



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021 ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE 24 February 2022

Asked by ELIZABETH LEE MLA on 24 FEBRUARY 2022: KATHY LEIGH took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Proof Transcript 24 February 2022, Page 3-5]

In relation to: ACT Integrity Commission

MS LEE: We have only had the Integrity Commission for a little while. Just finally, Chief Minister—just finally—in relation to—it is a reference on page 138 of the CMTEDD report. It talks about your directorate having reviewed several briefs published by the Integrity Commission for the directorate, which of course is aimed at strengthening integrity. Can you please provide more details on that, whether there are any changes that your directorate make to those reports, and will you publish them?

[...]

MS LEE: Just to clarify, I mean, you have gone through a very extensive list, but are they actually published by the Integrity Commission or by the directorate, and if they are published by the commission, does the directorate make any changes? That was the original question.

Ms Leigh: Ms Lee, while Mr Wright is looking at the relevant section in the annual report that you are referring to, the Integrity Commissioner, like many other bodies that are designed to ensure the good operation of the public service, such as the ombudsman, et cetera, they all put out regular reports and every time we get one of those we look at it to see how it compares with our current practices, our current guidelines, and we update those to reflect the recommendations. So the briefs that are referred to in the annual report are indeed by the Integrity Commissioner, and when we receive them we run the ruler over our existing guidelines, procedures, et cetera, to see whether there is anything additional that we can add to our guidelines in light of that advice provided by the Integrity Commissioner.

MS LEE: Are you able to provide on notice, Ms Leigh, the difference of what is published and then the ruler that, as you just mentioned, you rule over them?

Ms Leigh: Sure.

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The ACT Integrity Commissions Corruption Prevention and Education team has on occasions issued Information Briefs to directorates providing information on best practise governance processes and recommendations to strengthen compliance, and reduce the instance of fraud and corruption. These recommendations cover a range of topics including conflict of interest, fraud prevention and gifts and benefits.

CMTEDD actively reviews the information contained in the briefs and any recommendations made by the Integrity Commission against CMTEDD's policies, procedures, guidelines and training information, and incorporates as required, or promulgates through direct communication with staff.

Recent examples of updated CMTEDD artefacts include:

- CMTEDD Fraud and Corruption Prevention Plan
- CMTEDD Conflict of Interest Policy
- CMTEDD Public Interest Disclosure Fact Sheet.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender Equality

Signature: 

Date: 4.3.22

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA