



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Elizabeth Lee MLA on 30 August 2022: Ms Kathy Leigh took on notice the following question(s):

In relation to: CFC CEO - notification of successful candidate

MS LEE: Just going back to the time frame that you talked about, the contract was signed on 9 November, but you said that the interviews took place on 27 July.

Ms Leigh: That is correct.

MS LEE: That is quite a few months. When was Mr Ramsay notified? Was it 9 November that he was notified?

Ms Leigh: I will just check my notes again, if I may, but I believe that that was the actual signing of the contract.

MS LEE: Right. So when was he actually notified?

Ms Leigh: I would have to check that.

MS LEE: You will take that on notice?

Ms Leigh: I am happy to take that on notice, yes.

MS LEE: Can you also take on notice, then, the reason for the almost three months between the interviews taking place and the contract being offered.

Ms Leigh: I am happy to do that. It might seem like a long period, but it is not actually an unusually long period between interview—by the time you step through all the processes of referee comments and discussions with the committee to settle on outcomes, and then actually make the offer and get to the point of actually signing the contract. It might seem like an extended period, but it is not actually that long.

MS LEE: I understand. What was Mr Ramsay's classification and salary upon appointment? Is that different now, and how does that differ to the previous CEO?

Ms Leigh: The position is, as I mentioned, a public service position. It has a set level. The level that Mr Ramsay was engaged on is identical to the level that Ms Elvin was engaged at. And that continues to be the case; it has not been changed.

Andrew Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

Under s.11 of the *Cultural Facilities Corporation Act 1997*, the Chief Executive Officer is a public servant appointed by the Head of Service.

The Head of Service has advised me that following interviews on 27 July 2021, the Panel undertook the usual process of contacting referees. Following consideration of referee comments, the Panel assessed Mr Ramsay as highly suitable for appointment.

The Head of Service has advised me that in accordance with s.80(3) of the *Financial Management Act 1996*, she consulted with the Minister for the Arts on the appointment. Consultation with the Cultural Facilities Corporation Board was facilitated by Justice Refshauge's participation on the Panel.

The Head of Service prepared a submission for Cabinet to note the appointment of the Chief Executive Officer Cultural Facilities Corporation. On 2 November-2021, Cabinet noted the Head of Service decision to appoint Mr Ramsay as Chief Executive Officer Cultural Facilities Corporation.

The Head of Service has advised me that she contacted Mr Ramsay on 3 November 2022 to inform him of the finalisation of the recruitment process and next steps. The Head of Service provided Mr Ramsay with a Letter of Offer and Long Term Contract on 9 November 2021. Mr Ramsay signed the contract on 9 November 2022.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: 16.9.22

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA