



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
VICKI DUNNE MLA (CHAIR), TARA CHEYNE MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR),
NICOLE LAWDER MLA, BEC CODY MLA,



Inquiry into referred 2017–18 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
12 November 2018

Asked by Alistair COE MLA:

In relation to: reportable conduct scheme

‘is there a definitive list’ of entities covered by the scheme?

Michael MANTHORPE: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:–

There is not a definitive list of entities covered by the reportable conduct scheme.

Section 17EA of the *Ombudsman Act 1989* sets out the categories of ‘designated entities’ that fall within the scheme. These include ACT directorates, schools (government and non-government), education and care services, certain health services, approved out of home care organisations and religious bodies.

The Act defines many of these categories of designated entities by reference to the registration or approval requirements set out in other Acts. Where this is the case, my Office draws upon registers that are maintained by the relevant registration or approval body and seeks the assistance of regulators and peak bodies to increase awareness of the scheme.

The relatively informal nature of many religious bodies, and the absence of registration requirements for religious bodies, has led to my Office maintaining its own list of ACT religious bodies. This is based on the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission data for ACT based religious charities, our own research, and contact and enquiries from and to my Office. We expect that this list will build over time.

Given the nature of the definitions and likelihood of change to organisations, my Office does not seek to create a definitive list of entities. The number referred to in our annual report (500+ as at 30 June 2018, page 5) covers those we have identified, and in relation to whom we have contact details, using the methods outlined above.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:

Date: 19.11.18

By the ACT Ombudsman, Michael MANTHORPE