



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair), Mark Parton MLA

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Ms Jo Clay MLA:

Ref: 1.1 Transport Canberra Budget Statements H

In relation to: Whitlam Bus Service

1. It was announced in the budget outlook that "expanding bus services to Whitlam" was funded in this budget.
 - a. Where is this funding allocated and what are the expected costs over the upcoming financial years?
 - b. What is the expected route alignment for this service and will it likely connect to the Belconnen town centre or the Molonglo Centre?
 - c. How is this service expected to connect to Molonglo if Coppins Crossing Road is regularly unfit for buses due to flooding?

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1.
 - a. \$1.8m has been allocated for 2021/22 to acquire the buses required to provide the Whitlam bus services. This is outlined in *Budget Statement H, Table 17: Changes to appropriation – Capital Injections, Controlled* (page 29), under the line item *Growing the public transport network*. A further \$1.905m has been allocated for the operational costs of the service over the period 2021/22 (\$627k) – 2022/23 (\$1,278k). These are outlined in *Table 16: Changes to appropriation – Controlled Recurrent Payments* (page 27), under the line item *Growing the public transport network*.
 - b. The final route alignment is still being finalised within Transport Canberra.

- c. Similar to any other incident management occurrence on the bus network, in the event of flooding on Coppins Crossing Road, Transport Canberra will look to implement an appropriate contingency plan. This could involve the redirection of buses to other roads in order to maintain service. The appropriate service adjustment would be determined by Transport Canberra on the day.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature: 

Date: 1/11/21

By the Minister for Transport and City Services, Mr Chris Steel MLA