatives outlined above, what amount of funding has been specially allocated to the treatment of children with 'Autism'?*

The "Children with High and Complex Needs (including autism)" initiative will provide services to a small number of families with children with high and complex needs who are having difficulty in caring for their child in the family home. Most of the children in this group have a combination of disability and other issues including challenging behaviours that result in risk to either themselves, their siblings, parents or community members. It is highly likely that some of these children may have autism.

The "Additional Therapy Support for Children with High and Complex needs (including autism)" initiative will provide assessment, and short-term trial of specialised equipment and augmentative communication devices.

As yet not all the children who will need to access either of these services are identified or known. Therefore it is not possible to identify the specific amount of funding allocated to children with autism. These children will be identified on a needs basis, rather than on the basis of a diagnosis. A breakdown of allocation will be available in the annual report 2005-2006.

2. *What precisely is the minimum amount of funding in these items that will fund services for people with autism or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?*

See answer to question 1.

3. *How will the government monitor these services?*

Both services will have identified output measures that will be used as a means of monitoring the services.

4. *What outcomes are these funds expected to achieve for children with autism?*

The new initiatives will provide:

- Co-ordinated interagency family support
- Co-ordinated early intervention approach to strengthen capacity of families to continue in their caring role
- Support for each family which will be planned on an individual basis
- Assessment of specialised equipment needs, short term trial of equipment to ensure that equipment prescribed is appropriate
- Assessment of communication/voice output devices as a means to support communication and address behavioural issues.
- A reduction in the number of children with high and complex needs and their families in crisis situations.

5. *What clinical intervention for autism/ASD does the ACT government provide for people diagnosed with autism/ASD?*

Therapy ACT has an Autism Assessment and Family Support team, which provides assessment and intervention in the areas of occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech pathology, psychology and social work. These services are also available in regional teams for children with autism pre and post diagnosis. Disability ACT provides respite services. Housing options are also available through Housing ACT.

6. *Does this include social workers counselling parents? If so, how is this regarded as clinical intervention for a child with autism/ASD?*

Therapy ACT follows a Family Centred philosophy where the family and child are seen as the client and intervention is aimed at the child and family. The journal article referred to below states that teams should include a range of professionals including social workers. An increased level of family stress impacts on the parent's ability to care for their child and therefore the child's ability to function in the day to day environment.

Research also suggests that parental support, both at time of diagnosis and ongoing is paramount to reducing parent stress which in turn assists in decreasing the chance of mental illness and increasing family cohesion and marital accord which is often affected in families with children with disabilities. Therefore, the role of social workers is paramount in providing support.

7. *International experts (Reference Medical Journal of Australia – Wray J, Silove N. & Knott H. (April 2005) Language disorders and autism MJA; 182 (7): pp354-360) in the treatment of autism/ASD, universally agree that early intervention for autism/ASD requires a minimum of 20 hours per week of individualised autism-specific intensive intervention that is supervised by skilled clinical specialist(s). How much intervention of this type does the ACT government provide for each child with autism/ASD in their prior to their reaching school age?*

The research article referred in your question states that:

“From earlier research providing evidence of the effectiveness of early intervention, it was suggested that as many as 40 hours be spent in therapy. It is now widely accepted that between 15-25 hours of specific intervention is adequate and that 40 hours per week of therapy may put unnecessary stress on families and their financial resources, with an uncertain added benefit. In the typical programs of today a child may spend time in individual therapy, in preschools with support, in special playgroups and in home based intervention”.

In the ACT children may attend Autism specific preschool programs for up to 10- 12 hours per week. Input into the preschool program by therapists is provided as required. Parents are also able to access individual therapy on a needs basis from Therapy ACT, childcare with support and in home support for program implementation by FaBRIC. The amount of time a child spends in each of these programs varies from child to child.

8. *What fraction of the necessary services that internationally recognised overseas experts in autism/ASD regarded as essential, does the ACT government provide, on average, for a child diagnosed with autism/ASD before reaching school age.*

See above answer

9. *How many government funded clinical professionals supervise intensive individual programs for children with autism/ASD in the ACT?*

Since February 2004, Disability ACT has funded the specialist support consultants for the Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Program at the Woden School. These services include the training of classroom staff; visiting the school two days each month; observing the students for a total of four hours each month via one-on-one teaching; planning the curriculum for the children's one-on-one sessions; meeting with teachers and parents once each month to review the children's programs; and arranging two visits by a specialist ABA consultant from overseas. The current consultant is Autism

Partnership. The ABA approach is based on a belief in the effectiveness of intensive structured one-on-one interactions, and the Woden School ABA Program was established to support four specific students with Autism. However, last year one of the students withdrew from the ABA classroom.

The Department of Education and Training has been providing the classroom, teacher and teacher's assistants for the program.

This program is currently being evaluated, with an expected report due in July 2005.

*10. What proportion (in terms of one on one contact) of the supervision is for pre-school age children and what proportion (in terms of one on one contact) of the supervision is for children of school age?*

Therapy ACT provides services on a needs basis not on diagnostic criteria. Any data collected is by individual clients not diagnosis.

*11. What proportion of each clinical profession does the government provide in the supervision of individual cases.*

See answer above

*12. How many students with ASD are granted a Disability Support Pension soon after leaving school?*

DHCS does not collect this information. Disability Support Pensions are Australian Government funded and information regarding this should be requested for the appropriate Australian Government department.

*13. What percentage of students with ASD completing their education does this represent?*

See response to the above question.

*14. Does the government regard this as an equitable outcome for people with ASD?*

See response above.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA  
Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

In relation to the construction of on road cycle lanes, Mr Seselja MLA, asked;

- 1) What work is being performed to establish on road cycle lanes in the Woden to Weston Creek and Cotter road areas?
- 2) What is the cost of these works?
- 3) On what basis was the work planned and funded?
- 4) Was a cost benefit assessment done prior to commencement of work? If so, what are the detailed outcomes of the assessment? If not, why not?

The answer to Mr Seselja MLA's questions are as follows:

- 1) On road cycle lanes in Woden and Weston Creek have been provided on Melrose Drive and Hindmarsh Drive as part of the Woden Valley on road cycling project.
- 2) The cost of the works was approximately \$900,000.
- 3) The works form part of the main route cycle network identified in the Masterplan for Cycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure in 2004.
- 4) Yes, a cost benefit assessment was done prior to commencement of work. The provision of these facilities are consistent with the broader objective of increasing the modal share to cycling, walking and use of public transport as outlined in the *Sustainable Transport Plan* released by the ACT Government in April 2004. Section 5 of this plan highlights the social, economic and environmental benefits of increasing environmentally friendly transport modes with benefits estimated to amount to between \$800 - \$900 million over 25 years in present value terms.

Mr Seselja - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 2 June 2005:

What justification was given to awarding \$1,355 to the recipient organisation, Enlightening Productions, to “assist with the cost of film stock and microphone lapel fees as part of the production of a documentary film on the Aboriginal Tent Embassy in 2003”.

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

In 2003, Enlightening Productions received funding of \$1,355 through the ACT Arts Funding Program Quick Response category to assist with costs of film stock and microphone lapel fees as part of the production of a documentary film on the Aboriginal Tent Embassy.

Enlightening Productions’ application strongly met the published criteria for a Quick Response Grant. The application demonstrated: a strong contribution to the achievement of one or more of the six *Arts Capital* Key Result Areas; that the activity could not have been anticipated at the time of the previous Project Funding round and cannot be applied for in the next Project Funding round; that the activity represents a significant opportunity for the artist/arts organisations; and a need for ACT Government funding for a project that would not otherwise occur.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Ms Porter - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 1 June 2005:

- 1) Minister, could you please give us some more detail about the public art program, and the funding arrangement with the ANU Faculty of Arts.
- 2) Minister, could the committee have some information on the range of cultural facilities in the ACT for which the ACT Government has responsibility?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions is as follows:

1.
  - a. The 2005-06 public art program is dedicated to an iconic artwork. At present, we are exploring options including artwork at the gateway to the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens (the Arboretum).
  - b. The ACT Government has a funding agreement with the ANU Faculty of Arts known as the Community Outreach Program. The Community Outreach Program provides access for the ACT community to the skills, expertise and facilities of the ANU School of Music and School of Art. The program includes music activities for primary and secondary school students, public music concerts, subsidised access to Llewellyn Hall, support for the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, services to ACT music organisations, access to the School of Music and School of Art Library, access to a range of visual arts workshops, public lectures on visual arts, and the staging of the temporary public art event titled *Domain*. The 2005-06 Budget has an allocation of \$1.6m for the agreement.
2. The ACT Government cultural facilities are as follows:

Chief Minister's Department Ainslie Arts Centre, Ainslie ArtSound FM, Curtin Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Manuka Gorman House Arts Centre, Braddon Manuka Arts Centre, Manuka Nissen Hut Store, Kambah Strathnairn, Holt The Street Theatre, Acton Theatre 3, Acton Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Greenway Watson Arts Centre, Watson	Cultural Facilities Corporation Canberra Museum and Gallery, Civic Canberra Theatre Centre, Civic – The Canberra Theatre – The Playhouse – The Courtyard Studio The Nolan Gallery, Lanyon Calthorpes House, Red Hill Lanyon Property, Tharwa Mugga Mugga Property, Symonston
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Department of Education and Training The Erindale Theatre, Wanniasa	
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Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

A/g Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs

Ms Porter - Asked the Attorney General upon notice on 2 June 2005:

Page 344 mentions a new indicator that will measure whether the justice system is responding to the causes of individual offending and unpacking those casual factors. Could the committee have some more information about how this will be measured?

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

The Department of Justice and Community Safety's performance indicators, as they are currently reported in the Annual Report, will be phased out at the end of 2004-2005. The intention was to replace them by fewer and more meaningful indicators, using a mixture of qualitative and quantitative measures, which are reported six monthly.

Indicators relevant to the question are as follows:

- Reduced risk of re-offending (percentage and number of offenders whose assessed risk reduces over time); and
- Adequate offender programs and services targeting offender behaviour (percentage and number of sampled offender case plans where the case plan goals are achieved, and percentage of sampled offender case plans where the offender has been provided with services or programs targeting their offending behaviour).

Ms Porter - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to Budget Paper 4 – Appendix 5:

Minister, I note that the increased costs estimated for 2004-05 are in part attributed to the amalgamation of the Department of Justice and Community Safety finance functions within the Chief Minister's Department. Why was this necessary?

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

The finance functions of the Department of Justice and Community Safety and Chief Minister's Department were amalgamated from 1 July 2004 so that services could be provided in a more sustainable and efficient manner.

Ms Porter: - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on

3 June 2005:

Does the ACT Government have any plans to develop an Arts precinct in the new city west development?

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

The Government is working with the local arts community and the Australian National University to progress the development of the City West Arts Precinct. Consultations with these groups were held in January and February this year and a proposal was developed for a new performing arts facility in City West. Another round of meetings is soon to commence to clarify a vision for the Precinct and its arts facilities.

An allocation of \$150,000 was made in the 2005-06 Budget to fund a design brief for the City West Performing Arts Facility; and a cost benefit analysis for the establishment of a national choreographic centre in the ACT.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy: - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 2 June 2005:

1. What is the process taken in selecting the public art sculptures?
2. Have the sites been identified for the art to be displayed?
3. If so, where are these sites; why have they been selected; what work will be positioned there; how much does each sculpture/artwork selected cost; and when will this artwork be launched?

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

1. The commissioning process is currently being developed.
2. At present, we are exploring options including an artwork at the gateway to the Canberra International Arboretum and Gardens (the Arboretum).
3. Specific site details are being explored. Details of cost and timing have not yet been determined. Furthermore, a launch date is also yet to be determined.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 3 June 2005:

**1. Overall budget for artsACT**

- a. How much less has been allocated to artsACT for 2005/06 than in 2004/05?
- b. What programs will that funding reduction affect?

**2. ACT Cultural Council: the ACT Government's principal advisory body on the arts**

- a. Is the Cultural Council's advice able to be accessed by the wider community, or are all its deliberations and recommendations confidential to government?
- b. If so, why?

**3. Arts Capital – the arts development strategy for the ACT**

- a. Is ArtsCapital (first released in 1999) still to be revisited by the ACT Cultural Council this year, and is that revisit identified in the accountability indicator in this budget?
- b. Reviews of ArtsCapital were to take place every three years. Has any such review been conducted and if so does it indicate how arts in the ACT have fared against the key result areas of ArtsCapital such as;
  - i. Sustainability – i.e: have arts organisations become more sustainable since 1999? Is there a higher level of private philanthropy?
  - ii. Cultural tourism – i.e: how does artsACT work with the Tourism Authority or across government, and is this reported in the budget? Has the cultural tourism strategy as identified in ArtsCapital been developed?

iii. Audience participation – i.e: has the level of audience participation increased for those from lower income or culturally diverse backgrounds?

c. In the context of the Economic White Paper's stated support for ArtsCapital what is the ACT Government doing for the wood design and computer games industries?

#### **4. Arts Facilities Strategy**

a. City West – Community Outreach Program

i. Will artsACT continue to work with the ANU's Faculty of Arts to refine the Community Outreach Program, and provide enhanced opportunities for the Canberra community to benefit from the creative excellence of the Schools of Art and Music?

ii. What is being done through the Community Outreach Program to integrate ANU and independent ACT arts organisations to make best use of resources?

b. Woden Cultural Facilities

i. How is the Woden Community Council request for a review of the current community, arts and cultural facilities and present and future requirements being accommodated?

c. Civic Square

i. Is a Public Art Program for Civic Square in development?

ii. What is the progress of the artsACT commitment to generate more street-level activity in Civic Square through Legislative Assembly function rooms?

#### **5. Warehouse Circus Inc**

As the Chief Minister's Department refused a budget request from the Circus to remain viable, was that request referred to the Sports and Recreation or Youth portfolio recognising the important social outcomes the circus achieves?

#### **6. screenACTion**

The 2004-05 budget noted the screenACTion initiative, with a government allocation of approximately \$300 000 per year until 2007/08, however this initiative has not been mentioned in the 2005-06 budget.

- a. Does this initiative currently fall within the Chief Minister's Department?
- b. When will (or has) screenACTion begin operation?
- c. Does the current budget maintain the allocation of approximately \$300 000 per year until 2007/08?
- d. How much of this funding is directed towards programs or grants (rather than administration and staffing costs)?
- e. How will screenACTion work with other ACT Government, federal government or educational organisations, in order to maximize its information sharing and minimize duplication?

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

### **1. Overall budget for artsACT**

- a. If the transfer of funding from artsACT for Festivals functions which are now located in another area of the Chief Minister's Department is taken into account, artsACT has received an increase to GPO (\$10.768m in 2004-05 increased to \$10.792m in 2005-06). Overheads have not been included in these figures. The allocation of funding for artsACT's Outputs in 2004-05 was \$11.196m and will be \$10.792m in 2006-07. In addition, artsACT's funding for the ACT Arts Funding Program has been increased from \$4.908m in 2004-05 to \$4.968. artsACT's funding for Capital Works has increased from \$3.422m in 2004-05 to \$8.120m in 2005-06.
- b. Changes in funding are outlined above. There have been savings and these will be achieved by modifications across programs.

### **2. ACT Cultural Council: the ACT Government's principal advisory body on the arts**

- a. The Council's deliberations and recommendations are confidential to government.
- b. As an advisory body, the ACT Cultural Council's role is to provide advice to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs.

### **3. Arts Capital – the arts development strategy for the ACT**

- a. The ACT Cultural Council is currently developing advice on the revision of Arts Capital for consideration by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Indigenous Affairs.
- b. i) ii) iii) The ACT Cultural Council annually tracked progress in the implementation of Arts Capital's specific strategies within the context of each of the Key Result Areas.
- c. BusinessACT is the main agency responsible for implementing actions of the Economic White Paper. BusinessACT promotes access to and participation in its programs and services to the wood design and the computer games industries as part of the creative industries, an identified priority sector for development.

BusinessACT is working on a database of local company capabilities in the creative industries. The database will be used to promote local capabilities and products, and to keep the sector informed of business and other professional opportunities.

BusinessACT is liaising with local industry association, CraftACT, regarding a proposal to establish a Canberra Collection brand and associated web site with e-commerce capabilities.

screenACTion, part of BusinessACT in the Department of Economic Development, is the ACT Government office of film, television and digital media. screenACTion works closely with the computer games development sector to provide relevant professional development and promotional opportunities for the sector in Canberra. The ACT Government, through screenACTion, sponsors the Canberra Games Festival and is also proposing to sponsor participation of high school teachers.

#### **4. Arts Facilities Strategy**

- a. City West – Community Outreach Program
  - i. Yes.
  - ii. A number of programs within the Community Outreach Program support many independent ACT arts organisations to access the facilities and expertise of the ANU Faculty of Arts. These organisations include the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, Canberra Youth Music, Canberra Choral Society and Salut! Baroque.

- b. Woden Cultural Facilities
  - i. The Government's Arts Facilities Strategy acknowledges the potential need to establish a community arts facility in the Woden area. Consideration is being given to schedule an examination of this need and the potential for such a facility in Woden in coming years.
  
- c. Civic Square
  - i. Public art will be incorporated into the development of the Library-Link Project
  - ii. The Library-Link Project and the Multicultural Centre soon to be located in North Building will contribute to the activity in Civic Square.

**5. Warehouse Circus Inc**

Yes.

**6. screenACTion**

- a. No. screenACTion is administered by BusinessACT, within the ACT Department of Economic Development.
- b. screenACTion began operations in August 2004.
- c. Yes.
- d. screenACTion does not administer a specific grant program. Of the funding, approximately 60% goes towards staffing costs and administration, with the remaining 40% going towards activities and initiatives designed to attract filming to the ACT and Region, and to develop and promote the local screen industry.
- e. screenACTion works with other ACT Government, Commonwealth Government and educational organisations by participating in appropriate fora, and communicating through a variety of means such as meetings, emails, telephone and newsletters.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Attorney General upon notice:

1. As construction costs are held to rise about ten percent a year, according to the Master Builders' Association, how can you ensure that the budget for the prison will not blow out significantly further?
2. Will there be a reduction in facilities or amenities in order to complete the prison project within the present budget?
3. Will the project be abandoned if the cost blow-out exceeds a certain point?
4. If so, what point might this be?
5. What is the cause of the delays in this project since the appropriation was made in 2003?
6. What are the contingency plans in the event of the project continuing to experience significant delays?
7. What consideration has been given to economies of scale and sharing of facilities and personnel between the projected youth detention centre and the new prison? If co-location of the new Quamby and the prison is not being considered, why not?
8. How many additional staff will be employed in the new prison?
9. Is there expected to be an increase in prisoner and in remandee numbers when the new prison is operational?
10. Where will you find the money in the out years for the operating costs, including staff at the prison?
11. How much is it estimated that the new prison will cost to run each year?
12. How much is it estimated that wages at the new prison will cost per year, taking into account overtime requirements?
13. Will professional services to the new prison be contracted out? What will the positions be and how much is this projected to cost?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

1. The assumption underlying this question is incorrect. There has been no cost 'blow out'. The government appropriated \$110 million for the project in 2003. The government has supplemented that appropriation to take account of general price movements in the economy. This is a normal process to ensure that sufficient funds are available when contracts are let following tender.

The costings of all major projects are usually prepared well in advance of actual construction and will certainly change in response to general economic activity. This is evidenced in the relevant Australian Bureau of Statistics data collections, and the WESTPAC-Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors BRIX survey, complemented by the Rider Hunt Construction Cost Summary. In recognition of this, treasury agencies usually advise procurement agencies of the appropriate indices to be applied to project inputs to ensure that the project costings remain reliable. Professionals in the private and public sector construction and finance domains do not apply to this objective process the label "blow out". The Prison Project office has discussed these indices and their application to the Prison Project with both ACT Treasury and with the Department of Defence with respect to the Commonwealth Government's project at Bungendore.

2. The design of the prison is being developed within the project budget.
3. See answer to question 2.
4. See answer to question 2.
5. The assumption underlying this question is wrong.
6. See answer to question 5.
7. This question assumes that there will be economies of scale when that is not necessarily correct. The needs of juvenile detainees are different to those of adults. The government is still considering options for replacing Quamby.
8. This question is not clear. There is no indication of what comparison is expected to be made to arrive at the concept of 'additional staff'. The projected staffing for the Alexander Maconochie Centre when it becomes operational is in the order of 180.

9. ACT Treasury provided projections of the growth of the ACT remandee and prisoner population over the life of the facility. These figures are available on the Prison Project website.
10. The operating costs of the new prison will be offset by the savings arising from the closure of the Belconnen Remand Centre and the Symonston Temporary Remand Centre and the cessation of housing sentenced prisoners in NSW.
11. The cost of operating the Alexander Maconochie Centre will depend upon the final design. Until that is settled, the model for the number of operating staff cannot be confirmed.
12. Wages usually constitute approximately 60% of a prison's operating costs. Detailed information on the estimated wages and overtime will not be available until the staffing model has been determined.
13. It is not clear what constitutes "professional services". All programs delivered to detainees will be provided by appropriately qualified staff using a mix of delivery methods. The costs are included in the operational costs of the prison.

Mr Mulcahy : To ask the Minister for Health – In relation to public elective surgery:

At the end of April 2005, how many people were on the public elective surgery waiting list at the Canberra Hospital how many were on the public elective surgery waiting list at Calvary Hospital;

*Richard Mulcahy*  
*June 2005*

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 3 June 2005 in relation to Lanyon Homestead:

1. Are there any plans to grade the access road to Lanyon Homestead to reduce dust and to enhance safety?

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

Yes. Arrangements are currently being made for an external contractor to carry out works to the road. This will reduce the corrugations on the road. Dust, however, is likely to remain a problem as long as the current drought continues.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 3 June 2005:

What are the details of these service purchasing arrangements?

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

There are two service-purchasing arrangements:

1. There is a funding agreement with the Australian National University, Faculty of Arts for the delivery of the Community Outreach Program for funding of \$1.6m in 2004-05.

The Community Outreach Program provides access for the ACT community to the skills, expertise and facilities of the ANU School of Music and School of Art. The program includes music activities for primary and secondary school students, public music concerts, subsidised access to Llewellyn Hall, support for the Canberra Symphony Orchestra, services to ACT music organisations, access to the School of Music and School of Art Library, access to a range of visual arts workshops, public lectures on visual arts, and the staging of temporary public art events.

2. artsACT has oversight responsibilities for the Cultural Facilities Corporation (CFC) which will receive funding of \$6.862m in 2005-06. The CFC provides a range of cultural programs, for example the subscription season of theatre, in a range of significant cultural facilities such as the Canberra Theatre Centre.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy: - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 3 June 2005:

1. What are the details of the 11 artsACT assets managed?
2. Is there scope for streamlining duplication of positions for collective management of these facilities?
3. In relation to Gorman House Arts Centre, are there any structural or repair issues that remain outstanding on Gorman House Arts Centre that may impact usability?
4. Given the ownership agreement comment that there is an on-going maintenance program, can you confirm that structural issues restricted access to part of the Gorman House Arts Centre in recent times? (Ref, P.52 CMD 05-06 Ownership Agreement)

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

1. Ainslie Arts Centre, Ainslie  
ArtSoundFM, Curtin  
Canberra Contemporary Art Space, Manuka  
Gorman House Arts Centre, Braddon  
Manuka Arts Centre, Manuka  
Nissen Hut Store, Kambah  
Strathnairn, Holt  
The Street Theatre, Acton  
Theatre 3, Acton  
Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Greenway  
Watson Arts Centre, Watson
2. There is no duplication.
3. There are no structural or repair issues that remain outstanding on Gorman House Arts Centre that may impact usability.
4. There was a minor amount of structural repairs required in C Block of Gorman House, which resulted in reduced access for a short period of time. All repairs have been completed.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on Friday 3 June 2005.

