

2026

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

**JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIRECTORATE
HALF-YEARLY PERFORMANCE REPORT (31 DECEMBER 2025)**

**Presented by
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Attorney-General
February 2026**



ACT
Government

Justice and Community Safety

Justice and Community Safety Directorate

Statement of Performance

Half-year ending 31 December 2025

Justice and Community Safety Directorate
Statement of Performance
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Output Class 1 Justice Services

Output 1.1 Policy Advice and Justice Programs

Description High quality policy, legislation, ministerial support and advice to portfolio Ministers, Cabinet and other agencies on justice and community safety matters. Administer security coordination and emergency management policy, and innovative justice and crime prevention programs (including the Restorative Justice Program) across government and the community.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	51,927	25,252	20,722	(18)	1
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	48,800	23,839	23,839	-	
Accountability Indicators					
a Percentage of legislation requested by the JACS portfolio ministers is developed within timeframes agreed by the JACS portfolio ministers	100%	100%	100%	-	
b Proportion of surveyed users of restorative justice programs satisfied with service received ⁱ	97%	97%	91%	(6)	
c Number of initiatives that reduce regulatory burden ⁱⁱ	2	1	2	50	2

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i Following a restorative justice conference, surveys designed to monitor convenors' delivery of the process and participant experience for quality assurance and service improvement, are provided to each offender, victim and support person. Nine key questions are included in the surveys. These questions capture feedback on different aspects of the restorative justice process to provide an insight into the level of participant satisfaction. 20 participants completed the surveys with 91% being satisfied with services received.
- ii Relevant initiatives include changes or innovations, made as part of legislative reforms or policy or program design or modification, and which have been identified as reducing regulatory burden.

Note - Explanation of Material Variances (≥+/-10%)

- ¹ Total outcome is lower than the target mainly due to a number of grant agreements that are currently being negotiated and the timing of grants disbursements to delivery partners.
- ² The higher than target outcome is due to the greater number of bills introduced that were identified as reducing regulatory burden:
 - (1) Liquor Amendment Bill 2025
 - (2) Justice & Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (No 3)

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Output Class 1 Justice Services

Output 1.2 Legal Services to Government

Description High quality and timely legal advice and representation for the Attorney-General and Government.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	30,661	15,299	17,873	17	1
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	14,119	7,113	7,113	-	

Accountability Indicators

a Timely legal services provided by the ACT Government Solicitor: percentage of advices completed within 28 days	85%	85%	81%	(5)
b High quality legal services provided by the ACT Government Solicitor: percentage of client survey respondents satisfied with quality of advice and representation ⁱ	95%	95%	89%	(6)
c Timely legal services provided by the ACT Government Solicitor: percentage of court matters undertaken and completed within courts, tribunal or any applicable statutory timetable	95%	95%	86%	(9)

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i The client survey is conducted using the online Survey Monkey Tool. In response to the survey, 93 out of 104 respondents indicated an overall level of satisfaction with the quality of legal services. Respondents indicate the quality of legal services delivered was either 'excellent' or 'satisfactory' as a % of the total survey responses to the question.

Note - Explanation of Material Variances (≥+/-10%)

- 1 The total cost is higher than the target primarily due to the engagement of additional staff to undertake work for client agencies on a recovery of cost for service basis.

Output Class 1 Justice Services

Output 1.3 Legislative Drafting and Publishing Services

Description Provision of high quality and timely legislative drafting and publishing services for ACT legislation and maintenance of the ACT legislation register.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	5,439	2,637	2,289	(13)	1
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	4,874	2,384	2,384	-	
Accountability Indicators					
a High level of client satisfaction for legislative drafting and publishing services by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office: - percentage of satisfied client survey respondents ⁱ	90%	90%	Annual Measure Q4	NA	
b Timely legislative drafting and publishing services by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office:					
– Percentage of drafting responses provided within 30 day standard	95%	95%	94%	(1)	
– Percentage of notifications notified on ACT Legislation Register on requested notification day	99%	99%	100%	1	
– Percentage of republications of changed legislation published on ACT legislation register on day the change happens	99%	99%	100%	1	

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i Parliamentary Counsel Office (PCO) annually conducts three client surveys over a two-week period: the ACT Legislation Register Survey, the Legislative Drafting Service Survey and the ACT Legislation Register Notifications Service Survey. Satisfied client survey respondents means respondents who indicated an overall level of satisfaction of 'good' or 'excellent'.

Note - Explanation of Material Variances (≥+/-10%)

- ¹ Lower than targeted cost is mainly due to more annual leave and long service leave taken than accrued in the period; two staff members are on temporary transfer to other business units and positions are not currently backfilled; and minor savings in supplies and services such as rent and ICT services.

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Output Class 1 Justice Services

Output 1.4 Public Prosecutions

Description Prosecution of summary and indictable matters, at first instance and on appeal, provision of assistance to the Coroner, and provision of witness assistance services.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	21,130	10,559	10,554	(0)	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	17,393	8,704	8,704	-	

Accountability Indicators

a Average cost per matter finalised	\$4,200	\$4,200	\$4,055	(3)	
b The percentage of cases where the brief is served within two weeks of it being received from the ACT Police	80%	80%	89%	11	1
c The percentage of cases where the indictment case statement and questionnaire are filed within the timeframes specified at directions in the Supreme Court ⁱ	80%	80%	63%	(21)	2

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i Following a matter being moved from the Magistrates Court to the Supreme Court for trial, the Supreme Court Registrar will order the DPP to file a set of documents which includes the indictment, Case Statement, Witness List and Questionnaire. The "usual orders" require the DPP to file the suite of documents within three weeks.

Note - Explanation of Material Variances (≥+/-10%)

- ¹ Further efficiencies have been pursued in the review and provision of briefs with a view to promote the orderly progression of matters through the Court.
- ² The percentage of cases in which committal documents were filed within timeframes prescribed by the Courts deviated from target due to a range of contributing factors, including amendments to Courts practices that placed additional operational pressures on staff, as well as sustained increases in overall workload.

Output Class 1 Justice Services

Output 1.5 Protection of Rights

Description Provision of advocacy, complaints-handling, advice, community awareness raising and other services in connection with the promotion and protection of rights especially for vulnerable members of society, through services provided by the ACT Human Rights Commission, including the Public Advocate of the ACT and Victim Support ACT. This output also includes services provided by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and young People Commissioner and the Privacy Commissioner.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	26,277	14,053	14,000	(0)	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	24,024	12,832	12,832	-	

Accountability Indicators

ACT Human Rights Commission

a High level of client satisfaction with Human Rights Commission complaints process:

– Percentage of survey respondents who consider the complaint handling service accessible	80%	80%	81%	1	
– Percentage of survey respondents who consider the complaint handling service to be fair	80%	80%	74%	(7)	
– Percentage of complaints concluded within Commission standards	75%	75%	83%	11	1

b High level of community education, information and advice in relation to human rights and (i) services for children and young people, (ii) disability services, (iii) discrimination, (iv) health services, and (v) services for older people and other complaint jurisdictions:

– Number of community engagement activities undertaken by the Commission	90	45	76	69	2
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Public Advocate of the ACT

c The Public Advocate of the ACT's actions towards achieving a caring community where the rights and interests of vulnerable people are protected:

– Proportion of client survey respondents for whom advocacy services are provided by the Public Advocate of the ACT where a high level of satisfaction is reported	75%	75%	91%	21	3
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The Public Advocate's actions towards achieving a caring community where the rights and interests of vulnerable people are protected:

– Percentage of referrals to the Public Advocate actioned within five working days ⁽ⁱ⁾	90%	90%	91%	1	
– Percentage of compliance documents reviewed within five working days of allocation ⁽ⁱ⁾	80%	80%	88%	10	4

Victim Support ACT

d Percentage of referrals to Victim Support ACT or the Victims of Crime Commissioner - actioned within five working days

	95%	95%	83%	(13)	5
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The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i The indicators report on the timeliness and effectiveness of interactions with clients. Calculation of indicators is based on client feedback, received through evaluation forms, and information from the Commission's case management system which tracks the length of time it takes from receipt to complaint closure.

