



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Mr Cain on 31 July 2023: Mr Steel MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript 31 July 2023 [PAGE 91]]

In relation to: Value for Money Union Contracts

MR CAIN: Thank you. Look, given the very strong criticism of Procurement management by the Auditor-General, do you have extra measures in place to ensure value for money from union-affiliated contracts?

Mr Steel: I think the same procurement rules would apply. I think it is a hypothetical question that you are asking, or is there—

MR CAIN: No. Are there additional procedures to do with value for money and quality assurance of contracts with unions or affiliated union bodies?

Mr Steel: I think the same procurement rules would apply to everyone, but I am not sure what specific procurement you are talking about in particular.

MR CAIN: Well, any involving a registered union.

Mr Steel: In the past?

MR CAIN: From 2016.

Mr Steel: We will have to take that on notice. It depends on the nature of the procurement, probably.

CHRIS STEEL MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: —

The concept of value for money is enshrined in section 22A of the *Government Procurement Act 2001* and is a requirement for all procurement activity, including contracts with registered trade unions and affiliated union bodies.

The ACT Government does not have any additional value for money and quality assurance procedures for tenders that engage submit tenders or become suppliers under a contract.

As a matter of practice, any specific requirements relating to a procurement are included in the relevant approach to market documents. Similarly, any specific requirements relating to a contract, are included in the contract.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature: 

Date: 11 / 8 / 23

By the Special Minister of State, Mr Steel MLA