In relation to EOR Media, the recipient of \$23,180 for the funding of Short Seasons Film Festival, the Canberra Short Film Festival and Lights! Canberra! Action!:

1. Could the total of each festival allocation be identified making up the funding of \$23,180?
2. Does EOR Media have an events/festival management component in their company?
3. If not, who handles the management of the festivals?
4. How much of the funding is assigned specifically to the management of the festivals?
5. What process was used to select EOR media to manage the various festivals?
6. What has been the period of time EOR Media has managed the festivals?

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

- As a part of the Administrative Arrangement Orders of 4 November 2004, the ACT Festivals function was transferred from artsACT to Executive Support. Consequently, the Festival program will now be delivered by Communications and Events within the Executive Support area.
- Short Seasons Film Festival and Canberra Short Film Festival are community events funded through the ACT Festival Fund. In Contrast, the Lights! Canberra! Action! Film making competition is run by the ACT Government as part of the Celebrate Canberra program. Separate responses have provided in each case.

#### Short Seasons Film Festival and Canberra Short Film Festival

1. EOR Media were successful in receiving a total of \$23,180 from the 2005 ACT Festival Fund. The purpose of this grant was to assist with costs associated with presenting both the Short Seasons Film Festival and the Canberra Short Film Festival. The exact break-up of the grants monies is unknown.

2. EOR Media is a media and film production company that also has expertise specific to the management of film festivals.
3. Not Applicable.
4. The purpose of the ACT Festival Fund grant was specifically to assist with administrative and marketing costs associated with both film festivals. The exact break-up of the grants monies is unknown.
5. Applications to the Festival Fund are assessed by the Festival Fund Assessment Committee which considers the applications in the context of the assessment criteria. Relative to other applications received to the round, EOR Media demonstrated strong claims against the criteria.
6. EOR Media has been presenting the Short Seasons Film Festival for a period of four years. They have presented the Canberra Short Film Festival for the last three years.

Lights! Canberra! Action!

1. The Lights! Canberra! Action! event is managed by the Communications and Events unit within Executive Support with an allocation of \$10,000 in the 2004-05 budget.
2. Lights! Canberra! Action! is event managed by Communications and Events with film specific support provided by EOR Media.
3. Not applicable.
4. EOR Media provided film specific expertise for the event at a cost of \$4,000.
5. Government Procurement requirements were followed when selecting EOR Media to provide services for the event.
6. EOR Media has provided film specific expertise to the Lights! Canberra! Action! Event for two years.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Deb Foskey to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services.  
In relation to the Community Services Program:

Under spent Programs

1) Are there any programs within the Community Services Program that are likely to be significantly under spent in 2004-05? If so, please provide details of the program, the under spend and reasons for this?

Concessions

2) Will the Government table the report from the review of ACT Government concessions to the Estimates Committee?

Homelessness Drop-in-Centre

3) In relation to the planned feasibility study for a drop-in centre for people experiencing homelessness:

- a) What service models and/or options that are to be canvassed in the feasibility study?
- b) How the study will be conducted and who will be consulted? and
- c) When the study is likely to be completed?

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

1. No
2. No. A body of work was undertaken on concessions which led to the expansion of concessions as stated in the Social Plan.

3.

- a) The feasibility study will investigate service models that allow a range of general and specialist support services to be co-located. The services likely to operate in this type of model may include free food, assistance to obtain accommodation and income support, health and welfare services, along with practical support facilities (such as shower, laundry and storage facilities).
- b) The feasibility study will be undertaken by a consultant. The consultancy will include:
  - a literature search of possible models;
  - an exploration of the needs of people who would use the service;
  - engagement with the community service sector, in particular those services that might co-locate under a new model;
  - engagement with providers, including emergency services; and
  - engagement with facility development experts to advise on possible building specifications and location issues.
- c) June 2006.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

Dr Deb Foskey to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services in relation to Disability ACT:

1. Underspent Programs

Where there any programs within Disability ACT that are likely to be significantly underspent in 2004-05? If so, please provide details of the program, the underspend and reasons for this?

2. Additional Funding Since Gallop

In the Estimates Committee hearing on May 20, I asked the Minister to provide a breakdown of the additional funding of \$75.7 million to disability services since 2002-03 referred to by the Treasurer in the Budget Speech (Budget Paper 1 page 1) and Ms Hayes provided a breakdown listing programs and initiatives. The total Ms Hayes list is in the order of \$29 million, so I am requesting on notice a full breakdown of the \$75.7 million?

3. Individual Support Service

What is the current number of people receiving support through the individual support service and is this is likely to increase or decrease in 2005-06?

4. Older Carers

What is the government is doing to support older carers, during and after respite care funding runs out in 2008 in relation to helping them to plan longer-term accommodation support arrangements for the people that they care for.

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

*Question 1:*

There are two programs that have projected underspends in the 2004-05 financial year that could be classified as significant - the Local Area Coordination (LAC) and the Taxi Subsidy Scheme.

The LAC has required extensive community consultation and program development, which has delayed the tender process for procurement. The tender is to be finalised by 30 June 2005 with the service to start early in the new financial year. The budget for this was \$250,000 for the 2004-05 financial year. Funds set aside for a Project Officer to be engaged in service development were not required as this was absorbed into the Disability ACT Work Plan

The Taxi Subsidy Scheme is also likely to be underspent as a result of slower take up of programs such as the under 16s scheme. Although voucher usage numbers have been increasing progressively in the last quarter of the financial year, the projected under expenditure is approximately \$50,000 for the 2004-05 year.

*Question 2:*

A full breakdown of the \$75.7 million is attached.

*Question 3:*

As at 3 June 2005 there were:

160 clients residing in 52 ISS Group houses;  
7 clients being supported in Transitional Accommodation;  
74 clients enrolled in aCe day support programs. aCe has a total of 168 places or sessions available but many clients attend more than one session each week;  
37 clients receiving support from the Community Liaison and Linking Service (CLANAS). 20 clients have also exited the service as their placements and supports have been organised and CLANAS support is no longer required.

Disability ACT also provides respite support to 197 regular clients on a cyclic basis at four Respite Houses. Respite is provided to both children (Kese) and adults (Teen, Eloura and Fisher A). A further 30 clients access Respite on a sporadic basis (for example only once or twice a year). Respite provided 587 bed nights in the month of May 2005.

#### **EXPECTED STATUS IN 2005-06**

The number of clients receiving support in ISS Group houses, in Transitional Accommodation and from aCe is expected to remain stable during 2005-06.

The number of clients receiving support from CLANAS is expected to fluctuate during 2005-06 as new clients enter the service and other clients, who have had their community support established, exit the service.

Respite services are currently operating slightly below capacity due to two places being filled on a longer-term basis following the abandonment of two clients while in Respite. These clients are expected to be relocated to longer-term accommodation sometime in 2005 and 2006.

*Question 4:*

The government supports several programs to assist older carers to plan for the longer term accommodation and care for the people that they care for.

These programs include:

- The Mature Carers Program, provided by three non-Government organisations. The purpose of the program is to support older carers to sustain their caring relationships and to plan for transitions, including moving to other accommodation arrangements. This is a long-term program.
- A Family governed program known as Stepping Stones that works specifically with a group of mature carers to explore accommodation options for their family member with a disability and will develop proposals for funding.

In addition, the Australian and ACT Governments will jointly make available a total of \$2,372,000 over four years to provide respite for older parents who are caring for a child with a disability. The funds will be available from 1 July 2005. ACT's component of this funding was made available in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Appropriation Bill, to match the Australian Government's funding offer.

Under the new program older parents aged over 70 years will have access to respite services for up to four weeks in each year. Hospitalised older parents aged 65 to 69 will also be able to access respite services for a maximum of two weeks in each year.

This matched funding has currently been negotiated until June 2008.

This program is not primarily aimed at planning for future or accommodation options. Its retention or cessation will not affect the planning of older carers for long-term accommodation arrangements for the people they care for.

Mature carers are a recognised group in Strategic Direction 3.3 of Disability ACT's four-year strategic plan, *Future Directions – a Framework for the Act 2004-2008*. Strategic Direction 3 focuses on "improved planning and use of available funding to meet the needs of people requiring ongoing support."

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

**Disability Services (\$75.7m)**

**Recurrent**

		<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2002-03</b>								
	Respite Care	1,000	1,020	1,041	1,062	1,089	1,116	1,144	<b>7,471</b>
	Disability Services	2,500	2,563	2,627	2,692	2,759	2,828	2,899	<b>18,869</b>
		<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,583</b>	<b>3,668</b>	<b>3,754</b>	<b>3,848</b>	<b>3,944</b>	<b>4,043</b>	<b>26,340</b>
<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2003-04</b>								
	Addressing Individual Support Needs of People with a Disability		600	800	1,000	1,500	1,538	1,576	<b>7,013</b>
	Building A Single Therapy Service		460	615	615	615	615	615	<b>3,535</b>
	Introduction of Lift Fee for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis		148	159	171	183	188	192	<b>1,041</b>
			<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,786</b>	<b>2,298</b>	<b>2,340</b>	<b>2,383</b>	<b>11,589</b>
	<b>2003-04 2nd Appropriation</b>								
	Special Needs Support for Clients with Complex Behaviours		650	662	674	687	704	722	<b>4,099</b>
			<b>650</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>4,099</b>
	<b>2003-04 3rd Appropriation</b>								
	Transport Initiatives for People with Disabilities		160	241	247	254	260	267	<b>1,429</b>
	Increase in Costs for Relief Disability Support Staff		803	626	642	658	675	692	<b>4,096</b>
			<b>963</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>5,524</b>
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2004-05</b>								
	Intensive Care and Treatment Program for People at Risk			0	717	1,242	1,267	1,299	<b>4,525</b>
	Addressing Unmet Need for People with Disabilities			1,250	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	<b>7,250</b>
	Autism Assessment and Support Services			318	430	437	445	456	<b>2,086</b>
	Transport Initiatives for People with Disabilities			120	123	125	127	130	<b>625</b>
				<b>1,688</b>	<b>2,770</b>	<b>3,304</b>	<b>3,339</b>	<b>3,385</b>	<b>14,486</b>
	<b>2004-05 2nd Appropriation</b>								
	Reconfiguration of Clients at Long Gully			248	104	0	0	0	<b>352</b>
	Respite for Older Carers - Commonwealth matching			106	324	372	384	0	<b>1,186</b>
	Single Therapy Service accommodation			250	0	0	0	0	<b>250</b>
				<b>604</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,788</b>

2005-06	2005-06								
	Community Support Services - Youth and Young adults				415	426	436	447	1,724
	Children with High and Complex needs (including autism)				410	421	431	442	1,704
	Additional Therapy Support for Children with high and complex needs (including autism)				200	206	210	215	831
	Community Support and Crisis Intervention				792	813	833	854	3,292
	Intensive Care and Treatment Facility - recurrent				90	90	0	0	180
					<b>1,907</b>	<b>1,956</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>7,731</b>
<b>TOTAL - Recurrent</b>		<b>3,500</b>	<b>6,404</b>	<b>9,063</b>	<b>12,208</b>	<b>13,377</b>	<b>13,556</b>	<b>13,449</b>	<b>71,557</b>

**Capital**

Agency	Description of Initiatives	2002-03 \$'000	2003-04 \$'000	2004-05 \$'000	2005-06 \$'000	2006-07 \$'000	2007-08 \$'000	2008-09 \$'000	Total \$'000
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2004-05</b>								
	Refurbishment of Therapy ACT Holder Building		500	250	0	0	0	0	750
	Intensive Care and Treatment Facility - Feasibility Study		0	250	0	0	0	0	250
			<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2005-06</b>								
	Intensive Care and Treatment Facility				882	778	0	0	1,660
	Single Therapy Service Accommodation				1,500	0	0	0	1,500
					<b>2,382</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,160</b>
<b>TOTAL - Capital</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>2,382</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,160</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>									<b>75,717</b>

Dr Deb Foskey to ask the Minister for Planning:

Land and Development Agency

1. Which organisations have received direct grants of land from the Land Development Agency in 2004?
2. In 2005-06 how will decisions regarding direct grants of land be made?
3. How is land made available to ACT Housing?

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June 3, 2005

Dr Deb Foskey, MLA to ask the Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services. In relation to Housing:

Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement

1. In relation to the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement.
  - a) Has the Government entered into any public/private housing development arrangements? If so, please provide details.
  - b) If not, is the ACT Government likely to lose funding as a result of not having entered a public/private housing development arrangement in 2004/05?
  - c) If so, how much funding is likely to be lost?
  - d) Is the ACT Government likely to lose any other funding available through this agreement and if so why?

Women's Housing Policy

2. When will the Women's Housing Policy be completed and released?

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

1. In relation to the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement:
  - a) The Government has not entered into any public/private housing development during 2004-05;
  - b) No – the Australian Government requires that strategic sites and opportunities are identified for development with the private sector and partnerships are encouraged;
  - c) See above; and
  - d) See above.

## 2. The Women's Housing Policy

The consultation process in relation to the policy, as required by the 2003-2008 CSHA, is currently underway. The Women's Housing Policy is expected to be finalised in December 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

John Hargreaves MLA

Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services Date: .....

DR FOSKEY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005:

Youth Workers in Schools

1. What was the total number of youth workers employed in 2004 and how many resignations occurred?
2. Was there an evaluation or review of this program last year and what were the outcomes of that work? Can the report be tabled?

SCAN

3. With regard to training for parents to support their participation in this process:
  - a) What training has been provided?
  - b) How many parents have participated?
  - c) Is the training still available

Preschools

4. What school counselling and student support resources are allocated to preschools and how are these services provided to preschools?
5. What is the staffing profile within the five Koori preschools?

Older People

6. Will the Government be fulfilling its commitment in the Economic White Paper, (Action 3) to introduce a vocational education and training program specifically targeted at the over 45-year-old age group? If so, when and how will this be done?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

1. Youth workers were employed in eight high schools in 2004. Of the eight initially appointed, four resigned during the year and were replaced.

2. The Department of Education and Training considered the operation of the program in 2004 to inform decisions about the full implementation of the program in 2005. No formal report is available.

3. In regard to training for parents:

a) Mainstream settings, including units and centres

Each year the Special Education and Early Intervention Section presents a Primary Schooling Options seminar for parents of students with a disability due to enrol for kindergarten the following year. Information about the SCAN process is presented to parents and copies of the appraisal booklet are available. Parents are given the opportunity to ask questions.

#### Special Schools

Appraisals are held for students in target years who are enrolled in Special Schools. These appraisals are currently underway. Apart from students who are new to the ACT, all students in Special Schools have undergone an appraisal in the previous two years. Special School principals are well placed to support parents with any questions about the process and work to support and provide information to parents during the process. Parents are sent a copy of the appraisal booklet prior to the meeting for their child. There have been no specific requests for additional parent sessions from either the Special Schools Principals' Business meetings, advocacy groups or individuals. Familiarity with the process is at high levels within this sector.

b) On average, 35 – 40 prospective parents/carers each year attend the Primary Schooling Options seminar for parents of students with a disability due to enrol for kindergarten the following year. All parents/carers of students undergoing an assessment in Special Schools are provided with support and advice from school staff, including principals, counsellors and teachers.

c) This process is ongoing. Two information sessions for parents of any students in mainstream schools who are to undergo an appraisal during Term 3 will be held in June. Both will be in the evening to maximise parent/carer attendance. Sessions will be held in both northside and southside Canberra. A third session will be held in November.

As in the previous two years, a SCAN familiarisation session specifically for parents of students commencing school the following

year will be held in October in preparation for the appraisals that will take place later in that term.

Officers from the special education section are available to attend parent group meetings where the group would like to gain a better understanding of the SCAN process or provide feedback in the process. This has occurred on a number of occasions in the past.

4. A full time equivalent counsellor position is allocated to the preschool sector. This is delivered by a part time counsellor in each district.

There are currently 15 teacher assistants providing support for students with special needs in preschools. The support is considered on a case by case basis and implemented according to the needs of the student and the preschool group. In addition, three resource teachers work across all preschools and in the 11 early intervention units. Access is by a referral process from preschools.

Two full time teachers work across all preschools to support children with non English speaking backgrounds and one full time teacher is working with children with challenging behaviours.

Early intervention programs provide programs for children from two years of age to school entry. Student and program support is provided by early intervention counsellors, the three resource teachers and an executive officer.

Preschool programs attached to Cranleigh, Malkara, and Turner Special Schools are supported by each school's counsellor.

5. Five staff deliver the Koori preschool program and provide support to Indigenous families. The profile of staff is:
  - 3.5 staff in the Koori preschool program are Indigenous
  - 2.5 early childhood teachers
  - 2.5 Indigenous Home School Liaison Officers

Note: These figures are expressed as Full Time Equivalents

6. The Department of Education and Training is taking several actions in regard to the training needs of mature age workers which address Action 36 of the Economic White Paper.

As a component of its 2005 Service Level Agreement with the department, the ACT Industry Training Advisory Association undertook a study entitled *Workforce Planning Strategies for Mature Aged Workers and Those Attempting to*

*Return to the Workforce Project.* That report will be presented at the next meeting of the Vocational Education and Training Authority.

As a supplement to the above project, the department has also commissioned research into successful policy and program initiatives that are being implemented in this field elsewhere in Australia and overseas.

Departmental officers are active members of the *ACT Mature Age Employment Strategy* taskforce, ensuring vocational education and training will have a prominent place in that strategy.

All vocational education and training in the ACT is open to, and promoted to, over-45s, including New Apprenticeships. Current data tells us there are 669 over-45s undertaking a New Apprenticeship in the ACT at the present, with 363 of those having commenced in this financial year.

Over-45s are also specifically catered for in programs funded under the department's Strategic Priorities Program, which focuses on the delivery of training to meet the needs of specified equity and target groups and to support innovative practice in ACT industry and training. Examples of current programs for over-45s include the Certificate II in General Education for Adults, the Diploma of Business, and the Diploma of E-Business.

Adult and Community Education also meets many of the training needs of those over-45s who may be considering re-entering the workforce, but who are not yet ready to undertake formal, accredited training. For example, this year the department has funded the Vietnam Veterans' Federation to deliver an introductory computing course, *Computers 101 to 201*.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Dr Deb Foskey to ask the Minister for Health:

### Mental Health

1. With regard to the ACT Mental Health Strategy Action:
  - a) The Government indicated that it has undertaken Actions 44, 45 and 46, therefore can this data be tabled with the Estimates Committee?
  - b) The Government indicated that it has undertaken Actions 49, 50 and 51, therefore can this data be tabled with the Estimates Committee?

### Childhood Obesity

2. Last year's Budget allocated funding to childhood obesity measures, including surveillance work and an intention to fund a group of programs to address the issue.
  - a) Has the surveillance work been undertaken and is there a report available?
  - b) If so can a report of this work be tabled?
  - c) What programs have been funded through this measure?

### Home and Community Care

3. The budget contains increased HACC funds including Commonwealth and ACT Government funding:
  - a) Has the Government identified priority programs for the additional HACC resources
  - b) How were these priorities established?
  - c) How will the funding be distributed?

### Composting Toilets

4. How many applications have been received for composting toilets in the last year, and how many have been approved.

Healthpact

5. How much funding will be distributed through 1) the community development and 2) the capacity building grant processes in 2005-06?

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June 1, 2005

**Ms Foskey** - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to the implementation of "*Think water, act water*":

1. The Institute of Sustainable Futures [page vii ACT Water Strategy – Preliminary DM and LCP Assessment] identified 15 least cost demand management options at a cost of \$45.2 million. Which of these initiatives are being implemented and for those that are – are the program participants assumptions being met;
2. Was there a funding cut of the Office of Sustainability water program, and if so what parts of the program have been affected;
3. How much funding will be allocated to the implementation of the Think Water Act Water in 2005-06 and what is the break up of the allocation across components
4. Will the operations of the first year of the Water Efficiencies Incentives Program be evaluated for effectiveness before contracts are let or renewed to ACTEW for the next year of the program?

**Mr Quinlan** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Programs implemented in 2004-05 are:
  - Indoor Water Tune-up Program
  - Outdoor Water Tune-up Program
  - Showerhead Rebate Program
  - Rainwater Tank Rebate Program
  - Dual Flush Toilet Rebate Program
  - Commercial Water Audit Program
  - Benchmarking of ACT Government Buildings
  - Education and Public Awareness Program

Preliminary investigations are currently being undertaken to determine household water demand response to the Water Efficiency (Incentives) Program. A full year of post initiative water meter data is required to determine changes to water consumptions in households. This work will provide:

- estimates of water savings that can be generated in the ACT; and
  - a framework for on-going evaluation of the Water Efficiency (Incentives) Program.
2. Office of Sustainability had a 7% cut which has come from administrative savings and some reduction across programs.
3. 2.018 million is allocated to *Think water, act water* in 2005-06

Indicative Budget Allocation \$'000	% Total Budget	Description of Expenditure Item
1,003.5	49.8	Residential Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indoor Water Tune-up Program</li> <li>• Outdoor Water Tune-up Program</li> <li>• Showerhead Rebate Program</li> <li>• Rainwater Tank Rebate Program</li> <li>• Dual Flush Toilet Rebate Program</li> </ul>
335	16.6	Education / Public Awareness / Recruitment for Residential Program participants
230	11.4	Commercial Water Audit Program
249	12.3	Data extraction / Evaluation of Water Efficiency (Incentives) Program
118.5	5.9	Management and Reporting
75	3.7	<i>Think water, act water</i> initiatives (other than Water Efficiency (Incentives) Program)
7	0.3	Water Efficiency Labeling and Standards (WELS)
<b>2018</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

Operations of the first year of the Water Efficiencies (Incentives) Program have been evaluated for effectiveness. Officers from the Office of Sustainability undertook the evaluation as part of the program management process.

<b>Approved for circulation to the Committee</b>	
<b>Ted Quinlan MLA</b> <b>Acting Chief Minister</b>	<b>Date:.....</b>

In relation to the revegetation of the Cotter Catchment, Dr Foskey MLA, asked;

*The Non Urban Study Committee agreed that ACT Government Agencies should work with relevant scientists to review re-forestation options for each sub-catchment on a case-by-case best practice basis. What is the process for this?*

The answer is as follows:

1. Since the January 2003 bushfire, the only significant plantings that have occurred were during the 2003 winter, prior to the release of the *Non-Urban Study Report*. Areas targeted for planting in 2004 were in the Pierces Creek and Dry Creek sub-catchments. These areas were identified as priority areas by ACT Forests in conjunction with an Expert Group that contained representatives from Environment ACT, the Australian National University, the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology and Greening Australia. In addition to this core group, there was input from the Ballarat Water Board, CSIRO, the (Federal) Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries and ECOWISE. The proposed 2005 planting program has been reviewed by the Lower Cotter Catchment Working Group. This group incorporated a diverse range of skills sourced from Environment ACT, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), ECOWISE, and ACTEW. This group also took account of expert advice from academics, members of Cooperative Research Centres, Greening Australia and CSIRO. Subsequent to this review process, the EPA has approved the planned planting program under processes outlined in ACT Forests Environmental Authorisation.

