



Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Peter Cain MLA:

In relation to: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate and procurement

(1) How many times did the Director-General of the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate make a final 'delegate' procurement decision, in the financial years 2018-19 to 2022-23?

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

There are a number of final decision-making points in a procurement process, for example, a decision as to the procurement methodology, the decision to select a preferred supplier for contract negotiations, or a decision to enter into or exercise an option under a contract. These various decisions may occur over a period of time (including during the life of a contract, which can be several years). As such, it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to manually review the records to extract Director-General decisions for the requested period. In any case, the term "delegate" does not apply to a Director-General. As a general proposition, it is the Directors-General who delegate their powers to other officers.

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

Signature:

Date: **8.12.23**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA