



Inquiry into Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Deborah Morris MLA

Addressed to: Treasurer

Redirected to: Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations

Reference: Treasury

Hearing: 22 April 2026

In relation to: Procurement and Secure local jobs code - competition

Question received: 23/04/2026

Answer Due: 11/05/2026

The Secure Local Jobs Code (SLJC) imposes compliance requirements on businesses/contractors seeking to participate in ACT Government procurement.

(1) Has the Government undertaken any legal or policy assessment of whether elements of the SLJC could restrict competition or act as a barrier to market participation under the Australian Consumer Law for businesses/contractors?

(2) Has the Government sought advice on whether the SLJC's requirements could raise issues relating to restraint of trade, competitive neutrality, or limitations on open market access in government procurement?

(3) What analysis has the Government undertaken to determine whether the SLJC has affected the number or diversity of businesses/contractors tendering for ACT Government building or construction projects?

OFFICIAL

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

A combined response to questions 1 to 3 is provided below.

Prior to the commencement of the Secure Local Jobs Code in January 2019 there was extensive policy work and consultation on the design and structure of the Code. The Regulatory Impact Statement published on the [ACT Legislation Register](#) sets out the impacts considered, consistent with the requirements in chapter 5 of the *Legislation Act 2001*. This included the benefits of the Code fostering a level playing field for businesses competing for ACT Government funded work.

There are no restrictions on who may apply for a SLJC certificate. As long as an entity demonstrates compliance with the Code requirements, they will be granted a certificate allowing them to seek work with the ACT Government where a Code certificate is required.

The Secure Local Jobs Code Advisory Council established under the *Government Procurement Act 2001*, provides advice to the Minister on the operation of the Code and any other local jobs and procurement matters where requested by the Minister.

The Secure Local Jobs Code [website](#) provides extensive information to support businesses in becoming certified and maintaining compliance with requirements.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Financial Management and Government Procurement Legislative Compliance

Signature:



Date: 11.5.26

By the Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations, Michael Pettersson MLA