*A position of Forest Ecologist was created to provide specialist input for vegetation management, forest recovery and management of catchments and riparian vegetation (2004-05 Budget Paper 3, pg 160). Who does this person report to, were their views sought on the proposed management strategy? What is their current role?*

2. The answer to this question was provided to the Committee on 8 June 2005.

*"The Forest Road Research Group, UNSW, ADFA, ANU Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies and Greening Australia are undertaking co-ordinated research effort in the lower Cotter Catchment. This work is designed to gather further scientific data to assist the development of models for future land management decisions" (Mr Gentleman, ACT Legislative Assembly Hansard 16 February 2005). What are the details of this work?*

3. The answer to this question was provided to the Committee on 8 June 2005.

*What grants have been made available for research on other institutions to assist in the work related to the revegetation of the Cotter?*

The answer is as follows:

4. In addition to the research being undertaken by ACT Forests as outlined in the response provided on 8 June relating to the Cotter catchment, research programs are being undertaken by Environment ACT (related to fish populations), ACTEW (related to water storage options and likely impacts) and ECOWISE (related to sediment movement in the catchment and possible rehabilitation techniques). Further information regarding these research programs is available from these organisations.

*What grants have been made to Greening Australia and for what purpose?*

The answer is as follows:

5. ACT Forests has cooperated with Greening Australia on three projects as follows:  
implementation of a calendar of community based reforestation events during 2004 including a series of tree plantings at Holdens Creek and Pierces Creek. (This involved a \$47,975 contract with Greening Australia to deliver the program);  
undertake a comprehensive review of literature and experience relating to rehabilitation processes. This has resulted in the production of a comprehensive manual that has wide application for land managers involved in rehabilitation programs. Procedures outlined in the manual have been incorporated in the community based rehabilitation programs jointly implemented by ACT Forests and Greening Australia. (This involved a \$48,850 contract with Greening Australia to undertake research and produce the document); and  
in November 2004, ACT Forests in conjunction with Greening Australia, signed an agreement with Canberra Urban Parks and Places for a Community Partnerships Program Grant valued at \$29,550. This partnership program is focusing on the rehabilitation of Mount McDonald, adjacent to the Cotter Dam.

*Has the ACT sought grants from the Commonwealth to assist with the Cotter work?*

The answer is as follows:

6. ACT Forests has applied for Natural Heritage Trust Funding from the Commonwealth but at this stage no decision on the outcome of this funding has been made.

**Ms Foskey** - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to the re-vegetation of the Cotter Catchment:

1. A Catchment Management Group has been established to advise you on issues relating to the re-vegetation of the Cotter catchment: what is the role of the group, what are the groups term of reference, who is on it, how often does it meet; are there a set of catchment management principles which inform the groups work;
2. What was the estimated cost of planting grasslands compared with pines and natives;
3. What modelling was used to test the various options;
4. Was consideration to staging the costs of replanting with natives over several budgets;
5. Given that some pines have been planted is the intent to harvest them at some stage in the future and has an assessment been made of the impacts of such harvesting on water quality;
6. You have advised that "the Governments continuing to monitor and where necessary revise or fine tune its strategies. This is happening now." Can you provide details of how this is happening?

**Mr Quinlan (Acting Chief Minister)** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. Government has a range of different mechanisms to provide advice on the future of the land management of the Cotter Catchment. These include the Water Supply Catchment Management Advisory Group, Interim Namadgi Advisory Group, Tidbinbilla Valley Board, Natural Resource Management Advisory Committee and internal inter-departmental groups. There is a set of integrated catchment management principles that apply to the catchment.
2. No detailed work was undertaken to calculate the cost of broad scale establishment of grasslands as a permanent method of re-establishing the catchment.

3. The Shaping Our Territory Report recommendations were guided by an expert reference group. They considered the use of open grasslands in the lower Cotter to be inappropriate because of the need to introduce grazing as part of the fire management and associated impacts on water quality from the catchment.
4. Approved budgets for replanting burnt areas in the lower Cotter catchment with pines and natives currently extend out to 2008-09 financial year, and this equates to a six-year rehabilitation program from 2003 to 2009.
5. No decision has been made at this time with regard to future harvesting of pines already established in the catchment.
6. An operational level Lower Cotter Catchment Working Group has been established to review and inform rehabilitation operations in the lower Cotter catchment. This group incorporated a diverse range of skills sourced from Environment ACT, Environment Protection Authority, ECOWISE, and ACTEW. This group also took account of expert advice from Academics, members of CRC's, Greening Australia and CSIRO.

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

Ted Quinlan MLA  
**Acting Chief Minister**

Date:.....

## **Heads of Agency Group**

### **Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference for the Heads of Agency Group are:

#### **SHORT TERM**

- Task field staff to identify the major areas or sources of erosion and pollution (sediment budget) for the Cotter impoundment and potential remedial or corrective action.
- Task field staff to review works proposed to be done in the Catchment over the next month and identify those that should continue and those that may require modification or further review.
- Identify the need for external expert assistance in the work.
- Review the work undertaken by field staff and recommend urgent action to the Chief Executive and action areas.

#### **MEDIUM TERM**

- Establish/reaffirm the values for which the Lower Cotter Catchment is to be managed.
- Within one month, review industry contracts and recreational activities (both current and planned) for compatibility with the values identified above. Identify those that should continue and those that may require modification or further review.
- Reaffirm approval processes and identify how these can operate more effectively.
- Within two months review Environment ACT, ACTEW and ACT Forests related work that has been done or is planned to be done for compatibility with the values identified above. Recommend modifications to current work programs and planning priorities.
- Assess fire management plans and practices with respect to their effect on the Catchment.
- Engage Emergency Services Authority and Australian Capital Tourism Corporation in identifying optimum management strategies so their needs are integrated at the earliest possible stage.

LONG TERM
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- Develop a management strategy for continuing catchment protection works in the Lower Cotter Catchment that recognises its values, taking priorities into account, and establishes supporting management objectives and guiding principles for on-ground activities.
- Develop a Lower Cotter Catchment Management Strategy.
- Maintain a continuing role for overseeing/monitoring the implementation of the Lower Cotter Management Strategy.

Dr Deb Foskey: To ask the Minister for Planning in relation to SMART Ticketing for public transport:

Most other states in Australia have let tenders to introduce "SMART Ticketing" for public transport, as these make bus services much faster.

Has any consideration been given to this in the ACT, and if not will consideration be given to it?

*...(Member's signature and date)...*

Ms Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to developing an ACT energy policy:

The Assembly has been advised twice now, most recently during Budget estimates hearings and earlier in the year at the Public Accounts Committee on 22 February, that advice was or has been prepared about the purpose, objective, and direction of the proposed ACT energy policy.

1. What is the expected timeframe for a government decision on the purpose, objectives and mechanisms for developing an ACT energy policy;
2. How much money is allocated to this process?

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

1. The Government is considering its approach to an energy policy.
2. The energy policy will be developed using existing budget funding.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Jon Stanhope MLA  
Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to the international arboretum:

Will the Government time the planting of the Arboretum to coincide with more favourable weather conditions:

1. to reduce costs (through reduced water usage and lost plantings); and
2. to ensure best possibility for viability.

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

Yes, the Government will be, and has been, strategically managing planting programs to coincide with favourable weather conditions where possible. And yes, the Government is doing this to ensure the best possible viability for the plantings.

As with any Government project, to ensure timeliness and to meet targeted milestones certain activities will have to occur. Plantings for the Arboretum will be restricted to defined planting seasons between July and October each year. Given the preparatory work that needs to occur, it is not planned that significant areas of trees will be planted this year. Nevertheless people will see trees growing on the site even now. These are mostly pine wildlings and will be retained for erosion control until each coup is to be prepared.

The major plantings are planned to commence in spring 2006. Many of the plantings may require supplementary watering during the establishment years, to ensure their best growth. As announced, the Government is committed to achieving the reclaimed water target of 20% as outlined in the *Think Water, Act Water* initiative.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to whole-of-government operations:

- 1) What action has the government taken on the Commissioner for Public Administration's recommendation (through 2003-04 State of the Service report) that the Recovery Centre be studied closely as a model for 'joined-up' client service?
- 2) How many inter-departmental committees were in operation in 2003/04, 2004/05, and are expected to be in operation in 2005/06?
- 3) Does the government use the number of inter-departmental committees in operation as a measure of whole-of-government coordination?

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

1. In the 2003-04 State of the Service Report (pages v, 24) the Commissioner for Public Administration cited the Recovery Centre model as a good example of integrated government that should be closely studied and indicated that she would be reporting on it in more detail in the 2004-05 Report.

The Government will take this reporting into account in considering further applications of the Recovery Centre model to service delivery. As the Commissioner pointed out in the 2003-04 Report, the model might not necessarily fit all service delivery situations.

2. The Chief Minister's Department does not maintain data on the number of inter-departmental committees. A large number of committees exist each year in response to various issues. They are continually being created and disbanded.
3. No.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to public service management:

1. What indicators does the government use to measure its progress in attracting and retaining specialist staff within the following areas?
  - a) Health
  - b) Education
2. What were the results for these indicators mentioned in question one for 2003/04 and then 2004/05?
3. What are the estimates for these indicators in question one, or the target rate, for 2005/06?
4. What indicators does the government use to measure its progress in attracting and retaining staff with the following backgrounds?
  - a) Disability
  - b) Indigenous
5. What were the results for these indicators mentioned in question four for 2003/04 and then 2004/05?
6. What are the estimates for these indicators in questions four, or target rate, for 2005/06?

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

1 (a) ACT Health monitors and reports to the Minister for Health on its hard to recruit vacancies by Division on a quarterly basis. In addition, its Executive Group receives a report on trends in relation to appointment and separation rates for permanent staff on a monthly basis.

1 (b) The major indicator for attracting specialist teaching staff is the number of applications for employment received in the annual teacher recruitment campaign.

The Department of Education and Training targets both experienced and graduate teaching staff through an annual teacher recruitment campaign.

The department projects the demand for specialist teaching staff for the new school year based on returns from schools provided in August of the preceding year. Schools identify their staffing needs for the next year based on projected enrolment numbers and anticipated changes to their staffing profile. This information is then aggregated for the purposes of future planning.

The major indicator for measuring progress in terms of retention is separation rates.

2. In 2003/04, 1259 applications from teachers were received with 266 offers made for permanent employment. In 2004/05, 1449 applications were received with 250 offers made for permanent employment. Separation rates for both years were approximately 10% mainly due to retirements.

From April 2004 to March 2005 the permanent appointment rate for ACT Health exceeded the rate of separations of permanent staff in all classifications, other than Dental Assistants.

3. Estimates for 2005/06 will be made following the receipt of staffing returns for the 2006 school year. The department expects the demand for teachers in 2006 to be similar to 2005 based on retirement and enrolments trends.

There are no specific targets set for permanent appointments and separations. ACT Health continues to invest in a wide range of recruitment and retention strategies in relation to its hard to recruit vacancies to improve its workforce capability.

4. (a) There are no whole-of-service indicators specific to the attraction and retention of staff with a disability. The Commissioner for Public Administration monitors the whole-of-service representation of people with a disability in the annual ACT State of the Service Report. The representation of people who identify themselves as having a disability declined slightly from 2.0 per cent of the ACT Public Service in June 2003 to 1.8 per cent in June 2004.

The declining numbers of people with a disability employed in the ACT Public Service will be addressed through implementation of the *'Employment Framework for People with a Disability'*, launched in September 2004.

Progress against the framework will be reported by all ACT Government agencies through the annual ACT State of the Service Report, agency Equity and Diversity Plans and Access to Government Actions Plans.

4. (b) There are no whole-of-service indicators specific to the attraction and retention of Indigenous staff. The Commissioner for Public Administration monitors the whole-of-service representation of Indigenous staff in the annual ACT State of

the Service Report. The representation of people who identify themselves as indigenous was 0.5 per cent of the ACT Public Service at both June 2003 and June 2004.

Please see responses 4.(a) and 4.(b) as above.

Please see responses 4.(a) and 4.(b) as above.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister upon notice on Friday, 3 June 2005 -

In relation to the energy efficiency audits of ACT Government buildings:

1. The ACT Government allocated \$150,000 in the 2004-05 Budget for energy efficiency audits of ACT Government buildings. The audit is expected to be complete in September 2005. Has any money been allocated for implementing the recommendations of the audit findings;
2. Are the audits identifying savings that will arise if energy efficiency measures are put in place, if yes can an indication of these savings be provided for the buildings that have already been audited;
3. Will the various initiatives the Government has committed to in relation to energy efficiency of public buildings [\$4 million to public housing, \$5 million to retrofit schools] be centrally coordinated;
4. How much money was allocated to the energy audits program last year and to which contractors;
5. How much money is allocated to the program in the forward year; and
6. What percentage of Government buildings have been covered by the energy audits program.

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

1. No specific funding has been allocated for the implementation of the audit recommendations. DUS Property Group and the relevant Agencies will be reviewing the audit reports and seeking appropriate funding where justified.
2. The audits will be identifying savings that will arise if energy efficiency measures are put in place. No reports have been received at this time.
3. The Office of Sustainability is working closely with Education and ACT Housing on the Government initiatives relating to energy efficiency for school retrofits and public housing.
4. \$150,000 was allocated under the 2004/05 Capital Works Program to conduct energy audits of ACT Government buildings. The Canberra firm Exergy Australia Pty Limited has been awarded the contract to conduct the audits.

5. No funding has been allocated for energy audits of Government buildings in the 2005/06 Budget.
6. DUS Property Group has advised it is difficult to determine the percentage of Government buildings covered by the energy audits program. The objective of the audits was to target the high-energy use buildings owned by Government that had not been recently audited. 17 audits will be carried out under the program. The buildings to be audited were determined in consultation with the DUS Property Group.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Zed Seselja MLA: To ask the Speaker: In relation to Secretariat portfolio, as per the following areas of the 2005-06 ACT Government Budget:

1. BP 4, page 4:

- a) Do the employee expenses provided in the 2005-06 budget and in the out years include provision for the salary increases at 1 April each year as outlined in the LAMS<sup>1</sup> certified agreement? If not, why not? If so, what amount is attributed to these pay increases?

2. BP 4, Page 1:

- a) What has the cost been to the Assembly for the new financial management system, and where does the financial outlay for this appear in the budget?
- b) Has the new system been fully implemented, and how is it working? If it has not yet been implemented, when will it be fully operational?
- c) Who is able to access and operate this system within the Assembly?
- d) Are there any security concerns with the new system, ie; with risk to hackers, etc?

Zed Seselja MLA  
June 2005

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In relation to the revegetation of the Gungahlin Drive Extension, Mr Seselja MLA, asked;

1. What are the cost escalation factors referred to on BP3, P. 210?
2. When is the Gungahlin Drive Extension due for completion?

The answer to Mr Seselja MLA's questions are as follows:

1. The cost escalation factors referred to on Budget Paper 3, p. 210 include:
  - Changes in project scope since October 2003;
  - Cost changes for contracts already let due to delays and increased risk;
  - An assessment of the current tender market conditions; and
  - A contingency allowance based on a risk assessment for variation on the contract due to variations in prices and quantities during the contract period.
2. The expected completion date for Gungahlin Drive Extension is late 2007.

MR SESELJA: To ask the Minister for Planning – In relation to funding for development options for Karralika:

1. What are the development options for the Karralika drug rehabilitation facility that \$400,000 has been allocated for?
2. If the Government does not decide to proceed with an expansion of Karralika, what will be done with the remainder of the money allocated?

*Zed Seselja MLA*

Zed Seselja: To ask the Minister for Planning - In relation to the Planning System Reform Project:

The 2005/06 Budget Papers show the total funding for this project as \$290,000. Your media release of 6 May 2005 shows expenditure of \$390,000, and the 2004/05 Papers show a total of \$350,000, to be split \$250,000 in 2004/05, with a further \$100,000 in 2005/06.

1. Which of these figures is the correct amount?
2. If the figure of \$390,000 from your press release is correct, why do the Budget Papers show a different figure?
3. If the 2005/06 Budget Papers figure of \$290,000 is correct, why did your press release announce a higher figure?
4. When will you correct the record in relation to the amounts of funding for the Planning System Reform Project?

*Zed Seselja MLA  
June 2005*

Zed Seselja - To ask the Minister for Planning – In relation to the Land Development Agency, or its predecessors:

What was the financial return received, per unit, on the land component, for each of

- a) Stage 1,
- b) Stage 2, and
- c) Stage 3 of the Kingston Foreshore developments?

In relation to the Urban Services portfolio, Mr Seselja MLA, asked;

**In relation to BP4, page 228 and the Austroads User Satisfaction Index (USI) survey conducted every 2 years, what is the survey population, who is surveyed and by whom?**

The answer is as follows:

1. The survey population for the ACT is 200. (This compares with the 500 for NSW). The person surveyed is the person in the household aged 17 years or older whose birthday is nearest to the date of the telephone interview. The survey is conducted by a private market research company selected by open tender and assessed by the Selection Panel appointed by Austroads. In October 2003, Colmar Brunton conducted the survey.

**In relation to BP4, page 227, Strategic indicator 3, why does the ACT Government believe that the satisfaction with the road system rating will improve from 69% in 2000 to 76% in 2011? For example, will the survey ask both motorists and cyclists about satisfaction with on-road cycle lanes, or will it only ask cyclists?**

The answer is as follows:

2. In 2000 when the User Satisfaction Index (USI) survey was conducted, the ACT received an index of 69.4% which increased to 72.1% in 2003. The projection is making a realistic assumption that, while there would not be any significant additional increases to that shown from 2000 to 2003, there may be gradual increases into the future. These increases would be related to a focused capital works program which supports the Governments *Sustainable Transport Plan* to address road congestion and traffic safety, as well as the *Capital Upgrades* program which will target community paths, residential street improvements, bridge strengthening, lighting and traffic management measures.

The survey randomly interviews road users whether they be cyclists, drivers or passengers of cars or busses. The ACT also asks the householder to rate their satisfaction with the on road cycling lanes and asks questions on safety for cyclists, safety for pedestrians, safety for motorists and safety for motor cyclists.

**In BP4, page 230, what is the target in the National Road Strategy (NRSS) that the Territory aims to ensure road deaths do not exceed? Have we exceeded that target this year, and if so, why?**

The answer is as follows:

3. The National Road Safety Strategy aims to achieve a 40% reduction in the annual road fatality rate relative to the 1999 figure of 9.3 deaths per 100,000 population. The national target is no more than 5.6 deaths per 100,000 by the end of 2010. The ACT achieved a lower level than the target in 2004 with a figure of 4.6 deaths per 100,000. Even with the unfortunately high number of road crash fatalities that have occurred in the early months of 2005, the ACT remains within the national target for 2005 which is about 7.6 deaths per 100,000.

**Given there have been more than 10 road fatalities in the ACT already this year, about the same number already compared to the whole of previous year, what is the Government doing to ensure that we do not see this trend continuing to increase for the rest of the year and beyond?**

The answer is as follows:

4. The Government is continuing to promote the road safety message to the people of the ACT. The *Road Safety Action Plan 2005-06* will soon be released. It sets out a variety of road safety objectives including the red light/speed camera program which was enhanced in 2005 with an additional two fixed cameras and one mobile speed camera van. The Black Spot Program of road works will continue with works undertaken at nine locations across the ACT. In addition road safety and road rule awareness campaigns will also be undertaken during the year.

**In BP4, page 233, how many km of Territorial road system maintenance will be undertaken at a cost of \$4,818 per lane km?**

The answer is as follows:

5. Approximately 1,890 km of Territorial road maintenance will be undertaken.

**In BP4, page 233, how many km of Municipal road system maintenance will be undertaken at a cost of \$1,781 per lane km? Which roads will be targeted?**

The answer is as follows:

6. Approximately 3,114 km of municipal road maintenance will be undertaken. The draft resealing program is at Attachment A.

**In BP4, page 233, how many km of Community Paths maintenance will be undertaken at a cost of \$151 per square meter? Which footpaths will be targeted?**

The answer is as follows:

7. Approximately 23 km of community path maintenance will be undertaken. Footpaths in older suburbs and those paths with higher pedestrian volumes will be targeted under this program.

**In BP4, page 233, what is the total cost of street lighting maintenance forecast to be, at a cost of \$24 per capita? Will this also fund replacement of ageing street lighting infrastructure, and if so, in which suburbs?**

The answer is as follows:

8. The total cost of street lighting maintenance is \$7,896,000. Replacement of aging infrastructure (other than lamps) is not included in this program.

**In BP4, page 233, why has the total forecast cost of roads, community paths and light maintenance not included the 2005-06 Budget as it was in previous years?**

The answer is as follows:

9. There has been a move towards more strategic performance measures in 2005-06. These new measures provide a balanced reporting of efficiency and effectiveness across the output. Due to a desire to reduce the number of measures it was not possible to produce measures for each activity across the output.

**In BP4, page 239, what work will be undertaken on Tharwa Drive Upgrade Stage 1 for \$5 million allocated? Will this increase the lanes from one lane each way to two lanes each way? If not, why not?**

The answer is as follows:

10. The upgrade will progress duplication of Tharwa Drive in several stages over a number of years.

**Why is it going to take until March 2009 to complete the Tharwa Drive Upgrade project?**

The answer is as follows:

11. The project is part of the Federally funded *Roads to Recovery Program* and its construction will progress over a number of years as funds become available.

**In BP4, page 239, what work will be undertaken on Boboyan Road as part of the \$2.1 million upgrade?**

The answer is as follows:

12. Work will include the bitumen sealing of a steep hill at each end of the gravel section of road within the ACT. Within available funding, work will progress on a priority basis to improve visibility over hills and to re-gravel selected sections.

**In BP4, page 239, what work will be undertaken on Sutton Road as part of the Stage 2 upgrade at a cost of \$6 million?**

The answer is as follows:

13. The first stage of the program was to upgrade Sutton Road from the ACT - NSW border half way to Pialligo Avenue. Stage 2 will complete the upgrading to Pialligo Avenue.

**In BP4, page 229, the customer satisfaction with Parks and Ovals is predicted to drop from 97% on 2001-02 to 96% for parks and 92% for ovals for the next few years. What is the reason for this?**

The answer is as follows:

14. The main contributing factor for a decrease in satisfaction levels is likely to be the effect of the drought and associated water restrictions.

**Does the ACT Government expect these predicted satisfaction levels to drop even further than the forecast 92% due to the loss of ovals which have not been maintained by the Government during water restrictions?**

The answer is as follows:

15. It is not possible to speculate on what the outcome of the survey might be until it has been undertaken.

**In BP4, page 229, the satisfaction with Pools is projected at 93% satisfaction rating for future years, but there is no record on the graph on page 229 for actual satisfaction. There is a symbol in the key to the graph on page 229, but it is not on the graph. Does the Government know what the current satisfaction rating for pools is?**

The answer is as follows:

16. The satisfaction levels from the 2004-05 Centre for Environmental and Recreation Management (CERM) surveys are as follows:

Canberra Olympic Pool	83%
Dickson	91%
Manuka	94%
Tuggeranong	83%

**In BP4, page 233, the 2005-06 target is 92% customer satisfaction rate with ovals. Does the Government expect to meet this target given the growing community dissatisfaction with the loss of many ovals, such as the community oval next to the Chisholm Primary School?**

The answer is as follows:

17. It is not possible to speculate on what the outcome of the survey might be until it has been undertaken, but a further decrease in customer satisfaction is possible if drought conditions persist.

**When will the ACT Government reinstate the ovals which are now currently out of use due to water restrictions? How much will they cost per hectare to replace when they are reinstated?**

The answer is as follows:

18. The restoration will be undertaken when water supply and weather conditions permit the work to be undertaken on a sustainable basis and when funding is made available. The restoration cost is estimated at up to \$10,000 per hectare.

**We have advice from an Urban Services briefing on 31 January that the ovals will cost \$10,000 per hectare to reinstate. However, BP4, page 234, at output 1.4 says that the annual sportsground maintenance is \$15,382 per hectare. Why does it cost \$5,382 more per hectare to maintain these ovals in than to replace them, or is it that the cost to reinstate these ovals has increased since January this year?**

The answer is as follows:

19. The per hectare maintenance cost applies to a full year of all maintenance operations required to maintain sportsgrounds (for example, mowing, irrigating, fertilising, aerating, line marking and so on). The restoration cost is for particular tasks (for example aerating, topdressing, seeding and fertilising) undertaken over a period of perhaps two to three months.

**In BP4, page 233, Output 1.3 Accountability Indicators how many households will be serviced by kerbside collection in 2005-06 at a cost of \$57.00 per household?**

The answer is as follows:

20. There will be approximately 130,000 households serviced.

**In BP4, page 233, Output 1.3 Accountability indicators how many tonnes of recyclables processing are forecast in 2005-06 at a cost of \$18.50 per household?**

The answer is as follows:

21. There will be approximately 35,000 tonnes processed.

**In BP4, page 233, Output 1.3 Accountability indicators how many tonnes of green waste processing are forecast in 2005-06 at a cost of \$4.20 per household?**

The answer is as follows:

22. There will be approximately 180,000 tonnes processed.

**In BP4, page 233, Output 1.3 Accountability indicators how many tonnes of landfill waste are expected to be processed in 2005-06 at a cost of \$11.50 per tonne?**

The answer is as follows:

23. There will be approximately 195,000 tonnes processed.

**In BP4, page 212 it is explained that the complex design issue delayed the Mugga Lane Landfill Trench (\$1.2 million) project which is now forecast for completion in August 2005. What were the complexities that delayed the project?**

The answer is as follows:

24. Procurement issues

Stage 1 of project was initially tendered in February 2003 with the Tender Evaluation Panel recommending a re-tender, as the tender prices did not represent value for money for the Territory. The works were subsequently re-tendered and the contract awarded in June 2004.

## Technical issues

The project received staged funding and as a result of this the landfill cell design was required to be redesigned to accommodate a staged construction approach. In addition, Maunsell the Territory's landfill designer had designed for a haul road traversing a landfill batter which was considered to be high risk and would result in avoidable high maintenance costs for the Territory. Maunsell were subsequently requested to undertake a re-location and redesign of the haul road.

**In BP4, page 232 if Library visits per capita are to be approx. 5.5 in 2005-06, which given that the ACT's population of approx. 325,641 equals about 1,791,025 visits, and if the average cost of library services per visit is \$8.02, this means the cost of library visits in 2005-06 is about \$14 million. Additionally, the cost of library materials per capita is forecast to be \$34.39 in 2005-06. If the population is around 325, 641 this amounts to about \$11 million per annum. Adding the \$14 million and the \$11 million together, this adds up to \$25 million for libraries. Yet in the 2004-05 Budget the Government estimated \$16.934 million expenditure for Library and Information Services. Has the Government now increased funding for libraries by \$7 million in 2005-06 given the difference in forecast expenditure between 2004-05 and 2005-06?**

The answer is as follows:

25. The cost of library materials per capita is a typographical error and should read cost of library services per capita.

The expenditure on Library and Information Services is expected to be approximately \$14 million in 2005-06. However, the cost of both library services per visit and library services per capita is based on direct library expenditure excluding depreciation, capital expenditure on maintaining the collection and overheads so as to be comparable to other jurisdictions for benchmarking purposes. The cost per visit of \$8.02 is based on an estimated 1.4 million visits to the ACT's libraries during 2005-06.

The target of 5.5 library visits per capita has been set deliberately high and the opening of the new Kippax library and the expansion of mobile library services will assist in the achievement of this target.

**In the 2004-05 Budget the measure was 90% customer satisfaction with library services. Yet in the 2005-06 Budget BP4, page 232, this measure has been reduced to 80% customer satisfaction target. Why has the performance measure been reduced and will the quality of library services fall?**

26. The answer to this question was provided during the Select Committee on Estimates examination of the Department on 25th May 2005.

**In BP3, page 167, you have allocated \$500,000 over the next 2 years for the Arboretum's running costs. With the \$12 million so far allocated for construction scheduled to be completed by June 2007, how then can you possibly need to fund \$500,000 over the next 2 budget years in operating costs, when the Arboretum has not even been completed?**

The answer is as follows:

27. The \$500,000 dollars allocated over the next two years for arboretum running costs is comprised of \$100,000 for fire protection, weed control and basic site maintenance during the first year, and \$400,000 for fire protection, weed control and maintenance of newly established plantings and infrastructure during the second year.

**Should these costs really be part of the capital expenditure, or are they for the upkeep of partly completed portions of the Arboretum. Perhaps wages or water rates etc?**

The answer is as follows:

28. These costs should not be part of the capital expenditure as they are genuine maintenance costs associated with the Arboretum.

**In BP4, page 234, Output 2.1 Road Transport, if the number of random vehicle inspections per 10,000 vehicles is 2,239 per annum (22% roughly), how many vehicles in total are inspected each year?**

The answer is as follows:

29. Approximately 50,000 vehicles are randomly inspected each year.

**How many inspected vehicles are found to be defective on average?**

The answer is as follows:

30. For the current financial year, 3.15% of vehicles were found to be defective (as at 26 May 2005).

**In BP4, page 234, Output 2.1 Road Transport the annual operating cost per parking space is \$90.78. How many parking spaces does this cover, what is the total cost for the year, and is this for Government owned parking spaces only?**

The answer is as follows:

31. The number of car parking spaces patrolled is approximately 50,000 which includes non-Government owned carparks. The estimated total cost for 2005-06 is \$4.539 million.

**In BP4, page 237, you have allocated funding for the Hire Car Reform. What was the final amount of remuneration has the Government offered to each of the Hire Car licence holders as a result of the Government's buy back scheme?**

The answer is as follows:

32. The Government has offered \$120,000 each to eight hire car licence owners, \$100,000 each to 11 hire car licence owners, \$118,000 to one owner and \$110,000 to one other owner. An offer has not yet been made to one owner.

**Has the letter of offer been received by each of these licence holders, and have they accepted the amount of money offered to them? If not, why not?**

The answer is as follows:

33. Letters of offer, conditional on the Budget being passed by the Legislative Assembly, were sent to 21 hire car licence owners on 3 June 2005. As at 8 June 2005, one owner has not completed the process for submitting documents providing evidence of purchase price and has not yet been sent an offer. It is estimated that most licence owners received their offer on 7 June 2005. As at 3pm, 8th June 2005, two owners have formally accepted the Government's offer.

**When will they actually receive the funds?**

The answer is as follows:

34. Dependent on the passing of the budget, the funds will be available from 1 July 2005 and licence owners will receive their payments as soon as their hire car numberplates are surrendered to the Government.

**In Bp4, page 259, in 2005-06 highlights you say ACT Forest's base contribution to bushfire prevention and suppression programs will be maintained. What is the level of funding in 2005-06 that will be maintained for this program, and what funding specifically is allocated for hazard reduction burns?**

The answer is as follows:

35. The level of funding in the 2005-06 financial year that will be maintained is \$300,000. These funds will be allocated as follows:

- a. Up to \$200,000 for a combination of fire related overtime, fire standby costs and fire suppression activities; and
- b. Up to \$100,000 for fire fuel reduction work.

**How many hazards reduction burns do ACT Forests plan to undertake in the 2005-06 financial year?**

The answer is as follows:

36. During the 2005-06 financial year, ACT Forests plans to undertake 14 hazard reduction activities that include both burning and mechanical removal of hazards. Some of these activities, for example debris removal burning in the burnt planting areas, will involve multiple burns. Details of planned activities will be outlined in the 2005-06 Bushfire Operational Plan.

**What funding was provided in the 2004-05 Budget for bushfire suppression and prevention programs and how many hazard reduction burns have been conducted thus far in 2004-05?**

The answer is as follows:

37. During 2004-05 financial year, \$300,000 was allocated for bushfire related programs. During 2004-05 a total of 13 hazard reduction burns were approved and undertaken.

**What notice are volunteer fire fighting brigades given about burns that are about to take place?**

The answer is as follows:

38. ACT Forests is not able to respond directly to this question as the current agreement between ACT Forests and the Rural Fire Service (RFS) is such that any requests for volunteer resources is administered by the RFS. It should be noted however, that the RFS is notified prior to every burn undertaken by ACT Forests. This notification includes a required resource list and is provided up to two weeks in advance of major burns.

**BP4, page 259 – Where will the 1.3 million trees be planted? Will they be adjacent to Canberra suburbs?**

The answer is as follows:

39. The 1.3 million trees referred to in the budget are scheduled for planting west of the Murrumbidgee in Uriarra and Pierces Creek forests, and east of Canberra in the Kowen forest. The only trees to be planted in areas adjacent to Canberra suburbs are for amenity purpose associated with the establishment of the new Stromlo Forest Park development.

*Zed Seselja MLA*

*2 June 2005*

179 Mr Brendan SMYTH

Chief Minister

Mr Smyth: To ask the Chief Minister upon notice -

In relation to his visit to Nara, Vancouver, Philadelphia and Washington:

What role will Liz Clarke be performing in the Accompanying Party.

Mr Quinlan (Acting Chief Minister) - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Ms Clarke, the wife of the Chief Minister's Chief of Staff, is travelling at her own expense and has no role in the official delegation.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Zed Seselja MLA: To ask the Urban Services Minister: In relation to the Transport portfolio, as per the following areas of the 2005-06 ACT Government Budget:

1. In relation to the trial period for the Real Time Information system in BP 4, p 212, why do the trial after the majority of funding has already been allocated for the project, when it has not yet been determined that the system will be of any significant benefit to the ACT?
2. Why did the above project, which could have waited given the 2005-06 budget deficit, get precedence in this year's budget over other more essential services?
3. What do the running costs in BP 4, p 237 for the Real Time Information system cover, and is the \$155,000 in funding in 2006-07 indicative of the fact that the system will only be in operation for part of that financial year?
4. How will the above system actually be run and managed?
5. Will these running costs cover all repairs, maintenance and repairs needed in the event of vandalism?
6. In BP 4, p 240 you have allocated a total expenditure of \$745,000 for Forward Design of the relocation of Woden Bus Interchange, and the forward design stage of this relocation due to be completed Apr 06. But when will this interchange relocation actually be complete?
7. Where exactly is the preferred location for the Woden Interchange?
8. What improvements in security for bus patrons will be made, given the propensity of the current bus interchange at Woden to be a hub of crime?
9. In BP 4 p 234, what is the reason that 18% of customers are dissatisfied with ACTION services (82% satisfied), if most buses (99.8%) run on time?
10. In BP 4, p 234 you indicate a 3.3% modal increase in adult work trips, yet there is a forecast increase of 176,000 adult passenger boarding's. How do you plan to make more people catch the bus if population growth is relatively static, and Canberra is geographically spread out which means that people may prefer cars when they have bags, shopping, kids to drop off at school, meetings to attend, etc?

11. In BP 4, p 234 you forecast 22.6% of the bus fleet will meet disability standards in 2005/06. How many buses in total does the 22.6% of the fleet that are disability compliant represent?
12. In BP 4, p 213 you have allocated \$900,000 in funding for the Gungahlin to Civic Corridor – Stage 1: High Occupancy Vehicles Priority Measures: to be completed in Oct 2005. What does stage 1 of this project cover?
13. What particular road or roads is to be covered for improvements with the above \$900,000 funding?
14. In BP 4, p 213 you have allocated \$6 million for Forward Design: Sustainable Transport Initiative – stage 1 to be completed June 2006. What exactly is this funding going to cover?
15. In BP 4, p 230 the increase in adult journeys to work is a key measure of success of the public transport strategies and initiatives in the Government's Sustainable Transport Plan (STP). If you don't achieve the increase of 81,000 from 95,000 (in 04/05) to 176,000 (in 05/06) does this mean the Sustainable Transport Plan has failed?
16. In BP 4, p 237 there is \$1.736 million in 2005-06, increasing slightly in the out years, for additional diesel fuel funding. Will this additional funding each year adequately cover forecast increases in diesel fuel costs without requiring further injections of funding? If not, why not?
17. In relation to diesel fuel, what is the cost per bus per year for fuel on average?
18. How many diesel fuel buses are there in the fleet?
19. In BP 4, p 238 there is \$4.840 million for the ACTION bus replacement program. What exactly will this funding cover and how many buses will be replaced?
20. What will happen with the old buses, will they be sold off? If so, how much will they be sold off for?
21. You stated in the 2005-06 Budget at a Glance BP2 p 22 that there is a bus replacement program of an additional \$4.84m for 11 new CNG buses. On the same page further down the budget that the Government will fund the purchase of additional 20 CNG buses as part of the replacement program. How many new buses are to be funded exactly, 11 or 20?

22. In BP 4, p 507 you say that you are reviewing the current ticketing system for replacement with new technology. What technology will be replacing the current system and how much will this cost?
  
23. In BP 4, p 507 you say that you will be continuing workplace reform to further improve productivity and reduce costs. What workplace reform is taking place to improve productivity and reduce costs?

Zed Seselja MLA  
*June 2005*

Zed Seselja MLA: To ask the Emergency Services Minister: In relation to the Emergency Services portfolio, as per the following areas of the 2005-06 ACT Government Budget:

1. In relation to the additional establishment and other unforeseen expenditure cost in BP 4, p 375: Have there been any results from the treasury directive to find an explanation for these ESA blowouts? If not, then why?
2. Is this overspend partly because of the need to fund the establishment and expansion of the IMC3 group?
3. What is the total strength of staff in the IMC3 group, by establishment position and including consultants attached to the establishment?
4. If the IMC3 expansion – and its routine operating costs – is not covered under “additional establishment and other unforeseen expenditure” (BP4, page 375) where are the costs for staffing, organisational expansion and other operating costs identified in the budget?
5. With respect to the IMC3 how many temporary consultants are currently working in this team, how long have they been employed at the ESA, what is their previous experience and current remuneration?
6. What are the skills that these temporary IMC3 staff possess that differentiates them from other suitable applicants that could have been found if the positions were advertised in the wider community?
7. Of the approximately 63 staff that have been employed to fill positions over the last 2 years (specifically staff who work for the ESA but not any front line agency) how many of these positions were advertised?
8. If any of these positions were not advertised, why not?
9. Given the imperative to shed staff from the ACT public services, are all 63 staff required, given that the ESB seemed to function without them?
10. What specifically are the communication contract savings for in BP 4, p 375?
11. Who, if anyone, now holds these contracts?

12. BP 4, p 375. Why has \$9,985,000 of funding for West Belconnen and Belconnen Joint Emergency Service Centres been removed from the budget?
13. In BP 4, p 376. What is the \$60,000 of funding for a Belconnen Fire and Ambulance station for?
14. Why has the government entered into approx. \$11m worth of new communications contracts over the last year, which do not appear to be part of the initial Communications Plan that totaled \$23.6m over 4 years?
15. What is the current Communications Plan?
16. What is the estimated total cost of the Trunk Radio Network, including the cost of installations so far and please identify that component of funding for future TRN installations?
17. With respect to the TRN how many base stations total, including those installed & those yet to be installed, have you or will you install.
18. Why was a contract entered into in which the ACT Government has to bear the cost of additional expenses for the non-performance of the contract?
19. Why as of 31/3/05 was the contract removed for amendment, approximately 4 months before the expiry of the contract?
20. Initially, money was appropriated for the construction of 22 base stations, however it is understood that it was later revealed only 16 would be needed to cover the necessary coverage area. 7 would be refurbished and the rest (9) were to be newly constructed. Only 5 have been completed so far, with a further 4 to be installed in phase 2. Where are the extra base stations to fulfill the quota of 16, and what is being done with the remaining funds?
21. What is the coverage and reliability of this new network?
22. Why now has there been funds appropriated over the next four years, totalling approx. \$14.5m, after previous funds have been moved forward (Page 375 BP4) to cover the acceleration of the upgrade?
23. What are these new funds going towards?
24. What steps have you taken to eradicate the sort of communication problems witnessed in the ESA COMCEN we saw recently with the Simpson Hill's fire incident?

25. What have you done to address the concerns of the RFS to ensure that it has, in the ESA HQ, a stand alone Operations Centre and a stand alone RFS Radio Room to guarantee proper control? Are these closely linked with the ESA COMCEN to ensure better and speedier emergency communications and decision making?
26. How does - if it does - Curtin currently accommodate all the command and control systems of all ES agencies and describe how they are properly inter-phased with the ESA HQ?
27. What is the total cost of the Fire-Link project?
28. This project has built into it a "radio relay" (mesh technology) capability to compliment its data link. Why is this - Is this an admission that the voice/radio network initially commissioned fails to cover the 95% \* 95% coverage and reliability requirement and that data link equipment is now required to bridge gaps in the existing [TRN] voice net system? If not, then why commission the project?
29. Was the Fire-Link project referred to and approved by the ACT Government procurement board as per clause 6(1)(b) of the Government Procurement (Approved Procurement Units) Guideline 2002 (No. 1)?
30. On what date was the Fire-Link proposal first referred to the ACT Government Procurement Board?
31. On what date did you decide that the project would be the subject of a single-select tender process, and that normal Government Procurement guidelines would not be adhered to?
32. It is understood that Government solicitors have sent a letter to the ESA asking them to explain why many tenders have been single-select, is this true, and what was your response?
33. Why did you pursue this option for a data link? Why did you not consider a system which could have been implemented with off-the-shelf hardware combined with the existing computer aided dispatch system for the total cost of around \$500,000 – significantly less than the cost of the Fire-Link system? Why was a tender not sought from the contractors of the CAD system? If it was not possible, why not?

34. Why was there a need for this extensive research (stated in estimates hearing's) when a public tender would have served the same function for Firelink?
35. Has the ESA previously conducted any activities with Fire-Link provider ATI? How did ATI specifically come to the notice of the ESA if broad commercial tendering processes were not undertaken?
36. Why has a portal been introduced when it was never part of the original communications plan? Why was it necessary to replace the then existing Information Management System?
37. Did the ESA put out a public tender for this 'portal' so it could consider other possibilities? If so, when was it put out, and how many tenders did you receive?
38. Why in this public tender were requirements stipulated that appeared to match specifications of the portal suggested by Plumtree?
39. It is understood that a letter was sent on behalf of a potential contractor that stated the tender was un-competitive, what was your response? Were any observations made by the government solicitors or any other agency criticising the tender process?
40. Mr. Dunn is quoted as saying: '...we are working overtime to make sure we are using world's best practices here in Canberra...' (Thursday 9 September, 2004). How can that be true with the use of non-competitive tenders? If ESA was searching widely for "world's best practices" to determine the best option then why wasn't a proper commercial tender put out with the correct analysis undertaken?
41. From the same release '...made available funds over the next two years.' How much funding was made available and from where was it sourced?
42. What has happened to the 3 control vehicles (fwd comm.'s vehicles) that were approved and funded for, totaling \$856,000?
43. Is the financial management software system (Oracle) still fully operating for the ESA?
44. Why then on several occasions have Emergency Services Vehicles been unable to fill up with fuel, due to the non-payment of accounts?

45. How does the ESA propose to monitor its finances if there is such an obvious inability to set systems or budgets in place that control this?
46. Point 2, 2005-06 highlights p. 369: What will be continued upon in relation to community awareness levels in this year's budget?
47. Point 5, 2005-06 highlights BP4 p. 369: Continuing to enhance the skills in the Community Fire Units. If as you say the bushfire fire risk has decreased for the reason that a significant amount of the fuel hazard was burnt in Jan 03 can you guarantee that the bushfire approaches to all vulnerable suburbs have had their fuel hazard loads eradicated? If so, what was your plan in prioritising which vulnerable suburbs were given priority and are the remaining 58 CFU areas of operation [responsibilities] by and large risk free?
48. If the drought continues, as it has to date and is forecast to last well into the next fire season, how can the bushfire risk index have reduced? Therefore how can you justify letting up in the drive to implement sensible urgent measures and related priorities to minimise the community's bushfire risk as you have done with the CFU program?
49. What is the importance of the Strategic Bushfire Management Plan (SBMP)?
50. Where are the authorities in the SBMP giving the ESA Commissioner, or the RFS Chief Officer, or their nominated delegate - or even the Minister for that matter - the unquestioning power to order a Land Manager [private and government lands] to eradicate fuel hazard loads or pay the ESA for the essential hazard reduction operations that they should deem necessary to undertake?
51. Where are the individual (action) operational plans for all vulnerable suburbs and other vulnerable localities that should be sub-sets of the SBMP?
52. P. 89 Appendix BP4:  
Total costs increased from \$11.759m to \$13.142m (11.76%) due to unforeseen expenses, what are they?
53. P.90 Appendix to BP4:  
Costs increased from \$47.037m to \$52.569m (11.76%) due to unforeseen expenses. What are these expenses?
54. The est. outcome for 04-05 is \$617,000 for fire alarm monitoring. Why is this fire alarm monitoring not carried out annually?

55. Will this actually be recurrent revenue that has not been budgeted for?
56. In notes to the budget statements the reason for the forecast reduction in employees expenses In BP 4, p 377 is "Mainly due to reduced overtime expenses". What other changes are represented in this figure?
57. Page 381 BP4: You state that there was a \$0.973m increase in the 2005-06 Budget from the 2004-05 estimated outcome for recruiting additional fire fighters to reduce overtime and increase normal working hours. If the government's stance on police is serious, why does it have a 'double standard' on reducing overtime compared to the ESA?
58. Will the government make an attempt to remedy the police overtime situation like it has for the Emergency Services? If not, why not?
59. In BP 4, p 378 under current assets the cash on hand is increasing at approx. \$1m per year and then approx. \$2m in 08-09, and is budgeted to total \$6million in 08-09. Why then has there been no interest revenue accounted for in this budget year or any of the out-years?
60. Where is the cash being kept, is it set aside for some emergency reserve use?
61. In BP 4, p 172 you have allocated over \$3 million in funding in 2005-06 and the out years for Communication and Information Management. Are any of these funds for Broadband Data Links between E.S., suburban and volunteer stations? What other capabilities are being introduced?

Zed Seselja MLA  
June 2005

MR SMYTH - asked the Minister for Education and Training

1. How many physical education teachers are employed in ACT Government primary schools;
2. How many physical education teachers are employed in ACT Government high schools; and
3. How many physical education teachers are employed in ACT Government colleges;

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Smyth's question is:

1. Comprehensive data is not kept centrally in the form requested. Most ACT teachers are required to be able to teach across a range of key learning areas. Some teachers specialise in individual subject areas to meet the needs of specific schools and the available skills and qualifications are matched to those needs. The supply of teachers with specific qualifications or experience in physical education currently exceeds the demand in those areas.
2. See part (1).
3. See part (1).

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for Urban Services - In relation to the cycle map initiative under The Sustainable Transport Plan in the 2004-05 Budget.

1. When will the cycle map be updated, redesigned and produced in hard copy and on the web, as originally assigned in the 2004 Budget?
2. Why has it taken so long to produce this initiative?

Richard J Mulcahy MLA

June 2005

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005 in relation to Birrigai Outdoor School:

1. What are the "unexpected high tender results" referred to on BP3, p.213?
2. What does the review of the cost plan for the project consist of?

