



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for the Public Service

Reference: iCBR

Hearing: 18 November 2025

In relation to: Peppercorn leases and Application process and outcomes

Question received: 21 November 2025

Answer Due: 03 December 2025

- 1) How many organisations have requested a peppercorn lease since FY 23-24?
- 2) How many have been approved, and how many declined?
- 3) What factors are considered in iCBR's determination of whether one is granted or not?
- 4) What's the process for organisation's to engage government around whether they are eligible or able to apply for a peppercorn lease?

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR) does not maintain a formal register of requests for peppercorn licences – requests are considered on a case-by-case basis. Based on records of these cases, in 2023-24 and 2024-25 combined, three new peppercorn arrangements have been Ministerially endorsed. No applications have been declined.
- 2) Refer to response in Question 1.
- 3) When determining whether to recommend a peppercorn arrangement, iCBR considers whether the organisation is a registered not-for-profit, whether its service offerings deliver clear benefits to the community, and whether the organisation's activities align with community and government priorities.
- 4) There is currently no defined application process for not-for-profit organisations to request a peppercorn licence arrangement. Ordinarily, an organisation writes to iCBR seeking a peppercorn arrangement. Upon receiving such a request, iCBR advises the relevant portfolio Minister and

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prepares a brief to support the Minister's decision. The Minister makes the final decision based on iCBR's recommendation. I currently hold this responsibility as Minister for the Public Service.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Administration

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Stephen-Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Date:

3/12/25

By the Minister for the Public Service, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA