



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Ms Suzanne Orr MLA, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs

In relation to: Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations

Hearing: 25 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 22-23

Transcript provided: 27 February 2025

Answer Due: 6 March 2025 5:00PM

Minister Orr took on notice the following question(s):

THE CHAIR: Take it on notice and pop it in. 17, and are you aware of how many of those are receiving government funding?

Ms Rule: We will have to take that on notice as well.

THE CHAIR: Okay. A proportion number out of the 17 – ACT government funding.

Ms Orr: I think – I mean, is it government funding from – it could be – yes, that will cut across a number of portfolios because they could be tendering for different services in different branches.

THE CHAIR: But you know, obviously the development of the sector is the responsibility, and it is the purpose of this fund. So you will probably – I think you would know how many of the 17 are receiving government funding to deliver services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Ms Orr: Yes. Okay. Yes, yes. Mr Emerson, so again, if the question is, how many are receiving funding for development service? That is something we will have a much clearer view on. Mr Simpson, might be able to work through with you now. If it is a question of, did they receive funding through—

THE CHAIR: Grant funding?

Ms Orr: Well the service development – yes, the service development as opposed to you might have an organisation that has a service contract in place with the health directorate, for example. So they will be receiving government funding, as per what you have said. That does not necessarily mean Chris and his team would have a line of sight over that. Their focus is going to be on the development of the ACCOs, which is a slightly different question.

THE CHAIR: Sure.

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Ms Orr: So can we clarify what it is you are actually asking?

THE CHAIR: For any part of government, how many of those 17 ACCOs are delivering services for our government?

Ms Orr: Okay. That one we will take on notice because we would have to ask other directorates.

THE CHAIR: That is okay. I understand.

Suzanne Orr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Of the 17 organisations/entities the Aboriginal Service Development Branch is aware of (refer to the response to QTON 87), the Community Services Directorate (CSD) provides multi-year funding to 7 organisations to deliver programs and supports to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

In addition to multi-year agreements, CSD facilitates a range of annual grant programs of which, a further 2 organisations/entities have received funding as a contribution to the organisation's initiatives in the past 6 months (1 July to 31 December 2024).

Inclusive of both Aboriginal and Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO) and Aboriginal and Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHO), 3 organisations received ACT Government funding in the 2023-24 financial year under funding agreements with ACT Health.

The Justice and Community Services Directorate (JaCS) funds 4 Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. These 4 ACCOs provide services to the community on behalf of the ACT Government.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Suzanne Orr MLA

Date:

06/03/25