



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

JEREMY HANSON MLA (CHAIR), MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), MARK PARTON MLA,
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**Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**



ALISTAIR COE MLA: To ask the Minister for Planning and Land Management

Chief Minister, Treasurer and Economic Development Directorate 2016/17 Annual Report, Economic Development Strategy and Program Design

In relation to: Reporting/Regulatory Reform Initiatives

1. What have been the key priority policy issues that the directorate has worked on in the 2016/17 financial year?
 - a. What was the focus been for 2017/18?
2. Are reports and reviews publically published, such as the one on National Rental Affordability Scheme?
 - a. If so, where are they located?
 - b. If not, why not?
3. What are the regulatory and process reform initiatives undertaken in 2016/17?
 - a. What reform initiatives have been started in 2017/18?

MICK GENTLEMAN: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. The key priority policy issues that the former Strategy and Program Design Branch worked on in 2016-17 were:
 - Land supply and release, as per the ACT Government's Indicative Land Release Program for 2016-17 to 2019-20;
 - Monitoring land and property trends, as per the two reports for the last quarter of 2016 and first half of 2017 which informs the development of the land release program;
 - Economic and data analysis, as per the Economic Trends in the ACT Report for the Fourth Quarter of 2016;
 - Economic diversification, as per the analysis into the potential for international air freight in the ACT;
 - Student rental affordability in the ACT, as per the review on the impact of the National Rental Affordability Scheme;
 - Housing affordability, as per the review of the three phases of the ACT Government's Affordable Housing Action Plan;

- Combat sport safety, as per the Policy Position Paper that communicated the ACT Government's position on key issues for the regulation of combat sports in the Territory; and
 - Red tape reduction, as per the *Gaming and Racing (Red Tape Reduction) Legislation Amendment Act 2016* which amended various racing and gaming Acts to provide for a number of red tape reduction reforms.
- a. The land functions of the former Strategy and Program Design Branch have transferred to the Land Supply and Policy Division within the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate. The focus for 2017-18 to date has been:
- monitoring the Government's Indicative Land Release Program for 2017-18 to 2020-21;
 - producing quarterly reports on land and property trends, underpinned by data and analysis from a range of sources, to support policy and decision making around land;
 - investigative research and consultation to develop a new Affordable Housing Strategy;
 - continuing to monitor and report as required on industry memoranda of understanding and agreements;
 - investigative research and consultation to progress strata reform for mixed use developments;
 - progressing a pilot expression of interest process for the release of non-government school sites; and
 - responding to Government priorities and emerging policy issues as required.
2. Yes, Land Supply and Policy Division (formerly Strategy and Program Design) regularly publishes reports and reviews publicly.
- a. The October 2016 Economic Analysis of Air-Freight Operations at Canberra Airport can be found at:
https://www.economicdevelopment.act.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/1030609/Economic_Analysis-of-Air-Freight.pdf
- The review of student rental affordability was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 1 August 2017.
- b. The land and property report (which focuses on forward land supply and the greenfield property market) will be produced quarterly and be public, with the September 2017 report now available at: <https://www.planning.act.gov.au/topics/land-release>
3. The regulatory and process reforms that the former Strategy and Program Design Branch undertook in 2016-17 were:
- *Gaming and Racing (Red Tape Reduction) Legislation Amendment Act 2016*, which amended various racing and gaming Acts to provide for a number of red tape reduction reforms; and
 - *Policy Position Paper on the Regulation of Combat Sports in the ACT*, which communicated the ACT Government's position on key issues for the regulation of combat sports in the Territory.
- a. Legislation, racing and gaming policy functions were transferred to the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) under the *Administrative Arrangements 2016 (No 5)*. JACS will be progressing any further regulatory reform initiatives in this area in 2017-18.

Land Supply and Policy (EPSDD) has commenced two reform initiatives in 2017-18 relating to:

- strata reform for mixed use developments; and
- a pilot expression of interest process for the release of non-government school sites.

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

Signature:



Date: 6/12/17

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman

