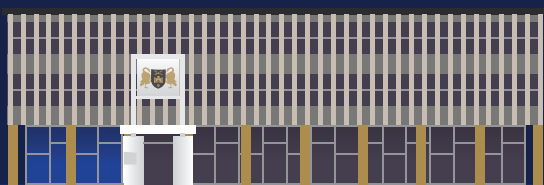


THE SEPARATION OF POWERS IN THE ACT

In Australia, the powers of government are split between three different branches. This separation of powers is an important part of the Westminster system and helps keep those in power accountable.

LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY
BUILDING

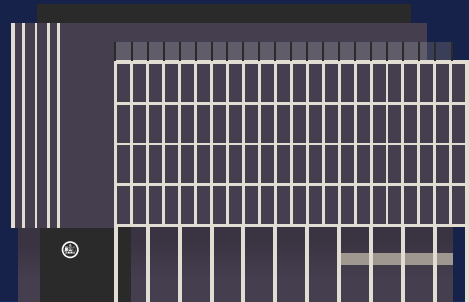


THE LEGISLATURE

In the ACT, our legislative branch is the Assembly. It has the power to make and change laws for the Territory

Our Legislative Assembly has 25 members, who are elected from five electorates across the ACT for four-year terms

CONSTITUTION
PLACE OFFICES

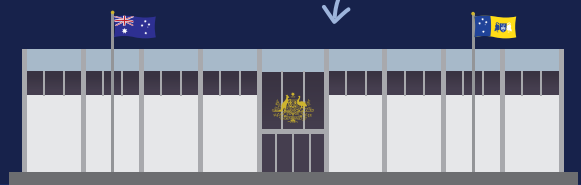


THE EXECUTIVE

The executive branch is the Chief Minister and ministers. Together they have the power together to put laws into action

In the ACT, the executive is only allowed to be as large as nine members (That's one Chief Minister and up to eight ministers)

THE SUPREME
COURT



THE JUDICIARY

The judicial branch is made up of the ACT courts and tribunals. They have the power to make judgements on laws

There are many judges in the ACT judiciary, but did you know that they must retire at their 70th birthday?

This is not a complete separation of powers

In Australia, members of the executive (ministers) must also be members of the legislature (MPs). This is a tradition inherited from the UK Parliament, where the Westminster system was developed.

This is different from other systems of government where executive members cannot also be legislature members, like in the United States of America.

PALACE OF
WESMINSTER
(HOME OF THE
UK PARLIAMENT)

