



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Children, Youth and Families

Reference: HCSD

Hearing: 12 November 2025

In relation to: Funding towards ACT Youth Parliament

Question received: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 27 November 2025

1. Has this government put any funding towards ACT Youth Parliament for the upcoming year?
2. How do the funding levels from the ACT compare to other states and territories for their youth parliaments?
3. How was this level of funding decided upon?
4. What work is being done from the portfolio of Youth to make politics feel more approachable to young people, acknowledging that work is being done in the education space separately?

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The Y Canberra received funding from Hands Across Canberra, through the Chief Minister's Charitable Fund and the Snow Foundation to deliver a civics and leadership program giving 25 young people the opportunity to participate in Canberra's first [Youth Parliament](#). This initiative will be delivered in partnership with the Legislative Assembly Education team.

The ACT Government funds a model of youth civic participation, centred on the annual ACT Youth Assembly, and the ACT Youth Advisory Council, a Cabinet-endorsed Ministerial advisory body.

2. Across Australia, youth parliament models and youth engagement programs vary. This makes it not possible to compare funding levels between the ACT and other state and territory governments.
3. Not applicable.

4. A range of work is undertaken through the Children, Youth and Families portfolio to make politics and civic participation more accessible for young people. This includes:
- The annual ACT Youth Assembly, which provides a youth-led deliberative forum to provide feedback to the ACT Government.
 - ACT Youth Advisory Council (YAC), a Ministerial advisory council appointed through Cabinet.
 - The Office for Youth Engagement Newsletter, which promotes opportunities to participate in ACT Government decision-making.
 - The annual Young Canberra Citizen Awards, which celebrate the achievements of young people in multiple areas and highlights their strong advocacy and community participation for important reforms.

There are also curriculum-based initiatives that are delivered in schools, which would fall under the responsibilities of the Minister for Education and Early Childhood.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date: 8.12.25

By the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Mr Michael Pettersson MLA