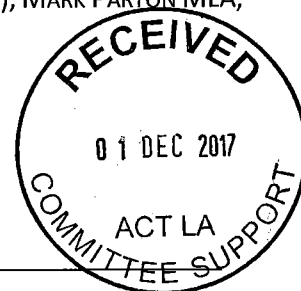




STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

JEREMY HANSON MLA (CHAIR), MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MARK PARTON MLA,
SUZANNE ORR MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**



Asked by MR COE MLA:

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate 2016/17 Annual Report, Procurement and Capital Works, Output 8.1

In relation to Invoice Register and Contract Details:

1. Please outline the process for exporting the published data for the notifiable invoice register.
2. Please outline the obstacles in changing the value threshold when exporting data for the notifiable invoice register.
3. Is the contract number entered into Oracle Financials when processing invoices?
 - a. If not, can the contract number be entered into Oracle Financials when processing invoices?

Mr BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. Each month Shared Services provides the Directorates with a draft report detailing payments which had a value greater than \$25,000 from the previous month. The draft report is exported directly from the financial information management system (Oracle E-Business Suite). This provides the Directorates with the opportunity to remove entries that do not meet the definition of a notifiable invoice, and allows for the description of goods and services to be edited for final publication. Once amended and returned to Shared Services, the Directorate's reports are compiled into a single Government monthly report for Goods and Services Procurement to add the reports from agencies that do not use Shared Services Finance. Goods and Services Procurement then converts the combined spreadsheet containing relevant information to a PDF file which is then uploaded to the ACT Government Notifiable Invoices Register.
2. The significant obstacle to changing the value threshold when exporting data for the notifiable invoice register is the impact on the process outlined above. Information published on the notifiable invoices register is the product of data extracted from a number of systems. For invoices at or above the current threshold of \$25,000, the greater proportion are captured in the Territory's primary financial system (Oracle), and so this process is largely confined to information managed by central finance areas in the Directorates and agencies, and the meta-data surrounding the invoices usually includes sufficient detail for decision makers to provide the required information for publication. For those invoices, it would mean a marginal increase in the time associated with



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running macros for data extraction, and a larger task for Directorates to review the data to ensure the accuracy, completeness and conformance of the data to ensure it is suitable for publication. For that set of invoices not held in Oracle, however, there is a higher potential impact in that the extraction of appropriate data may not be straight forward, and the workload associated with extracting and conforming that data for publication would be significantly increased. The impact on the Territory's suppliers of any changes would also need to be canvassed and addressed, and standard contract terms and conditions may have to be amended to ensure that suppliers were made aware of the new publication requirements.

3. No.

- a. Oracle does have the capability to have contract numbers captured; however, as there are many systems that interface with Oracle, as well as a number of other financial systems in use across Government that may hold invoice information, this would involve a significant amount of work. This matter is being investigated as per the Legislative Assembly resolution on financial integrity and compliance of 2 November 2017, with a report to be tabled in June 2018.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

Signature: *Andrew Barr*

Date: 30.11.2017

By the Treasurer, Andrew Barr MLA