MS GALLAGHER - the answers to Mr Mulcahy's question are:

1. The project manager sought three trade package tenders for structural steel, mechanical works and block work in January 2005. The results for the tender packages were \$483,000 above the estimated costs:
  - Structural steel - \$325,000 (estimate - \$223,000)
  - Mechanical works - \$409,000 (estimate - \$167,000)
  - Block work - \$221,000 (estimate - \$82,000)
2. Following these high tender prices the cost planning consultants were required to review all quantities and costs for the entire project. Included in the review was an update of the current building costs and an opinion of the impact the remote locality of Birrigai might have on costs. The estimate for the project was increased and the scope of work reduced to maintain the project within budget.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005 – In relation to the Eclipse and Stay Programs at Stirling College:

1. How much money has been allocated in the 2005-06 budget to the Eclipse and Stay Programs at Stirling College, respectively?
2. What is the purpose of these programs?
3. How will these programs be evaluated?
4. How do the specific curricula of the Eclipse and Stay Programs differ from those in mainstream schools?
5. How many students are enrolled in the Eclipse and Stay Programs?
6. What is the attendance rate of the Eclipse and Stay Programs?
7. How much contact do the students in the Eclipse Program have with the students in the Stay Program?
8. How much scope is there for disruptive students from Eclipse Program to disrupt the students in the Stay Program, and how are the disruptive students dealt with?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

1. No specific money is allocated to The Eclipse and Stay Programs. These programs are funded as part of The Canberra College. The college and school board determine the level of funds provided.
2. The Eclipse Program is an alternative high school program for students in years 9 and 10 not experiencing success in mainstream learning environments. The objectives of the program are to:
  - provide a smaller, more flexible learning environment
  - ensure successful learning outcomes for students
  - improve the retention rates of students who otherwise may drop out of school

- facilitate the transition of students to college, the workplace or other training opportunities
- enhance life skills, employment prospects and to access other agency support where appropriate
- foster self-directed learning.

The purpose of the Stay Program is to provide specific programs to assist students to complete their Year 12 Certificate.

3. Both the Eclipse and Stay Programs are evaluated similarly to other high school and college programs and through the regular school review process, including monitoring the number of students that complete the programs. Students and parents are consulted and provide feedback on how the programs have met the needs of the students.
4. The Eclipse Program provides a course of study which leads to the awarding of a Year 10 Certificate. The program offers a greater focus on literacy and numeracy skills as well as transition to work programs. Students also have access to college courses.

The Stay Program is a core package of Mathematics, English, Computing, Hospitality and Work Place Education studied over two years and leads to the awarding of a Year 12 Certificate. Individual programs of study are negotiated with the teacher to best meets the needs of the student.

5. Currently there are 44 students in the Eclipse Program and 37 students in the Stay Program.
6. Student attendance for both the Eclipse and Stay Programs is monitored and recorded. While students have individual full time study programs, they do not all attend the campus five days per week. This is particularly necessary when students are under court orders not to associate with another student.
7. Students in the Eclipse and Stay Programs regularly participate in combined classes.
8. The Eclipse and Stay Programs manage behavioural issues on a case by case basis, consistent with department and school guidelines for dealing with disruptive students.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005:

1. How many requests pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* has the Department of Education and Training received in 2004-05?
2. Of those requests, how many disclosures were made in accordance with section 18 of the Act, i.e. within 30 days?
3. If any disclosures were not made within 30 days, why was this the case?
4. Of those disclosures that did not comply with the Act, how many were granted extensions?
5. How many complaints have been made about the Department of Education and Training's failure to comply with the Act?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

1. From 1 July 2004 up to and including 7 June 2005, the Department of Education and Training has received 29 requests pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.
2. 14 have been processed within 30 days.
3. The cases not finalised within 30 days have been due to a range of factors. These the number and subject matter of documents sought
  - have included:
  - the complexity of the requests
  - the need to clarify the scope with the applicants
  - the need for decision-makers to consult concerning release
  - staffing constraints (in some cases where the statutory deadline was exceeded, the requests were received in the Christmas holiday period when many staff were on leave).
4. In relation to the requests on which decisions were made outside the statutory time frame imposed by the Act, consultation was undertaken with applicants in all but one of the of cases about the time delays involved.

5. Two applicants indicated that they were unhappy with the Department's failure to meet the statutory time frame.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005:

- (1) How many reports have been received, per ACT Government school, of school children being injured at school?
- (2) Of the injuries in (1), how many are attributable to, or related to, the condition of school ovals?
- (3) What arrangements are in place (i.e. insurance policies, and the like) to cover costs for injuries sustained by students and/or members of the public on school grounds?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

- (1) From 27 January 2005 (the start of the 2005 school year) to 8 June 2005, the number of reports received, per ACT Government school, of school children being injured at school is shown at Attachment A. The ACT Department of Education and Training received 478 reports in total for this period.
- (2) Of the injuries in (1), 45 reported injuries occurred on school ovals. Of this figure, three injury reports indicate that the injury was attributable to, or related to, the condition of school ovals.
- (3) The ACT Government (the Territory) meets claims (including claims resulting from school activities or excursions) against it where there is a legal liability to do so. Liability is not automatic and depends on the circumstances in which the injury was sustained. The Department of Education and Training is an agency of the Territory which has insurance arrangements in place in order to meet such liabilities.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

## ATTACHMENT A

### Preschools

Preschool	No. of injury reports	Preschool	No. of injury reports
Ainslie Preschool	0	Kaleen Preschool	0
Amaroo Preschool	0	Latham Preschool	1
North Ainslie Preschool	0	Lyneham Preschool	0
Aranda Preschool	0	Lyons Preschool	2
Griffith Preschool	0	Macarthur Preschool	0
Bonython Preschool	0	MacGregor Preschool	0
Calwell Preschool	0	Macquarie Preschool	0
Campbell Preschool	0	Maribyrnong Preschool	0
Causeway Preschool	0	Mawson Preschool	0
Chapman Preschool	0	McKellar Preschool	0
Charles Conder Preschool	0	Melba Preschool	0
Charnwood Preschool	0	Miles Franklin Preschool	0
Chifley Preschool	0	Monash Preschool	0
Chisholm Preschool	0	Mount Neighbour Preschool	0
Cook Preschool	0	Narrabundah Early Childhood Education Centre - NECEC	0
Curtin North Preschool	0	Ngunnawal Preschool	0
Curtin South Preschool	0	Nicholls Preschool	0
Deakin Preschool	0	Page Preschool	0
Downer Preschool	0	Palmerston Preschool	0
Duffy Preschool	0	Pearce Preschool	0
Duntroon Preschool	0	Red Hill Preschool	0
Evatt Preschool	0	Reid Preschool	0
Fadden Preschool	0	Richardson Preschool	0
Farrer Preschool	0	Rivett Preschool	0
Florey Preschool	1	Scullin Preschool	0
Flynn Preschool	0	Spence Preschool	0
Fraser Preschool	0	Taylor Preschool	0

Garran Preschool	0	Tharwa Preschool	0
Gilmore Preschool	0	Theodore Preschool	0
Giralang Preschool	1	Torrens Preschool	0
Gordon Preschool	0	Turner Preschool	0
Gowrie Preschool	0	Urambi Preschool	0
Hackett Preschool	0	Village Creek Preschool	0
Hall Preschool	0	Wanniassa Hills Preschool	0
Hawker Preschool	0	Wanniassa Preschool	1
Higgins Preschool	1	Waramanga Preschool	0
Holt Preschool	0	Watson Preschool	0
Hughes Preschool	0	Weetangera Preschool	0
Isabella Plains Preschool	1	Weston Preschool	0
Jervis Bay Preschool	0	Yarralumla Preschool	3
	0	Yarralumla Montessori School	1
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>12</b>

## Primary Schools

Primary School	No. of injury reports	Primary School	No. of injury reports
<u>Ainslie School</u>	1	<u>Latham Primary</u>	6
<u>Amaroo School</u>	13	<u>Lyneham Primary</u>	1
<u>Aranda Primary</u>	2	<u>Lyons Primary</u>	0
<u>Arawang Primary</u>	3	<u>Macgregor Primary</u>	0
<u>Bonython Primary</u>	5	<u>Macquarie Primary</u>	2
<u>Calwell Primary</u>	2	<u>Majura Primary</u>	5
<u>Campbell Primary</u>	9	<u>Maribyrnong Primary</u>	0
<u>Chapman Primary</u>	2	<u>Mawson Primary</u>	2
<u>Charles Conder Primary</u>	2	<u>Melrose Primary</u>	0
<u>Charnwood Primary</u>	2	<u>Miles Franklin Primary</u>	0
<u>Chisholm Primary</u>	8	<u>Monash Primary</u>	0
<u>Cook Primary</u>	0	<u>Mt Neighbour Primary</u>	1
<u>Curtin Primary</u>	3	<u>Mt Rogers Community School</u>	4
<u>Duffy Primary</u>	0	<u>Narrabundah Primary</u>	1
<u>Evatt Primary</u>	1	<u>Ngunnawal Primary</u>	8
<u>Fadden Primary</u>	1	<u>North Ainslie Primary</u>	13
<u>Farrer Primary</u>	8	<u>O'Connor Co-Operative School</u>	1
<u>Florey Primary</u>	3	<u>Palmerston District Primary</u>	6
<u>Flynn Primary</u>	0	<u>Red Hill Primary</u>	4
<u>Forrest Primary</u>	4	<u>Richardson Primary</u>	4
<u>Fraser Primary</u>	1	<u>Rivett Primary</u>	0
<u>Garran Primary</u>	4	<u>Southern Cross Primary</u>	2
<u>Gilmore Primary</u>	4	<u>Taylor Primary</u>	1

<u>Giralang Primary</u>	3	<u>Tharwa Primary</u>	1
<u>Gordon Primary</u>	9	<u>Theodore Primary</u>	2
<u>Gowrie Primary</u>	7	<u>Torrens Primary</u>	0
<u>Hall Primary</u>	3	<u>Turner Primary</u>	5
<u>Hawker Primary</u>	3	<u>Urambi Primary</u>	1
<u>Higgins Primary</u>	3	<u>Village Creek Primary</u>	4
<u>Holt Primary</u>	15	<u>Wanniassa Hills Primary</u>	7
<u>Hughes Primary</u>	2	<u>Weetangera Primary</u>	2
<u>Isabella Plains Primary</u>	31	<u>Weston Creek Primary</u>	2
<u>Jervis Bay Primary</u>	0	<u>Yarralumla Primary</u>	2
<u>Kaleen Primary</u>	6		
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>247</b>

### High Schools

High School	No. of injury reports
Alfred Deakin High	2
Belconnen High	5
Calwell High	4
Campbell High	5
Canberra High	17
Caroline Chisholm High	0
Ginninderra District High School	6
Gold Creek School K-10	4
Kaleen High	5
Kambah High	6
Lanyon High	12
Lyneham High	15
Melba High	3
Melrose High	20
Stromlo High	14
Telopea Park School	11
Wanniassa K-10	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133</b>

## College

College	No. of injury reports
Canberra College	2
Copland College	2
Dickson College	16
Erindale College	4
Hawker College	2
Lake Ginninderra College	1
Lake Tuggeranong College	1
Narrabundah College	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>

## Special School

Special School	No. of injury reports
Alternative Education Program/Dickson College	0
Alternative Education Program/Canberra College	0
Behaviour Management Support/Yarralumla PS	0
Behaviour Management Support/Urambi PS	0
Behaviour Management Support/Weston PS	0
Birrigai Outdoor School	0
Black Mountain School	27
Co-operative School, O'Connor	0
Cranleigh School	11
Early Intervention Service/Holder PS	0
Hospital School (The)/Canberra Hospital	0
Malkara School	15
Melrose Guidance and Counselling Service/ Melrose HS	0
Turner Early Childhood Centre	0
Woden School (The)	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>

### Other School/Program

<b>School/Program</b>	<b>No. of injury reports</b>
Co-Operative	0
Secondary Introductory English Centre (Dickson College)	0
Instrumental Music Program	0
Melrose Counselling Centre	0
Northside Primary Introductory English Centre (at North Ainslie Primary School)	1
Southside Primary Introductory English Centre (at Hughes Primary School)	0
Tuggeranong Primary Introductory English Centre (at Village Creek Primary School)	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for the Environment upon notice on 3 June 2005:

1. What is the proposed reduction in environmental flows in each catchment area for which the ACT has responsibility?
2. What is the proposed total reduction in environmental flows?
3. What is the impact of the proposed reduction in environmental flows on ACTEW's revenue?
4. What is expected to be achieved by the reduction in environmental flows?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

- 1.-2 The draft environmental guidelines seek to ensure that aquatic ecosystems in each catchment receive the flows necessary for their maintenance. As a result of our increased knowledge of environmental flows, particularly in the Cotter catchments, the flows required are more precisely targeted and in some instances the required flows are reduced. In other catchments the flows required in the draft guidelines have not changed from the current guidelines. Details of the volumes required for environmental purposes under the current and the draft guidelines are listed for each catchment, and as totals, in the following table.

	Catchment	Environment Allocation (ML) 1999 Guidelines	Environment Allocation (ML) 2005 Guidelines
Murrumbidgee and tributaries	Michelago	2314	2304
	Tharwa	8806	8801
	Kambah	6643	6625
	Uriarra	15580	15382
	Woodstock	1225	1221
	Guises	1935	1935
Gudgenby and tributaries	Naas	35619	35619
	Gudgenby	46569	46569
	Tennent	6884	6884

Required release below lowest Cotter River reservoir		38158	6075
Cotter tributary	Paddys	36571	36571

Tuggeranong Ck	Tuggeranong	7193	7193
Molonglo and tributaries	Upper Molonglo	1160	1160
	Kowen	4896	4896
	Fyshwick	1712	1712
	Jerrabomberra	4236	4236
	Lake Burley Griffin	5116	5116
	Coppins	4832	4832
	Woolshed	2173	2173
	Sullivans	5726	5726
	Woden	6191	6191
	Weston	3628	3628
Queanbeyan River tributary	Lower Queanbeyan	20	20
Required release below lowest Cotter River reservoir		9432	4250
Ginninderra Ck and tributaries	Gungahlin	4727	4727
	Lake Ginninderra	5456	5456
	Parkwood	5150	5150
	Total	271954 <sup>A</sup>	242024 <sup>A</sup>

Note A: In calculating total environment flow requirements, in the Cotter and Queanbeyan systems the volume required to be released at the lowest reservoir (Cotter and Googong respectively) is used.

3. The environmental flow changes should have no impact on ACTEW's revenue. ACTEW's revenue stream from the sale of potable water depends on factors such as the volume of water used by consumers, and the price as determined by the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission. The volume of water that ACTEW can use for domestic supply is specified in their water allocations from the water supply catchments, and not by environmental flow requirements.

4. The guidelines are required to maintain aquatic ecosystems across the ACT. Scientific advice from the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology indicates that the draft guidelines will achieve this goal. The guidelines also

recognise that our catchments support multiple uses such as irrigation, provision of domestic water supply and recreation. Accordingly the guidelines seek to minimise the flows specified to just those needed to protect aquatic ecosystems so that other uses of water can be accommodated where needed.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Acting Minister for the Environment

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs upon notice on 3 June 2005:

1. How many requests pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* has Environment ACT received in 2004-05?
2. Of those requests, how many disclosures were made within section 18 of the Act, i.e. within 30 days?
3. If any disclosures were not made within 30 days, why was this the case?
4. Of those disclosures that did not comply with the Act, how many were granted extensions?
5. How many complaints have been made about Environment ACT's failure to comply with the Act?

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

1. 27
2. 25
3. The Freedom of Information (FOI) coordinator was dealing with several requests. Due to the workload at the time, two requests did not meet the statutory time limit. However, applicants were contacted by telephone and informed that their request would not be delivered within the statutory time limit. One request was 4 days overdue and the other 3 days.
4. It was confirmed with the applicants that the requests would be several days over the required time limit. Applicants did not raise any issues over the delay.
5. No complaints have been reported to Environment ACT with regard to non compliance under section 18 of the *Freedom of Information Act 1989*.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to Freedom of Information requests:

1. How many requests pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* has the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support received in 2004-05;
2. Of those requests, how many disclosures were made in accordance with section 18 of the Act, i.e. within 30 days;
3. If any disclosures were not made within 30 days, why was this the case;
4. Of those disclosures that did not comply with the Act, how many were granted extensions and;
5. How many complaints have been made about the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support's failure to comply with the Act?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Members question is as follows:

1. The Office for Children, Youth and Family Support has received a total of nineteen (19) requests for information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* in 2004-05.
2. There were eleven (11) disclosures made within the 30 day period.
3. The majority of Freedom of Information requests received by the Office are Care and Protection client specific and can be very labour intensive in the retrieval and preparation of documentation due to the sensitivity and complexity of the Children and Young People Act 1999 and Health Records (Access and Privacy) Act 1997. A review of Freedom of Information procedures in October 2004 has resulted in all FOI applications since this date being fully compliant with Section 18.
4. All disclosures, which did not comply with Section 18 of the Act, were granted extensions through written correspondence. All correspondence informed the applicants of their appeal and complaint rights under the Act.

5. The Office for Children, Youth and Family Support has received one (1) complaint.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support

Date: .....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to the operation of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support:

1. How much money has been allocated in the 2005-06 budget to fund the Accountability and Governance Team within the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support;
2. How many reports have been received by the Accountability and Governance Team since its inception;
3. Has this new team resulted in less complaints being taken to the Office of the Community Advocate or the ACT Ombudsman? If so, what is the reduction;
4. Are Canberrans who contact the Centralised Intake Service to lodge an initial report informed that they can contact the Accountability and Governance Team if they are not happy with the response they receive from their initial report? If not, why not;
5. How many complaints have been received in 2004-05 by the Office of the Community Advocate in regard to Care and Protection Services? Were all these complaints investigated and, if not, why not;
6. How many of these complaints were then taken further to the ACT Ombudsman; and
7. How many complaints have been received in 2004-05 by the ACT Ombudsman in regard to Care and Protection Services that were not directly the result of complaints initially made to the Office of the Community Advocate? Were all these complaints investigated and, if not, why not?

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

1. Approximately \$300,000 has been budgeted for the Accountability and Governance Team within the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support.
2. The Accountability and Governance Team received 26 complaints from the Ombudsman between November 2004 and June 2005. The team has received 11 consumer complaints between February and June 2005.

3. This is unable to be quantified at this time due to the short timeframes involved. Information to date indicates that consumers appreciate having an option for raising issues within the organisation, with an experienced officer removed from the management of their contact within the organisation. Consumers are then able to use the external complaints mechanisms if they remain unsatisfied with the response from the organisation.
4. Under the Children and Young People Act 1999 (the Act), people who provide information in relation to the safety and well being of children, are not entitled to receive specific information about the department's response to the report in accordance with Section 404 and 405 of the Act.
5. Complaints received by the Office of the Community Advocate (OCA) would be a matter for the OCA to provide comment on. It is outside the portfolio responsibility of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support.
6. As per response above, this question is best directed to the OCA.
7. This question should be directed to the ACT Ombudsman's Office. It is outside the portfolio responsibility of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Support.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support

Date: .....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005:

- (1) How many casual teachers are registered in the ACT;
- (2) How many casual teachers aides are registered in the ACT;
- (3) What is the process for selecting a casual teacher or teachers aide to fill a vacancy or absence;
- (4) Are all casual teachers or teachers aides listed on a "roll" or "register" or similar in alphabetical order;
- (5) How many casual teachers or teachers aides are listed, by surname, for each letter of the alphabet;
- (6) When casual teachers or teachers aides on the roll or register receive a permanent or semi-permanent position, are they removed from the "roll" or "register"; If not, why not;
- (7) On any given occasion when there is a need to fill a vacancy or absence, is it a common or usual practice for Department of Education and Training staff to fill vacancies by going down this "roll" or "register" in alphabetical order;
- (8) Do people registered on the "roll" or "register" who have a surname that begins with a letter occurring early in the alphabet receive disproportionately more offers of casual work than people with a surname that begins with a letter occurring toward the end of the alphabet;
- (9) If so, what will the Department of Education and Training do to remedy this discriminatory practice;
- (10) Has the Minister's office received any complaints regarding the processes used to fill vacancies or absences by casual teachers or teachers aides;
- (11) Has the Department of Education and Training received any complaints regarding the processes used to fill vacancies or absences by casual teachers or teachers aides.

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

1. 1132 at 7 June 2005;
2. The department does not employ casual "teachers aides" but does employ casual school assistants in schools. At 7 June 2005 there were 1100 casual school assistants registered;

3. Schools conduct a search in the Casual Relief System (CRS) database for casual school assistants and the Relief Teachers database for casual teachers to select the best available employees;
4. Teachers are listed in alphabetical order, but not alphabetical order by subject. Schools are required to scrutinise the list and determine which of the available teachers best satisfy their requirements. School assistants are not listed in alphabetical order;

5. Teachers at 7 June 2005:

A	37
B	118
C	87
D	56
E	28
F	44
G	48
H	85
I	6
J	30
K	47
L	48
M	108
N	17
O	23
P	57
Q	3
R	60
S	73
T	36
U	4
V	17
W	87
X	1
Y	6
Z	6

School assistants at 7 June 2005

A	34
B	87
C	93
D	48
E	20
F	34
G	52
H	78
I	6
J	28
K	37
L	44
M	114
N	20
O	23
P	72
Q	3
R	67
S	104
T	50
U	1
V	11
W	69
X	0
Y	3
Z	2

6. Yes.

7. When engaging a teacher to occupy a position for one full school term or longer, a principal views all applications in the highest available recruitment rating for the required subject area or particular skills or experience, and makes a selection. The applications are stored in alphabetical order but not necessarily provided to principals in that order. When engaging casual teachers schools obtain a list of available teachers and establish which of those teachers satisfy their requirements in terms of subjects taught and at what level;

8. The department has no evidence that this is the case;

9. See part (8);

10. A very small number of concerns have been raised by casual teachers about the outcome of the process rather than the processes themselves. No complaints have been received from school assistants;

11. The department has received a small number of complaints from casual teachers on a variety of matters. These are handled on an individual basis according to the nature of the complaint. No complaints have been received from school assistants.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Mr Richard Mulcahy - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 3 June 2005:

- (1) How many new pre-school places for children will be created by the increase in pre-school hours announced in a media release on 3 May 2005?
- (2) If there are no new places created why is this the case?
- (3) How many full-time, part time and casual pre-school teachers will be recruited in 2005-06 as a result of the increase in pre-school hours?
- (4) How much of the money allocated for increases in pre-school hours will be used to train new teachers?
- (5) Will government pre-school hours will be extended from 10.5 hours per week to 12 hours per week?
- (6) After six hours of teaching, are staff entitled to take a rest break? If so, how long is this break?
- (7) Will the Department of Education and Training employ additional pre-school teachers for an extra six hours per week (as the minimum period for which they can be rostered on is three hours per week)?
- (8) Will the Department of Education and Training have to pay for an extra six hours per week in pre-school teacher salaries, for a gain of 1.5hours per week for families?

MS GALLAGHER - the answers to Mr Mulcahey's questions are;

- (1) The number of new pre-school places created by the increase in pre-school hours is not yet known.
- (2) New pre-school places will be created at the beginning of the new school year in 2006. Planning for this process will take place in August/September 2005 based on preschool registrations.
- (3) There is a two stage implementation strategy. The part time hours of 36 preschool teachers currently employed will be extended, and in the first stage three additional part time teachers will be employed by July 2005. The second stage, in response to parent choice for long day programs, will continue in 2006 and further part time positions filled as required. Implementation could involve recruiting anywhere up to 40 early childhood teachers.

- (4) Professional development for staff recruited, and staff extended, will be \$47,500 in 2005-06, \$85,588 in 2006-07, \$87,727 in 2007-08 and \$89,920 in 2008-09.
- (5) Yes, preschool hours will be extended from 10.5 hours per week to 12 hours per week.
- (6) Staff are required to take a break after 5 hours of work. This will be a lunch break of 30 mins for teachers.
- (7) Additional teachers will be employed to provide release time for lunch break and planning for staff. It is anticipated many of these release teachers will be employed for a total of 12 hours per week, providing release time for two preschools.
- (8) The extra six hours per week in teacher salaries will provide an extra 1.5 hours preschool per week for a group of 25 children.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister:

Regarding the ACT Academy of Sport Athletes in Schools program;

- (a) How long has this program been running?
- (b) How is this program evaluated?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (a) The program has been in operation since 1998/99.
- (b) The program is evaluated each year through a formal process that consists of: recording the number of participants (students, teachers and athletes) and the number of schools that request repeat visits, obtaining feedback from the athletes involved at the completion of each session, and conducting follow-up phone calls to teachers.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

MR SESELJA: Asked the Minister on notice:

Regarding the Knowledge Fund and the grant to the ACT Home Based Business Association;

1. What application process was undertaken for the grant and under what category was the grant made?
2. Could you also tell us how much and what cash or in-kind contribution is made?
3. What outcomes are sought from the use of the grant?

