



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Business, Arts and Creative Industries

In relation to: Business, Arts and Creative Industries and Community centres offering arts facilities - asset needs analysis

Hearing: 18/11/2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 11

Transcript provided: 25/11/2025

Answer Due: 03/12/2025

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MS CLAY: So we can get something useful back on notice. Is there an asset needs analysis for our community organisations that are offering arts spaces and arts places?

Has that work been done? Of what they need?

Mr Khan: So do you mean a broader asset needs analysis, what the minister was describing in terms of the work that Arts ACT is undertaking?

MS CLAY: Are they included in that asset needs analysis?

Mr Pettersson: Let us – we have to take this question to the next arts session, I am sorry. These officials are Infrastructure Canberra people.

MS CLAY: This is not about community arts facilities?

Mr Pettersson: Well if you are referring to the specific piece of work of the arts assets needs analysis, that is very much an Arts ACT piece of work.

MS CLAY: So I am trying to work out how – so I have got one particular example. I will tell you the example. I would imagine there are probably 30 examples around Canberra. So there will be a lot in this situation.

The Belconnen Theatre, operated by the Capital Region Community Centre, needs new lighting and it costs \$30,000. So they cannot just absorb that. Who is looking after that, to work out whether – government has obviously decided we would like our community theatre in this place? It is a great community theatre. All the kids perform there. It is the only affordable theatre around for that type of community work. And they are heading towards a place where maybe they cannot operate it anymore. So how is Infrastructure Canberra looking after this and helping them with maintenance and upgrades, and monitoring all of those community arts spaces around Canberra?

Mr Khan: So in our engagement, Ms Clay, with all tenants, we of course take any repair of maintenance requests for any of their facilities that we have an overhead of funding for that type of planned works, or any reactive maintenance that is necessary at facilities. And we will work with the tenant on an understanding of the scope, the urgency and priority need.

MS CLAY: Yes.

Mr Khan: And we assess that against the poor funding that we have available. And then the range of requests that we receive from tenants in terms of prioritising when some of those works could be undertaken. The specific example you referenced is not one I am familiar with, I apologise.

MS CLAY: Yes.

Mr Khan: But I am happy to take further details—

Michael Pettersson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- The ACT Government is undertaking an Arts Assets Needs Analysis, a strategic review of arts infrastructure across the city. This work will provide Government with important information about current and future demand for creative spaces and inform future planning.
- Stage One of the Arts Assets Needs Analysis is a Creative Spaces Mapping exercise which includes:
 - An audit of ACT Government and other arts facilities used by the sector including location, services and artform focus.

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- Targeted consultation with stakeholders to understand current use and future needs.
- A demand and gap analysis informed by population growth and visitation trends
- Findings will be reported to artsACT in the first quarter of 2026.
- The iCBR Response Centre facilitates all requests for reactive building repairs and maintenance. This service functions on both a core and afterhours footing ensuring 24-hour, 365-day coverage.
- Information regarding maintenance requests is provided with on-boarding documentation, and this was refreshed on transfer of custodianship and tenancy management to iCBR in January 2025. The iCBR Response Centre can be contacted for maintenance requests on 02 6213 0700. The tenant can also contact their specific tenancy manager via email or phone to report or log non-urgent maintenance requests.
- A comprehensive planned maintenance program is delivered by iCBR to facilitate general building maintenance throughout the portfolio. This program ensures that all iCBR owned assets are well maintained and operate according to relevant Australian Standards, Codes of Practices and Legislation.
- Funding for the provision of reactive and planned maintenance services is sourced via a Controlled Recurring Payment allocation administered by the Delivery, Places and Spaces Branch within iCBR.
- Upgrades are not covered by recurrent funding and are subject to budget bids.
- All property upgrades facilitated by iCBR are based upon the needs of the tenant, life cycle of the facility and technical data either sought via a qualified third-party consultant or field reports resulting from the planned maintenance program. By adopting this approach, iCBR is ensuring that a suitable end user solution is delivered, which meets the requirements of tenants but also enhances and prolongs the lifespan of our physical built assets.
- In relation to the referenced example at the Belconnen Theatre concerning an upgrade to lighting, iCBR would firstly seek to understand the operational requirements of the facility, referencing field data and seeking design solution input from electrical and lighting engineers to achieve a satisfactory end user outcome. In conjunction with Arts ACT, iCBR would then seek to prepare a budget submission for a capital grant to deliver the required works per the specified scope for consideration by Government.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economics, Industry and Recreation

Signature:



Date: 8/12/25

By the Minister for Business, Arts and Creative Industries, Michael Pettersson