Notes - Explanation of Material Variances ($\geq \pm 10\%$)

- ¹ The variance is due to a greater focus on triage and early resolution of matters to try and reduce the backlog of matters due to ongoing increases in complaints being received by the HRC.
- ² The number of events held from 1 July to 31 December 2025 includes community consultations on Child Safe Standards (25), the Right to a Healthy Environment (19) and other ad hoc events (32).
- ³ The higher than target result reflects the Public Advocate and Children and Young People Commissioner's commitment to responsive, high-quality service delivery underpinned by a human rights focus that seeks to achieve improved safety and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people, and adults experiencing vulnerability.
- ⁴ The 10% variance above the target represents the Public Advocate's concerted effort to review documentation that may represent limitations to a person's rights, noting that all documentation received has an initial review at the point of data entry, enabling better triage of those documents requiring secondary review.
- ⁵ The below target result is largely due to unprecedented demand for victims support services in the reporting period. Victim Support ACT (VSACT) has faced rapidly growing demand with increasing client complexities which has impacted on the ability to meet this indicator from existing resources.

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Output Class 2 Corrective Services

Output 2.1 Corrective Services

Description Provision of safe and secure custody for detainees with a strong focus on the delivery of rehabilitative, educational and vocational programs, effectively managing un-sentenced offenders and community based corrections programs, and providing advice and services to the ACT justice system.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	131,616	62,501	63,826	2	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	104,771	52,057	52,057	-	
Accountability Indicators					
a Completion rates of Community Corrections Orders:					
- The proportion of Community Corrections supervision orders successfully completed within the counting period	85%	85%	84%	(2)	
- The proportion of Community Corrections reparation orders successfully completed within the counting period ⁱ	85%	85%	84%	(2)	
b Average cost per detainee per day for all detainees ⁱⁱ	\$570	\$570	\$513	(10)	1
c Average cost per day for community based offenders ⁱⁱⁱ	\$84	\$84	\$82	(2)	

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i The 2025-26 target for this indicator was increased from 75% to 85% based on the results from 2024-25 which consistently showed higher than target completion rates.
- ii The 2025-26 target for this indicator was revised down from \$660 to \$570 based on projected detainee population and estimated costs.
- iii The 2025-26 target for this indicator was revised down from \$87 to \$84 based on projected offender population and estimated costs.

Notes - Explanation of Material Variances ($\geq \pm 10\%$)

- ¹ Average cost per detainee per day is lower than the target due to higher than projected detainee numbers.

Output Class 3 Courts and Tribunal

Output 3.1 Courts and Tribunal

Description High quality support to judicial officers and tribunal members in the ACT Courts and Tribunal and high quality services to the public using the courts and the tribunal.

	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	93,239	46,625	47,209	1	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	68,010	33,695	33,695	-	

Accountability Indicators

Courts

a	Cost per finalisation				
	- Supreme Court ^{i, ii, iv}	\$23,399	\$23,399	\$21,756	(7)
	- Magistrates Court ^{i, ii, v}	\$2,722	\$2,722	\$2,544	(7)
b	Case Clearance Indicator				
	- Supreme Court ^{i, ii}	100%	100%	90%	(10) 1
	- Magistrates Court ^{i, ii}	100%	100%	101%	1

Tribunal

g	Clearance Indicator - Number of ACAT finalisations, divided by the number of lodgements ⁱⁱⁱ	100%	100%	98%	(2)
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The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- i Civil and Criminal divisions within Supreme Court and Magistrates Court respectively have been combined for reporting of cost per finalised case and timely completion to provide clearer accountability and minimise periodic variations in division resourcing that lead to significant, but temporary deviations from target. Supreme Court includes Court of Appeal. Magistrates Court includes Childrens Court, Coroners Court, and Family Violence Court.
- ii For the purpose of this report a 'case' is defined as per the counting rules detailed in the Report on Government Services (RoGS) Data Collection Manual and in <https://www.courts.act.gov.au/corporate/publications/explanatory-statement-report-on-statement-of-performance-and-strategic-and-accountability-indicators-sopsai>.
- iii ACAT - ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- iv The 2025-26 Target has been revised up from \$21,612 in 2024-25 to \$23,399 in 2025-26 based on projected case load and estimated costs.
- v The 2025-26 Target has been revised up from \$2,542 in 2024-25 to \$2,722 in 2025-26 based on projected case load and estimated costs.

Notes - Explanation of Material Variances ($\geq \pm 10\%$)

- ¹ Supreme Court Clearance rates are below target due to lower finalisations than lodgements as a result of: (1) reduced number of sitting days available for listings; (2) an increase in the number of criminal trial days required for complex matters; and (3) increased number of criminal matters that require pre-trial hearings. The Supreme Court combined finalisations are the highest in five years, and combined lodgements are the second highest in five years compared with previous years as at December 2025.

Output Class 4 Emergency Services

Output 4.1 Emergency Services

Description	Prevention and Mitigation: Measures taken in advance of an emergency aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on the community and the environment. Preparedness: Measures to ensure that, should an emergency occur, communities, resources and services are capable of responding to and coping with the effects. Response: Strategies and services to control, limit or modify an emergency to reduce its consequences. Recovery: Strategies and services to return the ACT Emergency Services Agency to a state of preparedness after emergency situations and to assist with community recovery.
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	2025-26 Original Target	2025-26 YTD Target	2025-26 YTD Actual	Variance %	Note
Total Cost (\$'000)	235,936	116,642	115,351	(1)	
Controlled Recurrent Payments (\$'000)	183,778	91,807	91,807	-	

Accountability Indicators

Prevention and Preparedness

a	Field Audit of Slashing/Grazing/Physical Removal activities, as per approved Bushfire Operational Plans (BOPs)	100%	100%	100%	-	
b	Field assessment of Access Management Upgrades and Hazard Reduction burns conducted in accordance with Bushfire Operational Plans of ACT Government Directorates	100%	100%	N/A	N/A	1

Response and Recovery

c	Structure Fire incidents responded to within target ⁱ	90%	90%	94%	4	
d	Road Rescue incidents responded to within target ⁱⁱ	90%	90%	92%	2	
e	Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 50th percentile (minutes) ^{iii, iv}	8	8	10.90	(36)	2
f	Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 90th percentile (minutes) ^{iii, iv}	15	15	18.60	(24)	2
g	Percentage of Patient Transport Service 'fixed booking' attended by booked time	65%	65%	69%	6	
h	Total cost per head of population ^v	\$493.95	\$493.95	\$475.87	(4)	

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators

- ⁱ Target refers to the response to structure fires within 10 minutes.
- ⁱⁱ Target refers to the response to road rescues within 13 minutes.
- ⁱⁱⁱ Priority 1 records that are incomplete due to operator or system errors, or where incidents are outside the ACT, or where the priority rating has been changed, are excluded.
- ^{iv} If results are higher than targets for these indicators, the variance will be reflected as a negative percentage.
- ^v The 2025-26 target has been revised to reflect projected expenditure and an estimated population of 475,600 based on the Estimated Resident Population – September Quarter 2024, ABS Release: National, State and Territory Population Publication Release Date: 20 March 2025.

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Notes - Explanation of Material Variances ($\geq \pm 10\%$)

- 1 No Access Management upgrade or Hazard Reduction burns activities in approved BOP's have been completed in the first or second quarter reporting period. Result is therefore N/A.
 - 2 Response times greater than target reflect continuing increased demand for ambulance services. Comparatively, ACTAS emergency response times remain some of the best in Australia.
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