MR QUINLAN: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The Micro and Home Business Association (MHBA) applied for assistance by completing and lodging a Knowledge Fund application form. The MHBA received an Industry Development Knowledge Fund grant.
2. MHBA was granted \$35,000. The Association was not required to contribute either cash or in-kind contributions to the funded project, as there is no requirement for Industry Development grant recipients to do this.
3. The outcomes sought from the use of the grant are:
  - a strong micro and home business sector by developing resources to further grow the sector, eg a welcome pack that contains relevant information for members;
  - develop an online business knowledge management system that is uniquely tailored for micro and home businesses to access and store information that relates to the sector; and
  - providing the ACT Government and other bodies servicing the sector with ongoing survey information that will enable them to target micro and home businesses more effectively.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Ted Quinlan MLA

Minister for Economic Development and Business Date:.....

Dr Foskey: Asked the Minister upon notice:

1. Are there any other areas where unspent funds have been rolled over, apart from the Export Growth program and the Knowledge Fund?
2. Can you let me know how much is being rolled over from the Export Growth Program and the Knowledge Fund and any other funds.

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

1. yes
- 2.

Summary of Initiative	3. Amount of Rollover
Bushfire Business Assistance – Loan Subsidy	\$9,455
Business Acceleration Program	\$232,850
Export Growth Program	\$314,555
Export Growth Program	
Canberra/California Bridge Program	\$168,000
Knowledge Fund	\$2,288,800
ScreenACTion	\$40,000

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA  
 Minister for Economic Development and Business

Date.....

Dr Foskey: Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding the total number of staff across the portfolio of Department of Economic Development, could you provide us with the precise numbers and breakdown of permanent full-time, permanent part-time, casuals and contractors?

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

	Male	Female	Total
Permanent Full-Time	87	106	193
Permanent Part-Time	5.4	9.34	14.74
Temporary Full-Time	17	13	30
Temporary Part-Time	0.8	3.28	4.08
Contractor	2.07	1	3.07
Temporary Casual	18.11	39.34	57.45
Total	130.38	171.96	302.34

These figures include BusinessACT, Sport and Recreation ACT, Australian Capital Tourism Corporation, Gambling and Racing Commission, ACTTAB.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA  
Minister for Economic Development and Business

Date.....

Dr Foskey: Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding the Canberra Partnership Board, could you please provide a list of its members?

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

Name	Title and Organisation
Professor Ian Chubb	Vice-Chancellor, Australian National University
Mr Michael Delaney	Executive Director, Motor Trades Association of Australia
Dr Ben Greene	Group Executive Chairman, Electro Optic Systems Pty Ltd
Professor Ann Harding	Director, NATSEM, University of Canberra
Ms Georgina Jenkins	Principal, By George Studios
Mr David Malloch	Director, Malloch Digital Designs Pty Ltd
Dr Michelle Miller	Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director, Biotron Ltd.
Professor Penny Sackett	Director Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, ANU
Mr George Wason	State Secretary, Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU)
Mr Derek Volker	Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Mr Shane Gilbert	Chief Executive, Department of Economic Development

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA  
Minister for Economic Development and Business

Date.....

Mr Seselja – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding the Commercialisation Investment Fund and the management arrangements, what kind of arrangements will be in place to prevent any potential conflicts of interest and can a copy of the trust deed be provided.

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government, ANU and the MTAA Superannuation Fund have come together to provide a combined commitment of \$30 million to comprise the ANU MTAA Super Venture Partnership (VCPL). This is made up of a \$10 million repayable grant to the ANU from the ACT Government, a \$20 million cash contribution to the Fund by MTAA Super, and ANU supplying first look investment rights to the Fund for ANU Intellectual Property. The Fund is fully open to receive and make investments in non-ANU sourced projects and IP.

Under the agreed management structure, all investment proposal screening and analysis will be conducted by ANU Connect Pty Ltd - the investment manager - who will make recommendations on individual investments to an independent Board of Directors. The Board acts as the final decision making entity for all investments. The Board will comprise three independent Directors with no affiliation to partners to the Fund. Mr David Gaul (President of CEA Technologies) has been appointed Chair of the Board with two other board members to be appointed in due course.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor Research ANU, Professor Lawrence Cram, is currently the acting CEO of ANU Connect Pty Ltd. The position will be filled on a permanent basis once the Fund is in place.

Representatives from the funding partners - ANU and MTAA Super - will authorise payments from the funds holding structure, which is the (VCPL).

The Funding Deed is a document that describes the purpose and conditions attaching to the \$10 million repayable grant to the ANU. The Deed was also responsible for establishing a Steering Committee to drive a Project to create a Fund including broad directions on the management and governance operations of the proposed Fund. Given the Territory is only one party to the Deed, confirmation is being sought that the other party approve the release of the documentation. However, core of the question is answered above.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Ms MacDonald: Asked the Minister on notice:

Regarding per capita expenditure on tourism, would you provide a list of the ranked order of the spending of each states?

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

**Per Capita Expenditure on Tourism Funding in States/Territories**

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Tourism Allocation for State/Territory Tourism Agencies 2004-2005 (\$million)</b>	<b>Population* ( '000)</b>	<b>Tourism funding per capita</b>
NSW	49.6	6,744	\$7.35
VIC	38.0	4,989	\$7.62
QLD	42.9	3,900	\$11.00
WA	39.4	1,990	\$19.80
SA	41.0	1,536	\$26.69
ACT	18.5	324	\$57.10
TAS	34.9	483	\$72.26
NT	37.9	200	\$189.50

\*Source: ABS, Australian Demographic Statistics, September 2004  
December 2004 statistics to be released June 2005

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA  
Minister for Tourism

Date:.....

201 Mr Richard MULCAHY Tourism

Mr Mulcahy : Asked the Minister on notice:

Regarding the Adelaide market survey, can you provide the statistics on leisure vs business/defence travel?

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

The Adelaide survey was conducted over a four week period in September/October 2004. The statistics you have requested are as follows:

- 36% of respondents came to Canberra for business purposes
- 31% of respondents came for the purpose of visiting friends and relatives
- 13% of respondents came for general leisure and holiday purposes
- 20% of respondents came for specific purposes such as Floriade, sport and education

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA  
Minister for Tourism

Date:.....

Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding the Deaflympic Games, did the ACT have any athletes competing or service any lead athletes with a hearing disability?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The ACT had one representative, Mr Nikolas Schlie, in the Australian Deaf Soccer team that competed in the 2005 Deaflympic held in Melbourne. The Government provided Mr Schlie with \$750 from the Sport and Recreation ACT grants program towards his expenses. The ACT Academy of Sport has not had any scholarship athletes with a hearing disability in 2004/05.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Mr Stefaniak – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding sports grants, could you provide the exact figures for funding available for community grants this year (2004/05) and last year (2003/04) removing the administrative costs in the comparison?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

Funding that was available for community organisations through sport and recreation grants totalled \$2,518,425 in 2003/04. This allocation was increased by \$62,960 (2.5% CPI) to increase the 2004/05 grants program to \$2,581,385. However staff costs associated with administering the 2004/05 program totalled \$172,000, reducing the amount of funds available to organisations to \$2,409,385.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Mr Stefaniak – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding funding for Stromlo Forest Park, could you provide a breakdown of the funding, its purpose and over what period of time it will be spent?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The Government has allocated \$ 6.0m for capital works in Stromlo Forest Park, being \$1.70m in 2005/06, \$2.00m in both 2006/07 and 2007/08, and \$0.30m in 2008/09.

Work to be undertaken includes: \$1.70m to re-establish the Deek's Forest cross-country course; \$1.0m for a pavilion, and change rooms; \$0.40m to construct a mountain bike criterium circuit; \$0.30m for tree planting; \$0.70m for road entry work and access works; and \$1.9 for erosion control, services and other costs.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Dr Foskey – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Regarding safety standards at Canberra Stadium;

1. Are you aware of any failings in the safety standards at Canberra Stadium over the past 4 years?
2. If so, does the stadium now meet an appropriate safety standard or is it still moving towards this?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

1. No. As part of our regular internal safety assessments improvements have been made where there was a potential risk for patron safety. For example the glass balustrades in the corporate areas of the east and west grandstands were strengthened in 2004 and minor concerns in respect to fire safety have been identified and will be rectified in 2005/06. A fire safety ladder has been erected on the eastern stand and voids in grandstand structures will be filled with fire retardant.
2. The Stadium is always striving to achieve best practice standards.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Mr Seselja – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Budget Paper 3 page 120 refers to non ACT Government user charges;

1. Does Canberra Stadium contribute to the significant drop in 2007/08 according to the table?
2. Is Canberra Stadium expecting a drop in sales revenue?

The answer to the member's question is as follows:

1. No
2. No

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

*Ted Quinlan MLA*

Ms MacDonald – Asked the Minister upon notice:

Referring to Budget Paper 4 page 455 dot point 2, there is a statement about revitalising and rationalising the agency network incorporating: “traditional suburban agencies, ACTTAB managed branches and super-shops in target locations”.

How do you know when you have gone too far and when will you know that?

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

ACTTAB is not of the view that its proposed further rationalisation of agency/branch outlets will compromise the existing strong network of retail stores.

ACTTAB undertakes careful planning exercises before identifying an outlet for closure and has closed five outlets in the last two years without any concerns being expressed by customers. One key issue in successfully rationalising the ACTTAB agency/branch network is the location of ACTTAB’s thirty-four sub-agents (eg. clubs and taverns) that can in most areas provide an immediate alternative for customers within their neighbourhood.

Further rationalisation of the ACTTAB agency/branch network from 17 to 13 outlets is planned to occur over the next two years. The only confirmed closure at this stage is the Tuggeranong Town Centre outlet that will close at the end of its current lease in September this year. The Town Centre and associated offices are well served by two club sub-agency outlets in the area. The other three planned closures will be in conjunction with either the expansion of a nearby agency/branch or the establishment of a new larger outlet, suitable for the establishment of a super-shop outlet.

ACTTAB will continue to make careful decisions in relation to further rationalisation of its network and will seek to respond to any unforeseen change in sales trends or negative customer feedback that may be associated with this process.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Mr Ted Quinlan MLA

Date.....

*Minister for Racing and Gaming*

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 3 June 2005:

- 1) What is the current number of employees in and make-up of a typical police station team/patrol, per daily shift, for all shifts? Please express the answer in terms of two categories: Sworn Police and unsworn employees.
- 2) Regarding Sworn and Unsworn categories in police stations what is the minimum acceptable number that you demand firstly for routine day shifts and secondly, nights shifts for each team and what are the minimum acceptable make up by rank and experience?
- 3) Are you meeting these standards and what proportion of shifts have to be made up of police on overtime?
- 4) In the last 12 months how many rostered shifts have been filled by overtime?
- 5) In the last 12 months how many shifts have not been able to be filled and what is the reason for this?
- 6) Is it acceptable for one patrol with two members to cover a particular district on any shift? District meaning the five being Belconnen, Gungahlin, City, Woden and Tuggeranong. How many times in the last 12 months has this occurred?
- 7) In the period 15-28 May how many sworn police rostered for patrols at Woden and Civic stations were police on overtime, and what percentage of those patrol rosters did they represent? Please advise per station, per shift.
- 8) per question 2) what is the Australian 'best practice' benchmark for Sworn police in police stations and are you achieving that benchmark? If not, why not and how short are you?
- 9) What is the minimum number of police station teams/patrols, at full strength, required for each of the stations by day and night?
- 10) How many police station teams/patrols do you deploy for each of the stations, by day and by night?
- 11) Does every one of the station teams across the ACT have a [fully promoted] sergeant and a [fully promoted] senior constable per team and if not why not?
- 12) How many teams are commanded by acting sergeants/senior constables?
- 13) In general terms what is the sworn police strength today of Woden Police station by police patrol teams, front desk officers, senior station officers and their administrative staff, detectives, support teams [communications, intelligence, etc] and any other attached task force project staff? Can you please identify, for each of the categories listed in the previous sentence, the numbers of Sworn and separately, the numbers of Unsworn members?

- 14) How many of those sworn members are probationary officers and how many have not passed their behavioural assessment?
- 15) What is your policy on police numbers in patrol cars by day and night?
- 16) Do sworn police have to pass a skills/behaviour assessment before they can patrol on their own?
- 17) Have you ever had single officer patrol cars making arrests after dark?
- 18) How many police patrol Chisholm shops and how often? How regularly do they 'dismount' from their cars and visit the shopkeepers and talk to the shoppers in general and youth in particular there?
- 19) What level of dedication is there between police station team patrols and local shopping centres? Will the 40 new police [which you have indicated will be introduced over five years] be posted to a station and then be dedicated a particular patrol area [shopping centres and suburbs] or will they be deployed against another deployment plan?
- 20) How often have police visited Melrose High School in the last year to carry out 'community policing' duties – to participate in educational programs and to speak to youth-at-risk there?
- 21) How often is this pattern repeated with other high schools?
- 22) In general terms, what proportion of your 'intelligence led policing' policy is reliant on external sources, on task-force policing sources and on community policing sources for the gathering of crime intelligence?
- 23) How many officers, both sworn and unsworn, have left the ACT police force over the last 4 years?
- 24) How many ACT *dedicated*, sworn police officers are allocated to the IDG (International Deployment Group) – either in Australia preparing for deployment or deployed overseas, and are reflected on your 'books', in terms of accounting for police strengths?
- 25) What is the longest period that an ACT sworn police officer deployed with the IDG remains accounted for on the 'books'?
- 26) Of the 583 sworn ACT police officers how many are on restricted duty because of a Comcare claim or return to work program?
- 27) Why did the Police Minister state on 4 May 2005 that the AFP has 7000 officers, when in fact there are only about 4900?
- 28) How often do you rely on temporarily deploying AFP national police officers into ACT policing to make up for short numbers? What is the number of AFP national police [not belonging to the normal ACT police strength establishment] who are attached today to help out with ACT policing duties? What percentage of the total numbers of police strength for today do those attached AFP national police represent?

- 29) Can national AFP members automatically be deployed into ACT Policing or do they need to undertake a bridging/LOP course? If so, how many have done this course in the last 12 months?
- 30) With respect to question 23) what were the numbers at midday for:
  - 24 May 2005
  - 11 April 2005
  - 22 March 2005
  - 7 Feb. 2005
  - 31 Dec. 2004
- 31) What stage is the internal review of the ACT Police force at, and why have we not seen any preliminary results from its findings?
- 32) Will the government release this information to the community? If not, why not?
- 33) In the ACT Policing Annual Report 2003-04, Table 2.10: Number of confirmed incidents reported to ACT Policing, the 22,812 incidents not attended in 2003-04 represented about 30% of the total 72,456 reports.  
Why are such a large percentage not attended to?  
Would this figure be lower if the police had more patrols available?
- 34) Approximately 1 month ago the Tuggeranong Police station was effectively closed down to the public during a late afternoon shift. A constituent was trying to access the station and came across a note stating the station was inaccessible for a period of time (that turned out to be several hours) due to rostering and other general duties that needed to be completed. Why does this happen from time to time and did this happen due to difficulties with filling shifts?
- 35) When will the new ACT policing agreement with the AFP, which is currently up for review, be signed off?
- 36) Will there be funds provided for in the new AFP policing agreement that will guarantee a training component to the ACT Police force?
- 37) What proportion of new recruits are trained under ACT managed basic recruit courses, what proportion are trained interstate and what proportion are trained under AFP run and Commonwealth funded courses?
- 38) What time delays have you experienced with new recruitments awaiting other jurisdictional run courses to provide vacancies:
  - In 2002
  - In 2003
  - In 2004
  - Will you in 2005
  - Will you in 2006
- 39) Currently, how many officers are on leave/restricted duties holding down 'sworn officer' positions?

- 40) Why was there an increase from 24 to 46 (92%) of 'Body Stressing' Incidents in the 2003-2004 ACT Police annual report (Page 125)?  
Is this a direct consequence of the short numbers in the ACT police force that pushes officers to work harder and longer hours?
- 41) With this increase in 'Body Stressing' injuries, how can a possible increase in shift times to 12 hours be a useful policy?  
Will it not lead to an increase in accidents/injuries and therefore a further decrease in available officers?
- 42) What will the funding of \$200,000 for the Capital Upgrade program – AFP (found on page 352 of BP4) cover in 2005-06?
- 43) Is there any funding in the 2005-06 budget for additional equipment or patrol cars for ACT Police? If not, why not?
- 44) How many lateral recruitments, by rank, of sworn police have occurred since December 2001?
- 45) How many lateral recruitments, per the categories detailed in question 36) will you undertake in:
- 2005
  - 2006
  - 2007
- 46) A victim of burglary has advised the following: When advising police in attendance that she believed the neighbour, for a variety of strong circumstantial reasons, may have committed or known who had committed the offence, the police responded they could not question that person unless the victim or another witness could provide an eye-witness account implicating the neighbour. The victim was advised that the Police could not question the neighbour in question as they were likely to run the risk of being accused by that person of "harassment". Why is it now no longer possible, as per this example, for police to follow a reasonable lead for fear of attracting a "charge of harassment"?
- 47) What is the population size 'catchment' that Tuggeranong and Woden Police Stations are required to service?
- 48) What is the 'catchment area' [per head of population] that Gungahlin station is required to service?
- 49) What is the 'catchment size' that Belconnen Station is required to service?
- 50) What is the 'catchment size' that Civic Station is required to service?
- 51) What is the total catchment area that Belconnen is required to service when Gungahlin Station is closed?

- 52) Per question 51) what additional resources – patrol cars and sworn police in patrols - does Belconnen Station have after Gungahlin closes to meet its expanded operational requirement?
- 53) What were the relative strengths of sworn police in patrols on duty and how many patrol cars were deployed on duty at Belconnen Station at midday on 2 May 2005, and separately, at midnight on 2 May 2005?
- 54) How many police patrols dismounted from cars and visited the business owners, the shop keepers, and talked to shoppers at Chisholm Shops during the daily shopping hours on the following days:
- 7 March 05
  - 8 March 05
  - 9 March 05
  - 10 March 05
  - 11 March 05
  - 12 March 05
  - 13 March 05
  - 14 March 05
  - 15 March 05
  - 16 March 05
  - 17 March 05
  - 18 March 05
  - 19 march 05
  - 20 March 05
- 55) How many police patrols visited Calwell High School to deliver any form of community safety education to students in Year 7 during the following:
- May 04
  - June 04
  - July 04
  - August 04
  - September 04
  - October 04
  - November 04
  - December 04
  - January 05
  - February 05
  - March 05
  - April 05
  - May 05

- 56) How many police patrols visited Calwell High School to deliver any form of community safety education to students in Year 8 during the following:
- May 04
  - June 04
  - July 04
  - August 04
  - September 04
  - October 04
  - November 04
  - December 04
  - January 05
  - February 05
  - March 05
  - April 05
  - May 05
- 57) How many police patrols visited Calwell High School to deliver any form of community safety education to students in Year 9 during the following:
- May 04
  - June 04
  - July 04
  - August 04
  - September 04
  - October 04
  - November 04
  - December 04
  - January 05
  - February 05
  - March 05
  - April 05
  - May 05
- 58) How many police patrols visited Calwell High School to deliver any form of community safety education to students in Year 10 during the following:
- May 04
  - June 04
  - July 04
  - August 04
  - September 04
  - October 04
  - November 04
  - December 04
  - January 05
  - February 05

- March 05
- April 05
- May 05

**Mr Hargreaves** - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) The number of unsworn members at each station varies between stations, there is no common standard. The operational staffing strength of police stations has been constant for some time. Minimum patrol strengths for each station comprise one sergeant and eight team members.
- 2) Minimum patrol strengths for each station comprise one sergeant and eight team members for all standard shifts, day/afternoon/evening.
- 3) Yes, the overtime component varies in response to short notice staff absences or operational requirements.
- 4) There were 4,540 overtime shifts over the last 12 months based on an eight hour shift (currently rostered shifts can be 8, 10 or 12 hours).
- 5) Patrols have deployed in every instance, strengths may vary depending on short notice absences such as members who are ill.
- 6) No. ACT Policing has two districts, North and South Patrol. This would require manual data extraction and is too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 7) ACT Policing cannot provide this information as overtime is allocated to a cost centre code (ie North District or South District). Stations are not coded and costed individually.
- 8) There is no national standard.
- 9) Refer to answer for question 1.
- 10) Refer to answer for question 1.
- 11) No. Senior Constable is a title not a rank and is not linked to the structure of a team.
- 12) Each team is led by either a Sergeant or Acting Sergeant.
- 13) As at 2 June 2005 Woden Police Station was allocated 60 Full Time Equivalent (FTE). This allocation was made up of 59 sworn FTE and 1 unsworn FTE. The sworn FTE was spread across the 5 patrol teams (56 FTE), front office desk officers (2 FTE), and Station Officer in Charge (1 FTE). The unsworn officer was employed on administrative duties. These figures include a minimum of 1.26 FTE funded by the Commonwealth. Investigators and support teams such as communications and intelligence are managed centrally and do not form part of the Woden Police Station strength. Investigators and intelligence specialists, while based within the Winchester Police Headquarters, do deploy to stations subject to operational circumstances. These deployments are outside the

normal operations of the station and are not recorded on AFP Human Resource systems.

- 14) Of the sworn complement of 59 FTE for Woden Police Station the equivalent of 12 FTE are on probation of which 5 FTE are in the final stages of gaining permanent status. Counting sworn officers on probation the equivalent of 41 FTE have not yet passed their behavioural assessment. Of this figure 2 FTE are in the final stages of passing the assessment. These figures include a minimum of 1.26 FTE funded by the Commonwealth.
- 15) Patrols in general comprise of two sworn members, single member patrols can be dispatched in limited circumstances.
- 16) Yes.
- 17) Yes.
- 18) Too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 19) Deployment of new personnel will be at the discretion of District Superintendents dependant on operational demands.
- 20) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 21) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 22) Intelligence led policing is a flexible combination of all the techniques mentioned in the question dependant on the issue or crime type to be addressed.
- 23) The scope of the question is unclear; there are regular movements into and out of ACT Policing.
- 24) None.
- 25) A member does not stay on ACT Policing's 'books' post deployment to the IDG.
- 26) Too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 27) To illustrate the point that ACT Policing is able to draw on a significantly larger force for recruitment.
- 28) ACT Policing does not rely on the deployment of AFP national members to resource ACT Policing. AFP national members are used in a surge capacity for major events such as the 2003 bushfires and targeting operations such as Operation Summersafe.
- 29) Yes. AFP national members undertake a local conversion course. There were three conversion courses held over the last 12 months, with 22 members attending.
- 30) Too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 31) The Joint Study into ACT Policing is in the final draft stages and has not been presented to the Government.

- 32) Refer to the answer to question 31.
- 33) Patrols are dispatched to attend incidents in accordance with a priority response system. Many calls to police communications can be effectively dealt with through provision of information and referrals to other agencies which have specific responsibility for the issue of concern. In other cases, contact is made with police to pass on intelligence information.
- 34) This event did not occur.
- 35) Not known at this stage. Negotiations for a new Purchase Agreement commenced on 9 June 2005.
- 36) No.
- 37) All recruit training is conducted at the AFP College in Barton and is funded by the Commonwealth. Recruits become an ACT Policing salary liability upon graduation.
- 38) None.
- 39) Too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 40) Body stressing injuries are physical injuries and include sprains, strains and other types of soft tissue injuries. The increase in the number of these incidents could be due to many factors including more consistent reporting of injuries throughout ACT Policing. Analysis of data shows that only 8 of these injuries were the result of struggles with an offender during an arrest. 11 incidents resulted from manual handling and 19 occurred during physical training. It is therefore not able to be conclusively argued that these injuries have resulted from officers working longer and harder hours.
- 41) There is no evidence at this stage to suggest that the increase in body stressing type injuries is related to officers working 12 hour shifts. The 12 hour roster is being monitored and officers are encouraged to give feedback as well as document whether they believe fatigue was a factor in any injury they sustain whilst at work.
- 42) The minor capital works program for financial year 2005-2006 has not yet been finalised but it is currently anticipated that the Capital Upgrade funding will be used to replace the Winchester Police Headquarters PABX.
- 43) ACT Policing has received an additional \$120,015 for additional equipment, patrol cars, and general administrative expenses within financial year 2005-2006. This funding is included in the additional \$1.1M received for additional police within financial year 2005-2006.
- 44) The AFP has recruited 44 laterals to ACT Policing since December 2001.
- 45) Yet to be determined.

- 46) It is not the case that police can no longer follow a reasonable lead for fear of attracting a "charge of harassment". Police perform their duties in accordance with a range of legislative and operational guidelines that ensure that the rights and privacy of all members of the community are balanced against the responsibility on police to enforce the law and promote community safety.
- 47) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 48) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 49) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 50) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 51) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 52) Nil. Belconnen and Gungahlin are both within the North Patrol District.
- 53) Too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 54) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 55) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 56) Data Not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 57) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.
- 58) Data not collected, too resource intensive to answer in the given timeframe.

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation.

What is meant by the term located in user charges - non ACT Government 'expected initial recognition of heritage assets'? (Ref.P.526 BP4 CFC)

Richard J Mulcahy MLA

June 2005

210 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation.

What are the details of the main elements of the Total Capital Upgrades \$800,000?  
(Ref. P.522 BP4 CFC)

211 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation.

What are the details of the capital works being funded to the value of \$9,807 000 in the 2005-06 Budget? ((Ref. P.525 BP4 CFC)

Richard J Mulcahy MLA

June 2005

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation.

Has the decline in 'Blockbuster' exhibitions at the National Gallery of Australia had any identifiable impact on the Galleries operating under the Cultural Facilities Corporation?

Richard J Mulcahy MLA  
June 2005

213 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation

Can the level of financial support for the Fringe Festival as part of the Multicultural Festival be confirmed?

Richard J Mulcahy MLA  
June 2005

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Cultural Facilities Corporation.

Has the construction of Civic Square had any impact on the Canberra Theatre Centre and the level of patronage? (Ref. P.521 BP4 CFC)

Richard J Mulcahy MLA  
June 2005

Mr Mulcahy: to ask the Minister for the Arts – In relation to the Civic Library & Link Project.

1. Is the construction of the Civic Library & Link Project running as scheduled according to time and budget forecasts?
2. What are the additional GST payments associated with the Civic Library & Link Project? (Ref. P.527 BP4 CFC)

Richard J Mulcahy MLA  
June 2005

MR MULCAHY: To ask the Minister for Planning – In relation to A10 developments:

1. How much money was allocated in the 2004-05 budget for the development of A10 guidelines, promised prior to the 2004 ACT election?
2. How much money was allocated in the 2005-06 budget for the development of these 10 guidelines?
3. How much money has been spent, to date, preparing these guidelines? If no money has been spent, why not?
4. How many departmental officials, if any, are working on the development of A10 guidelines?
5. When will the A10 guidelines be completed and issued for public comment?
6. How many developments that meet A10 requirements have been approved since Draft Variation 200 was issued?
7. How will the A10 guidelines promised prior to the 2004 ACT election affect current or proposed A10 developments approved prior to the issuing of those guidelines?

*Richard Mulcahy MLA*

MR MULCAHY : To ask the Minister for Planning – In relation to development applications and approvals:

What was the average length of time taken to approve a development during the 2004-05 financial year for development applications:

- a) up to \$100,000 in value;
- b) \$100,000 to \$500,000 in value;
- c) \$500,000 to \$1 million in value;
- d) \$1 million to \$2 million; and
- e) \$2 million or greater in value.

*Richard Mulcahy MLA*

218 Mr Richard MULCAHY Planning

MR MULCAHY: To ask the Minister for Planning – In relation to non-single residential developments:

Which non-single residential developments were approved within the statutory timeframe, during 2004-05 (to date)?

*Richard Mulcahy MLA*

219 Mr Richard MULCAHY

Police & Emergency Services

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 26 May 2005:

Can you indicate then total dollars spent on overtime for the police service in the past 12 months?

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

Overtime for the financial year 2004/2005 to date amounted to \$3,718,279.

Mr Pratt - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 26 May 2005:

Minister how far below the national average are we now for the number of sworn police per 100 000 ACT citizens, how far are you below that national average, and when do you think you are going to achieve that national average benchmark?

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

According to the Productivity Commission report on Government Services, for the 2003-2004 financial year, the National Average for sworn staff per 100 000 population is 225.98. Comparatively, ACT had an average of 191.42.

The Productivity Commission Report presents staffing numbers based on a point in time calculation. Actual ACT Policing staffing numbers fluctuate on a daily basis throughout the year in accordance with trends in major events planning, recruitment, attrition and retirements. The point in times numbers presented in the Productivity Commission report do not reflect peaks in staff numbers that occur throughout the year.

It should be noted that since the 2003-2004 Productivity Commission report, there has been an increase of 17 FTE for the 2004-2005 financial year, and an additional 10 FTE being funded for the 2005-2006 financial year. After taking these 27 additional FTE positions into account, it is assumed that the difference between the ACT and the national average would narrow.

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services on 26 May 2005:

Do you have assault figures and do you have any data since you withdrew the group on 17 April that you mentioned?

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

Table 1: Number of Manuka Assault and Sexual Assault offences reported during Summersafe and comparison periods.

Query Period	Assault (non sexual)	Assault (sexual)
Previous Year 24/02/04 - 17/04/04	4	0
Summersafe 24/02/05 - 17/04/05	7	0
Post Summersafe 18/04/05 - 29/05/05	5	0

Source: PROMIS database as at 30 May 2005

Please note that due to the small number of offences and the short time periods involved in this analysis, results may be subject to large percentage fluctuations and should be viewed with caution.

MR SESELJA - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

[Prior to the publication of the new ACT curriculum]

Are you able to give us a break-down of the number of times that you have consulted with the following organizations? (ACT Branch of the AEU, Catholic Education Commission, ACT Council of P&C Associations, Association of Parents and Friends of ACT Schools, Association of Independent Schools for the ACT and individual non-government schools)

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Seselja's question is:

The **Curriculum Renewal Ministerial Taskforce** was made up of representatives of the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens' Association, Association of Independent Schools, Association of Parents & Friends of ACT Schools, Australian Education Union, Catholic Education Office, Curriculum Corporation, Independent Education Union NSW/ACT, Universities and the Department of Education and Training.

The Taskforce met on 11 November 2003; 10 February, 9 March, 17 June, 3 September, 23 September, 7 October and 2 November 2004; and 8 February 2005.

The **Curriculum Renewal Consultative Committee** was made up of representatives of the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens' Association; ACT Region, Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Association of Parents & Friends of ACT Schools; Australian Education Union; Canberra Institute of Technology; Catholic Education Office, Council of ACT Education Association; Early Childhood Teachers; High School Principals' Association; Independent Education Union; Indigenous Education Consultative Body; Non-Government School Principals; Primary Schools Principals' Association; School Board Forum; Student Representatives from Government and Non-Government Schools; University of Canberra; and the Department of Education and Training.

The Committee met on 2 November 2003; 9 March, 17 June, 11 October and 2 November 2004; and 3 February 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR STEFANIAK - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

What's the situation these days in other states [regarding voluntary contributions]?  
Do other states have a similar system to us?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Stefaniak's question is:

The attached table shows the current legislation and policy guidelines regarding voluntary contributions in other jurisdictions.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

THE CHAIR - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Would it be possible to get a breakdown of the ages of the [school] stock in ... the percentage of ages in say 5 to 10, 10 plus years - - -

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Ms MacDonald's question is:

The ages of ACT government school core buildings are as follows:

Under 5 Years	1 school	Approx 1%
5-10 Years	4 schools	Approx 4%
10-15 Years	6 schools	Approx 6%
15-20 Years	7 schools	Approx 7%
20-25 Years	6 schools	Approx 6%
25-30 Years	17 schools	Approx 17%
30-35 Years	25 schools	Approx 26%
Over 35 Years	32 schools	Approx 32%

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

1. By how much has the number of apprenticeship and traineeships increased as a result of the Skilling ACT initiative, funded in last year's budget and expanded again this year?

2. And which industries have had the strongest demand?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

1. NCVER estimates show:

40% rise in commencements in traditional trades from 2003 to 2004.

Numbers in training at 31 December 2004 were 2% higher than 31 December 2003, as opposed to a national decrease of 3% in the same period.

While growth in 2003 was above national average, this has been followed by slowing of commencements in 2004 in line with the national trend.

2. AVMS data for financial year to date show the strongest demand for commencements has been in the following industries:

Industry group	Commencements for financial year 04 -05	Number of SNAPs*
Business Services	503	16
Building, Construction & Electrotechnology	501	62
Community Services & Health	478	9
Hospitality	380	34
Retail & Wholesale	377	31
Transport & Distribution	290	
Automotive	258	21
Information Technology	229	53
Personal Services (including Hairdressing)	211	21
Property Management (Real Estate):	199	
Asset Maintenance	120	

\* School Based New Apprenticeships

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Women on 30 May 2005:

What specific young carer groups is the government working with in the provision of professional learning for schools around flexible arrangements for young carers?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

The Department of Education and Training is currently working with the following groups in the development and implementation of professional learning around flexible arrangements for young carers in schools:

- Carers Australia (specifically the Young Carers Program)
- Carers ACT (specifically the Young Carers Program)
- Connecting Young Carers to Life Opportunities and Personalised Support in the ACT (CYCLOPS)
- Children of Parents with a Mental Illness (COPMI)

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training  
Minister for Women

Date:.....

MR SESELJA - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Details of why the average cost per special student in a special school is higher than the average cost of a special student in a mainstream school.

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Seselja's question is:

The cost of students with a disability in special schools is higher than the cost of students with a disability in mainstream schools primarily because of higher employee costs and higher infrastructure costs. Higher employee costs are necessitated by significantly higher support requirements on average of students who are likely to be enrolled in a special school, compared to students likely to be enrolled in mainstream schools. Details follow:

*Higher Employee Costs* – Students in special schools require, on average, one teacher and one assistant for every four to six students. In addition, a further assistant may be required depending on the complexity of need in the group. - Students with a disability in mainstream schools are generally in mainstream classes with a special teacher's assistant or in a Learning Special Unit or Centre. \_ These classes have fewer teachers per -students than in a special school.

*Higher Infrastructure Costs* – The cost of some facilities and services only provided in special schools, such as hydrotherapy pools, as well as the additional cost of servicing the specialist facilities (including buildings) results in a higher cost per student in special schools. This impact combined with lower student numbers in comparison to mainstream schools increases the average cost of students in special schools.

A breakdown of the costs associated with students in special schools and disabled students in mainstream schools is provided in the table below.

	Average Cost Per Student in Government Special Schools	Average Cost Per Special Education Student in Mainstream Government Schools
	\$	\$
Employee Expenses	30,796	14,078
Superannuation	5,177	2,367
Administration Expenses	9,515	4,349
Depreciation	2,513	1,149
<b>2005-06 Budget</b>	<b>48,001</b>	<b>21,943</b>

Note – Administration expenses include cleaning, maintenance, student transport, interest and grants.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2005:

Are you able to inform the committee how much unspent or uncommitted money under the schools based management model is currently sitting in accounts of government primary and secondary schools and colleges? Can you delineate between that which is committed versus that which is uncommitted?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

The total balance of schools' bank accounts at the end of December 2004 was \$15.7m. Of this amount, \$7.2m was held as discretionary funds which are essentially uncommitted. Discretionary funds do not include funds held in reserves, externally funded programs or transitory accounts. The average bank balances for each sector is as follows:

Sector	Average Discretionary Bank Balance December 2004	Average Total Bank Balance December 2004
	\$	\$
<b>College</b>	193,558	411,557
<b>High School</b>	93,937	230,885
<b>Primary School</b>	56,160	115,368
<b>Special School</b>	73,118	186,229

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

In relation to the five Koori preschools:

1. Are they all operational and the model of operation;
2. Number of children currently attending;
3. Staffing profile;
4. Are there parent committees or advisory structures in place.

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

1. All five Koori preschools are operational.
  - Koori preschools are located at Calwell, Wanniasa, Ngunnawal, Holt and Narrabundah.
  - Each site is open two days per week from 9am to 1pm
  - Children aged 0-5 years are eligible to attend. Children under three years of age require a parent or carer in attendance
  - All parents are welcome to stay and participate.
2. At the February 2005 census, 36 children were enrolled in the Koori preschool program. At 23 May 2005, this number had risen to 56. 25 of these students attend more than one site each week. This makes a total attendance for all sites over a week of 81 students.
3. Five staff deliver the Koori preschool program and provide support to Indigenous families. The profile of staff is:
  - staff in the Koori preschool program are Indigenous
  - early childhood teachers
  - Indigenous Home School Liaison OfficersNote: These figures are expressed as Full Time Equivalent
4. The Indigenous Education Consultative Body (IECB) is the advisory body for the Koori preschool program. The IECB has parent and community representation.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR MULCAHY – asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

What date was the Governments' School Council formed?

MS GALLAGHER – the answer to Mr Mulcahy's question is:

The membership of the Government School Education Council was announced on 10 June 2002, their first meeting was held on 2 July 2002.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

In the Economic White Paper, Action 36 on page 74, is that the government will introduce a voc-ed and training programs specifically targeted at the over 45-year-old age group, with a particular focus on people re-entering the work force, and those in the work force who need to re-train in order to remain in employment.

I can't see any budget initiatives in 2004-5 or 2005-6 in relation to this, has there been any action taken?

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

The Department of Education and Training is taking several actions in regard to the training needs of mature age workers which address Action 36 of the Economic White Paper.

As a component of its 2005 Service Level Agreement with the Department, the ACT Industry Training Advisory Association undertook a study entitled *Workforce Planning Strategies for Mature Aged Workers and Those Attempting to Return to the Workforce Project*. That report will be presented at the next meeting of the Vocational Education and Training Authority.

As a supplement to the above project, the Department has also commissioned research into successful policy and program initiatives that are being implemented in this field elsewhere in Australia and overseas.

Departmental officers are active members of the *ACT Mature Age Employment Strategy* taskforce, ensuring that vocational education and training will have a prominent place in that strategy.

All vocational education and training in the ACT is open to, and promoted to, over-45s, including New Apprenticeships. Current data tells us that there are 669 over-45s undertaking a New Apprenticeship in the ACT at the present, with 363 of those having commenced in this financial year.

Over-45s are also specifically catered for in programs funded under the Department's Strategic Priorities Program, which focuses on the delivery of training to meet the needs of specified equity and target groups and to support innovative practice in ACT industry and training. Examples of current programs for over-45s include: the Certificate II in General Education for Adults, the Diploma of Business, and the Diploma of E-Business.

Adult and Community Education also meets many of the training needs of those over-45s who may be considering as re-entering the workforce, but who are not yet ready to undertake formal, accredited training. For example, this year the Department has funded the Vietnam Veterans' Federation to deliver an introductory computing course, *Computers 101 to 201*.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

MR SESLEJA – asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Of the additional \$3.1m in VET funding from the second appropriation, how much will end up going to CIT?

MS GALLAGHER – the answer to Mr Seselja’s question is:

The additional \$3.1m has been added to the total User Choice funding allocation. From the total funding available it is anticipated the CIT will receive approximately 73% of the user choice funding for set aside for apprenticeships and approximately 17% of the funding set aside for traineeships.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY - asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

I am just interested in the gender break up of those 30 [involved in the Training Pathway Guarantee] if you would not mind.

MS GALLAGHER - the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

There were actually 29 young people involved in the Training Pathway Guarantee Program. The gender breakdown of participants is 13 males and 16 females.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY – asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Can you provide me with a copy of the ACT Vocational Education and Training Strategic Plan for 2005-2009?

MS GALLAGHER – the answer to Dr Foskey’s question is:

Attached is a copy of the ACT Vocational Education and Training Strategic Plan 2005-2009.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

DR FOSKEY – asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Can you provide me with information about familiarisation sessions for parents on the Student Centred Appraisal of Need (SCAN) process?

MS GALLAGHER – the answer to Dr Foskey's question is:

Students in mainstream settings, including units and centres

Each year the Special Education and Early Intervention Section presents a Primary Schooling Options seminar for parents of students with a disability due to enrol for kindergarten the following year. Information about the SCAN process is presented to parents and copies of the appraisal booklet are available. Parents are given the opportunity to ask questions. On average, 35 – 40 prospective parents/carers attend this session each year.

In addition, two information sessions for parents of any students in mainstream schools who are to undergo an appraisal during Term 3 will be held in June. Both will be in the evening to maximise parent/carer attendance. Sessions will be held in both northside and southside Canberra. A third session will be held in November.

As in the previous two years, a SCAN familiarisation session specifically for parents of students commencing school the following year will be held in October in preparation for the appraisals that will take place later in that term.

Officers from the special education section are available to attend parent group meetings where the group would like to gain a better understanding of the SCAN process or provide feedback in the process. This has occurred on a number of occasions in the past.

Special Schools

Appraisals are held for students in target years who are enrolled in Special Schools.

These appraisals are currently underway. Apart from students who are new to the ACT, all students in Special Schools have undergone an appraisal in the previous two years. Special School principals are well placed to support parents with any questions about the process and work to support and provide information to parents during the process. Parents are sent a copy of the appraisal booklet prior to the meeting for their child. There have been no specific requests for additional parent sessions from either the Special Schools Principals' Business meetings, Advocacy Groups or individuals. Familiarity with the process is at high levels within this sector.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

THE CHAIR – asked the Minister for Education and Training on 27 May 2005:

Can you provide me with a copy of the Terms of Reference for the Review of ACT Government Colleges?

MS GALLAGHER – the answer to Ms MacDonald’s question is:

Attached is a copy of the Terms of Reference for the Review of ACT Government Colleges.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Education and Training

Date:.....

Mr Stefaniak - Asked the Attorney General on 26 May 2005:

1. What is the percentage of indigenous offenders participating in circle sentencing as a proportion of total indigenous offenders?
2. How many staff are employed in the Magistrates and Supreme Courts respectively?
3. How many professional staff are employed in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

1. The Courts do not record the indigenous status of people involved in matters or those who appear before ACT Courts. As such the department is unable to provide data on the number of indigenous offenders participating in Circle Sentencing as a proportion of total indigenous offenders presenting before ACT Courts.
2. The following details the staff (excluding judicial officers and court security staff) employed in the Supreme Court, Magistrates Court and staff supporting both courts (eg IT staff) at 30 April 2005:

Supreme Court	35.61 (FTE)
Magistrates Court	68.32 (FTE)
Executive and other support staff	19.07 (FTE)
3. There are 18.57 full time equivalent (FTE) prosecutors and three executives (including the Director) employed in a professional capacity in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Approved for circulation to the Member

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Acting Attorney General

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Attorney General on 26 May 2005:

1. What are the expected recurrent costs for operating the new prison?
2. What is the total number of complaints made to the Human Rights Office?
3. What are the costs associated with the application to disqualify the Coroner in the Bushfire Inquest?

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

1. The estimated operating costs of the Alexander Maconochie Centre are approximately \$20m per annum. These estimates will be tested and confirmed as the design of the Centre is finalised.
2. The ACT Human Rights Office received 96 complaints during the period 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004.
3. The costs associated with the application to disqualify the Coroner in the Bushfire Inquest as at 31 May 2005 were \$1.459m. These figures do not include Counsel fees for whom accounts for May are yet to be received.

Approved for circulation to the Member

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Acting Attorney General

Date:.....

Dr FOSKEY - Asked the Minister for Industrial Relations during hearings on 30 May 2005:

Can you provide comparative data on the rate of workplace injury by industry in the ACT private sector?

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

An indicator of comparative injury rates across industries in the ACT private sector may be obtained from data on the number of accepted workers compensation claims per thousand employees in each industry.

The table below is based on data obtained from the Accident Information Monitoring System at ACT WorkCover.

**Accepted Workers Compensation Claims Per 1,000 Workers  
by Industry  
2003/2004**

	Claims per 1000 Positions - 2003/2004*
Construction	62
Wholesale Trade	58
Mining	54
Manufacturing	53
Personal and Other Services	45
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	43
Retail Trade	41
Health and Community Services	40
Finance and Insurance	39
Transport and Storage	38
Accommodation, Cafes And Restaurants	35
Government Administration and Defence	30
Property and Business Services	25
Education	25
Communication Services	16
Cultural and Recreational Services	15
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	13

\*37 is the average number of accepted claims per 1000 positions in the ACT private sector across all industries.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Industrial Relations

Date:.....

Mr SESELJA – Asked the Minister for Industrial Relations during hearings on 30 May 2005:

Have any travel expenses been incurred by the Asbestos Task Force and if so, how much?

Ms GALLAGHER – The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The total amount of travel expenses (including airfares, taxis and accommodation) incurred by the Asbestos Task Force to date is \$3,669.40, GST exclusive.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher, MLA  
Minister for Industrial Relations

Date:.....

241 Dr Deb FOSKEY Women

Dr FOSKEY - Asked the Minister for Women during hearings on 30 May 2005:

Can you provide information relating to the range of applicants for the 2004-2005 ACT Women's Director Scholarships Program?

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

Applications to the 2004/05 ACT Women's Director Scholarships Program were received from women of different cultural backgrounds, ages and areas of expertise, which include organisational governance, the law, economics, finance, community services, the arts, the environment and sport.

Applicants represented the government, community, business and academic sectors.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Minister for Women

Date:.....

Mr Seselja asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to recommendations of the ACT Legislative Assembly Standing Committee on Community Services and Social Equity Report No 7:

- a) has there been a working group established;
- b) who is in the working group;
- c) how many times has the working group met; and
- d) what has the working group achieved so far.

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

- a) A working group has been established.
- b) The working group comprises of:
  - Director, Client and Adolescent Services (Chairperson);
  - Manager, Quamby Youth Shelter;
  - Assistant Manager, Quamby Youth Shelter;
  - Policy Officer, Practice Support;
  - Manager, Case Management Team (Quamby);
  - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services; and
  - Department of Education Youth Worker.
- c) The first meeting of the working group is scheduled for Monday, 6 June 2005.
- d) The working group will be examining the adequacy and appropriateness of the programs currently available in Quamby with regard to social competence training for all detainees, pre release life skills programs and increased opportunities for therapeutic interventions.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support Date: .....

243 Dr Deb FOSKEY

Children, Youth & Family Support

Dr Foskey asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

In relation to Quamby:

A list of services that are offered and the organisations that are brought in from outside.

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

A list of organisations providing services to young people in Quamby is attached. The services provided by these organisations are self-explanatory.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support Date: .....

Dr Foskey asked the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support:

Could you provide the age of the youngest person in Quamby at the moment or in the last year?

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

Fourteen is the age of the youngest person currently in custody at Quamby. In the last twelve months, there was one eleven year old young person in custody at Quamby.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support Date: .....

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice:

Dr Foskey MLA, asked in relation to ACT Forests, for details of the research work into the Cotter catchment?

The answer to Dr Foskey MLA's question is as follows:

The research work undertaken by the Forest Road Research Group, University of New South Wales, and the Australian Defence Force Academy examined the existing road network in target areas of the estate and gave advice on new protocols for the reconstruction of forest roads. It is well known that forest roads are one of the leading point sources of turbidity in water catchments across Australia.

There are many views on forest roads in catchments – ranging from those who would minimise the number of roads to protect the water supply through to those who would maximise the number of roads to facilitate safe and effective bush fire control.

ACT Forests is already reducing the number of forest roads across the estate – including within the lower Cotter catchment and this study was designed to give the latest advice on road location and drainage structure design and placement to minimise the turbidity sourcing from the remaining roads.

In addition to research into road related issues, ACT Forests has co-funded projects with the Australian National University Centre for Resources and Environmental Science (CRES) and Greening Australia. ACT Forest is also currently in negotiations with the Centre for Cooperative Research (CRC) for Fresh Water Ecology regarding research into water monitoring.

Research being undertaken by CRES is designed to measure the impacts on post-fire biodiversity recovery of various width native vegetation riparian zones. This will help inform future decision making with regard to plantation and reserve design to provide balanced outcomes between productivity and conservation.

ACT Forests and Greening Australian cooperated to undertake a comprehensive review of literature and experience relating to rehabilitation processes. This has resulted in the production of a comprehensive manual that has wide application for land managers involved in rehabilitation programs. Procedures outlined in the manual have been incorporated in the community based rehabilitation programs jointly implemented by ACT Forests and Greening Australia.

In recognition of the importance of water quality issues in the Lower Cotter catchment, ACT Forests, the Environment Protection Authority and the CRC for Freshwater Ecology are developing a water monitoring program. This research program will establish

baseline data on stream quality and undertake ongoing measurements that quantify the impacts of specific rehabilitation operations on water quality.

In addition to this research being undertaken by ACT Forests, research programs are also being undertaken by Environment ACT (related to fish populations), ACTEW (related to water storage options and like impacts) and ECOWISE (related to sediment movement in the catchment and possible rehabilitation techniques). Further information regarding these research programs could be obtained from these organisations.

Information from the various research initiatives have been incorporated into the findings of the Lower Cotter Catchment Working Group and used to inform operational planning and implementation of the post fire rehabilitation programs.

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Dr Foskey MLA, asked in relation to ACT Forests, who does the forest ecologist report to and were their views taken into account in the management strategy?

The answer to Dr Foskey MLA's question is as follows:

The position of forest ecologist is located within the Wildlife Research and Monitoring Unit of the Arts, Heritage and Environment Division of the Chief Minister's Department. The officer commenced duties in late February 2005 as part of the implementation of the 2004-05 Budget, Catchment Management initiative, and reports to the Manager of the Wildlife Research and Monitoring unit.

Given the recent appointment of the forest ecologist, the views of the forest ecologist have only been available as an input for a limited time.

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Dr Foskey MLA, asked in relation to green power usage, how was the 17 % target determined and what is the progress in achieving that target?

The answer to Dr Foskey MLA's question is as follows:

The target is an estimate of the actual percentage of green power to be purchased through the methane gas contract which purchases power generated at the Belconnen and Mugga Lane Landfills.

The 17% target is expected to be achieved in 2005-06

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Mulcahy MLA, asked in relation to Capital Linen Services, what is the cost of running Capital Linen?

The answer to Mr Mulcahy MLA's question is as follows:

Capital Linen has an expected operating cost of \$11.365m for the 2005-06 financial year.

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Mulcahy MLA, asked in relation to vehicle inspections undertaken, what is the percentage of defect notices issued (defective vehicles identified from this process)?

The answer to MR Mulcahy MLA's question is as follows:

The percentage of vehicles inspected issued with defect notices is as follows:

2002-03	-	3.85% of vehicles inspected
2003-04	-	3.24% of vehicles inspected
2004-05	-	3.15% of vehicles inspected (as at 26 May 2005)

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Seselja MLA, asked in relation to sports grounds, how many ovals or sports grounds are there in Gungahlin compared to the rest of Canberra?

The answer to Mr Seselja MLA's question is as follows:

In Gungahlin the sports grounds that are presently irrigated and available for use are:

Enclosed Ovals	District Ovals	Neighbourhood Oval
Nicholls	Amaroo	Palmerston
	Nicholls	

In Weston Creek the sports grounds that are presently irrigated and available for use are:

Enclosed Ovals	District Ovals	Neighbourhood Ovals
Stirling	Stirling	Duffy
	Waramanga	Chapman
		Rivett

Throughout Canberra the total number of sports grounds that are presently irrigated and available for use are (including the above ovals):

Enclosed Ovals	District Ovals (some only partly)	Neighbourhood Ovals
10	30	22

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Stefaniak MLA, asked in relation to sportsground maintenance and in particular watering, what is the strategy for restoration of sportsgrounds affected by the drought?

The answer to Mr Stefaniak MLA's question is as follows:

Water restrictions have lead to the closure of 21 Neighbourhood Ovals (NHO), 1 District Playing Field (DPF) and part of 4 other District Playing Fields;

Bonython NHO	Charnwood NHO	Chisholm NHO
Evatt NHO	Farrer NHO	Florey NHO
Gilmore NHO	Isabella NHO	Kaleen North NHO
Lyneham NHO	Macgregor NHO	Mawson NHO
Melba NHO	Monash NHO	Ngunnawal NHO
Nicholls NHO (part)	Richardson NHO	Spence NHO
Theodore NHO	Torrens NHO	Watson NHO
Charnwood DPF (part)	Holt 2 DPF (part)	Jerrabomberra DPF
Melba DPF (part)	Stirling DPF (part)	

Following the easing of restrictions from Level 3 to Level 2 earlier this year, Page and Downer Ovals were found to be in a condition suitable for use during this year's winter. The remaining ovals that had irrigation turned off to comply with Level 3 restrictions, together with those already affected by Level 2 restrictions, are unusable for formal sport and will remain so until weather conditions permit restoration.

Restoration of sports grounds and ovals affected by the drought cannot commence until drought conditions ease. It has been estimated that restoration works will cost approximately \$10,000 per hectare. Funding for such a restoration program, totalling approximately \$0.8 million, will be considered during the 2006-07 Budget development process.

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Ms MacDonald MLA, asked in relation to the No Waste by 2010 strategy, how many workshops on composting, worm farms and the like, have been conducted in the past year?

The answer to Ms MacDonald MLA's question is as follows:

During the 2004-05 financial year, 12 composting/worm farm workshops were conducted with around 400 residents attending these free, half day training sessions. In addition, composting and worm farming demonstrations have been held at the Xeriscape Garden on two occasions and one is planned to be conducted for *World Environment Day* on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June. A display was also set up at the Canberra Show to promote these activities.

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Seselja MLA, asked in relation to speed and red light cameras, please provide accident statistics for the 12 months after the introduction of speed and red light cameras?

The answer to Mr Seselja MLA's question is as follows:

The following table indicates accident statistics at speed and red light camera sites;

Camera Location	Camera Online	1 Year Before Installation	1 Year After Installation
Hindmarsh Dr / Tuggeranong Parkway	20 Feb 2002	9	1
Northbourne Ave / Mouat St / Antill St	20 Feb 2002	72	57
Northbourne Ave / London Cir	20 Feb 2002	33	35
Ginninderra Dr / Coulter Dr	12 Dec 2001	23	21
Ginninderra Dr / Aikman Dr	12 Dec 2001	15	27
Barry Dr / Marcus Clarke St	12 Dec 2001	13	14
Northbourne Ave / Barry Dr	15 Dec 2000	97	73
Drakeford Dr / Marconi Cr	19 Jan 2001	22	23
Southern Cross Dr / Coulter Dr	19 Jan 2001	23	35

The following site replaced Southern Cross Dr / Coulter Dr;

Camera Location	Camera Online	1 Year Before Installation	1 Year After Installation
Hindmarsh Dr / Yamba Dr	8 Jul 2003	76	71

During the Committee's examination of the Department on 25 May 2005, the following question was taken on notice.

Mr Mulcahy MLA, asked in relation to outstanding fines, for those outstanding 90 days and over that are not being contested, what is the value of those fines?

The answer to Mr Mulcahy MLA's question is as follows:

The value of outstanding fines, by category, are as follows;

Library	\$1,110,497
Parking Infringements	\$4,424,513
Traffic Infringements	\$9,889,918
Heavy Vehicle Infringements	\$24,750
Total	\$15,449,678

Of the parking, traffic and heavy vehicle infringements, \$6.8 million has been identified as incurred by interstate, Commonwealth and diplomatic drivers and vehicles as follows:

Interstate	\$6,160,754
Commonwealth	\$550,978
Diplomatic	\$131,698 *
Total	\$6,843,430

\* Note – the amounts quoted previously of \$55,000 in parking and \$109,000 for traffic infringements relate to the total outstanding diplomatic infringements. \$131,698 represents the amount over 90 days.

In relation to the parking, traffic and heavy vehicle infringements, the Government's registration and driver licence system, rego.act, is required to maintain records of all infringements and the list of outstanding fines dates back to 1990. The process to recover an infringement is as follows:

- Infringement notice issued;
- Non-payment after 28 days, a reminder notice issued incurring an additional \$34 administration fee;
- Non-payment after a further 28 days, a final notice is sent advising that licence or registration will be suspended if payment is not received or if the infringement is challenged; and
- After a further 14 days, notice is sent advising of licence or registration suspension until the outstanding fines are settled.

The authority in relation to suspension for non-payment of an infringement notice comes from the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999*, Division 3.4, Section 44, which states:

*(5) In any other case, the road transport authority must do 1 of the following:*

*suspend the person's right to drive the vehicle involved in the offence in the ACT;*

*suspend the person's right to drive any vehicle in the ACT; and*

*suspend the right of everyone to drive the vehicle involved in the offence in the ACT.*

With the current five year licensing cycle, a person is not able to renew their licence until all outstanding fines are settled, even if they have been driving while technically they have a suspended licence.

Although the total value of the outstanding fines is in excess of \$15 million, the value carried in the Department's financial statements is \$705,946, as at 30 April 2005. This is in accordance with the ACT Government's Accounting Policy which states:

"When an entity considers it probable it will not receive full or part payment of a receivable, the entity shall recognise an expense as soon as it considers that the receivable will not be recovered. This may be done by writing off the receivable as a bad debt or by making an allowance for a doubtful debt."

The Department assesses that a parking or traffic infringement becomes uneconomical to pursue after one year and makes provision for doubtful debts in order to write off those debts. These debts however, are not removed from the rego.act system.

Mr Mulcahy asked the Commissioner of the ACT Emergency Services Authority during the Select Committee on Estimates hearing on 26 May 2005:

How much of the \$5.4m unforeseen expenditure during 2004-05 relates to an increase in the ESA's general insurance premium?

Mr Hargreaves – the answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The increase in the general insurance premium for the Emergency Services Authority for 2004-05 was \$0.370m over the budgeted amount.

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on 2 June 2005:

*Dr Foskey: I want to ask you about advertising, how much did the ACT government spend on advertising government programs in 04-05?*

*Mr Lasek: I don't have that figure, I could get you a Chief Minister's Department expenditure which is what we have responsibility for.*

*Dr Foskey: And I'd be interested in the comparison for the year before that. And this year that we've got ahead of us.*

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

### **CMD expenditure on advertising**

Advertising expenditure includes all advertising undertaken by the Department, including advertising for positions vacant, tenders, public notices, grants applications, etc).

#### **2005-06**

Chief Minister's Department advertising expenditure for 05-06 has not yet been fully allocated.

#### **2004-05 (to May 2005)**

\$128,000

#### **2003-04**

\$857,000

The higher figure for 2003-04 (compared to 2004-05) relates to advertising activities for:

- *The Canberra Plan* (\$100,000 including media production costs, printing and distribution costs);
- the invitation for tender for Convention Centre Facilities (\$100,000); and
- the whole-of-government advertising and awareness activities undertaken by the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce, including the Community Awareness Program (\$500,000).

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Chief Minister during Estimates hearings on Thursday 2 June 2005:

How much of the 05-06 appropriation for Output 1.4 will be spent (including salaries) on:

- a) Information and Protocol Services for Chief Minister
- b) Delivery of key ACT Government events
- c) Whole of Government Communications and Support
- d) Whole of Government emergency response

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

- a) **Information and Protocol Services for Chief Minister**
  - \$302 456 goes to salaries and \$24,210 includes awards, Canberra Gold and Citizen of the Year award provision, Community Cabinet and Discretionary Expenditure.
- b) **Delivery of key ACT Government events**
  - Under the Canberra Social Plan Priority 3, Action 3.3 \$309,000 is allocated to more effectively support community events such as New Year's Eve and Australia Day.
  - \$170,806 is allocated for salaries in the Special Events Unit.
  - \$60,000 is allocated to supporting the Celebrate Canberra program.
  - In total \$539,806 is allocated to the delivery of key ACT Government events (this does not include cash sponsorship support).
- c) **Whole of Government Communications and Support**
  - \$510,038.25 including salaries of \$204,963.
- d) **Whole of Government emergency response**
  - The Communications Unit does not allocate any program expenditure to this area. The Executive Director, Executive Support spends approximately 25% of his time on emergency response matters - \$30,975.25

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister during hearings on Thursday 2 June 2005:

Could you decipher the amount of this budget that relates to the staff that are under your (Mr Lasek's) supervision?

(Mr Harris indicated that 'We can take that on notice and provide you with a list of staff and...the cost of those staff')

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

**Executive Support Branch:**

Communications Unit

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>
Katherine Maloney	Manager
Ciaran Chestnutt	Senior Communications Officer/Speechwriter
Dannielle Ford	Communications Officer

Festivals and Events Unit

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>
Karen Manning	Events Officer
Dianne Ireland	Events Officer

Chief Minister's Support and Protocol

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function</b>
Christine Chatillon	Manager
Laurel Coyles	Executive Support Officer
Samara Henriksen	Honours and Awards
Loreana White	Functions Coordinator
Dane Clarkson	Ministerial Correspondence

One staff member provides admin support for the Executive Support Branch:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Function</u>
Lee Thomas	Administrative Support

Total costs for staff, including salaries, on-costs and administration is \$1,195,311.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Dr Foskey - Asked the Minister for the Environment during hearings on 1 June 2005:

Can you inform the Committee if a boardwalk over a swamp in Namadgi National Park, which was the habitat of the Corroboree Frog and was burnt in the 2003 bushfires, has been replaced?

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

The only boardwalk in Namadgi National Park prior to the January 2003 bushfires was on the track to Nursery Swamp, off the Orroral Valley Road. This boardwalk was burnt in the bushfires and has now been replaced.

The Nursery Swamp area is not known to be a current habitat for the Corroboree Frog. The habitat for this endangered species has shrunk to the sphagnum moss bogs along the main Brindabella Range. As these areas of frog habitat were severely degraded by the bushfires, a significant effort is being made to ensure the Corroboree Frog survives into the future. Artificial breeding facilities at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve are being used to provide a supply of young frogs to re-colonise the mountain bogs.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA  
Acting Minister for the Environment

Date:.....

Mr Stefaniak - Asked the Attorney General on 1 June 2005:

1. In relation to the \$1.1m funding for the Victims Services Scheme, which JACS pay to Health, how much has been paid in administration and how has this changed over the past 3 years?
2. Could the department provide detail on the amounts paid by Health to:
  - a) VOCAL; and
  - b) private practitioners
3. Could details be provided on why only two referrals were made by Health to VOCAL?
4. How many individuals and licensed establishments have been investigated and fined this year? (read as financial year)

Ms Gallagher - The answer to the Member's questions are as follows:

1. The Victims Services Scheme (VSS) is funded through the Department of Justice and Community Safety (JACS). JACS has an arrangement with ACT Health for the delivery of services under the scheme.

The amount paid in administration as a proportion of the overall allocation reflects the initial costs of establishing the service, and then maintaining it.

In 2002-03, this slightly decreased to 24.5%.

A drop in costs occurred in 2003-04 to 8.2%.

For the first half of this current financial year this trend has been maintained, with 5.3% spent on administration.

2a. In the first half of the current financial year \$79,434 was allocated to VOCAL. With the same amount applied to the second half of the financial year, a full 04-05 year payment of \$158,868 is anticipated.

2b. External providers cost \$414,000 in 2003-04. In the first half of 2004-05, the costs of external providers was \$324,000.

3. More than 2 referrals have been made by Health to VOCAL.

All ACT Health staff of the VSS are required to provide information on the practical support services available to them from the VSS partner, VOCAL ACT Inc.

In doing so, ACT Health staff provide clients with a choice of:

- Client to contact VOCAL directly to make a self-referral;
- VSS to refer to VOCAL on client's behalf;
- No referral to occur, as not wanted by client at this time;

Choice is provided to clients on how they wish to proceed, as this is seen as supporting the client therapeutically to regain control and self-empowerment as part of the rehabilitation process from being a victim of crime.

Implications of this approach are that many clients that may have been supported to utilize the VOCAL component of VSS services will be identified as 'self referrals' – not as being formally referred by ACT Health.

An audit of the five-month period January 2005 – May 2005 has identified the following recorded outcomes:

- 14 clients chose to contact VOCAL directly;
- 11 clients requested ACT Health refer to VOCAL on their behalf [which occurred];
- 13 clients advised they were already known to VOCAL and did not require a new referral;
- 125 clients declined a referral to VOCAL at the time they were seen.
- 17 clients were not suggested referral to VOCAL as they were from interstate, with linkage to local support agencies facilitated.

4. 27 individuals have been prosecuted in the courts for offences against the liquor Act so far this financial year. All of the matters related to the use of a false document to gain entry to a licensed premises or to purchase liquor. 22 matters related to minors and five to adults supplying documents for the use of a minor.

Five liquor licensees have had a matter dealt with by the Liquor Licensing Board so far this year.

Mr Seselja- Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs during hearings on 2 June 2005:

What unapproved development took place at Block X Section X Reid?

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

#### Unapproved development at Block X Section X Reid

The subject site is within one of nine Heritage Precinct sites in the ACT. This is very important in considering any Development Application (DA).

The development as built does not comply with the DA for extensions to the existing residence and other associated works as approved by the Planning and Land Authority in October 2002. It departs from it in a number of significant ways that have a serious adverse impact on the overall heritage values of the Reid Heritage Precinct and the identified heritage cottage at 10/36 Reid.

Issues are:

#### **Windows**

The DA approval was to retain all original windows of the Type D Department of Interior cottage. Instead, these windows have been removed and replaced with timber windows that do not match the original style details. There has never been any ambiguity in relation to this condition.

#### **Masonry Wall**

The DA approval was for a timber picket fence and gate behind the building line, which was appropriate to the character of the precinct. Instead, a high solid masonry wall and two masonry gate pillars have been constructed, which are inconsistent with the heritage requirements. There has never been any ambiguity in relation to this condition.

#### **Treed landscape setting**

The DA required all trees on the block to be retained except for 3. However, most trees have been removed and there are extensive areas of concrete paving. There has never been any ambiguity in relation to this condition.

**Render**

The DA approval was to render the new extension to match the existing 'icing cake' highly textured raised trowel finish of the identified historic cottage. Instead, the extension has been rendered in a modern polished flat finish and the render on the cottage has been partially removed. This new work on the extension is not in accordance with the approval.

The applicant may have an expectation that the 'icing cake' rendering is negotiable as he was given qualified verbal advice which conflicted with subsequent written advice. During a site visit members of the Heritage Council advised that smooth rendering may be acceptable. However, they emphasized that this needed a formal application to the Planning and Land Authority, as it would result in a change to the then, currently approved DA. More than two months lapsed before a new DA was submitted. During this time variation 173 became law and consequently the Council received correspondence from the local residents and a heritage professional drawing attention to the distinctive render pattern in Reid. The correspondence requested that Council consider the matter carefully. After further consideration the applicant was advised that 'icing cake' rendering was required. This reinforced the original DA condition of approval.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Katy Gallagher MLA

Date:.....

Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs during hearings on 2 June 2005:

*We all would, I think. Chief Minister, Output 2.3 - BP4 at page 32 - allocates \$1.16 million to the management and administration of heritage legislation resources and the promotion of heritage activities. Can you give us a breakdown in funding for:*

- (a) firstly, developing, renewing, implementing and administering heritage legislation;*
- (b) secondly, managing the seven heritage assets; and*
- (c) thirdly, supporting the ACT Heritage Council and managing the Heritage Grants Program?*

*Mr Harris: In the interests of efficiency it might be useful if we took that on notice and provided you with a written response.*

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

- (a) Costs associated with the implementation and ongoing administration of the heritage legislation amount to approximately \$849,000. This does not include the cost of developing the new Act that came into operation in March 2005 as those costs were met from the Budgets of previous years.
- (b) The costs involved in managing the seven heritage assets amount to approximately \$200,000 per annum including depreciation.
- (c) The ACT Heritage Council remuneration cost for Council members amounts to approximately \$30,000 per annum. Providing administrative support to the Council and managing the Heritage Grants Program amounts to approximately \$71,000 per annum.

**Approved for circulation to the Committee.**

**Katy Gallagher MLA**

**Date:.....**

**Acting Minister for Arts, Heritage & Indigenous Affairs**

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister on Tuesday 2 June 2005:

What are the electricity increases likely to be?

Have you done price elasticity modelling on next year?

And what I guess is relevant to all that is what the typical average cost increase will be per household in Canberra in terms of utility usage.

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

Electricity consumers are free to select their own retailer. Neither the Government nor ActewAGL is therefore in a position to comment on the competitive prices offered by each of the electricity retailers.

The Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (ICRC) regulates transitional franchise tariffs. These are retail charges for electricity consumers who have remained with ActewAGL and have not chosen to enter into an alternative contract. The ICRC is currently considering the transitional franchise tariffs for 2005/06. These are currently expected to rise by about 0.5% in real terms.

I am informed by ActewAGL and the ICRC that no electricity price elasticity analysis is performed on an annual basis.

The combined water, waste water, gas and electricity bills for an average Canberra household with an average electricity load, average gas load and average water consumption is expected to rise by about 1.5% in real terms.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

Mr Mulcahy - Asked the Chief Minister on Tuesday 2 June 2005:

With regard to the regulatory environment, and I'm not just talking about the actual setting of your tariffs but I understand there are regulatory impediments as well that ActewAGL struggles with that may need to be addressed and I think there was a committee, wasn't there, an interdepartmental group that looked at some of those issues?

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

The Government has initiated a review of the *Utilities Act* and ActewAGL has provided written submissions to that review. The Government believes the review will provide the appropriate forum for ActewAGL to air its concerns about the level of regulation. There are competing interests, such as the wish of householders to know when a utility will be entering their private land, and the review team will weigh the competing interests.

The review has encountered delays associated with options and policies being developed as part of the national Energy Market Reform agenda that may significantly change the nature of utility regulation at State and Territory level. The Reform agenda is intended to develop a consistent national framework for utility regulation.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....

266 Mr Zed SESELJA Chief Minister

Mr Seselja - Asked the Chief Minister on Tuesday 2 June 2005:

The water abstraction, has ACTEW ever sought or received any legal advice on its legality?

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

I was asked the same question on 17 May 2005 and took it on notice. I have provided a letter and an accompanying document with a legal opinion to the Secretariat on 27 May 2005.

Approved for circulation to the Committee.

Ted Quinlan MLA  
Acting Chief Minister

Date:.....