



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**QTON No. 3**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Mr Ed Cocks MLA

**Inquiry into ACT's heritage arrangements**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**16 May 2023**

Asked by Mr Ed Cocks MLA on 16 May 2023: Mr Geoffrey Rutledge took on notice the following question:

In relation to ACT Heritage staffing numbers (Page 106 Uncorrected Proof Transcript):

**MR COCKS:** The other bit of the equation I am interested in: are there dedicated FTE to supporting the council or other specific functions?

**Mr Rutledge:** Yes. We have a heritage approvals and advice team. That has got six permanent officers at the C6 and 5 level, and we have got temporary contracts in place. I will just also add because of the level of expertise we are expecting from these people, they are difficult to recruit to positions, and so it is about getting the right skillset as much as getting the bodies. I think that is where we are. But overall, we have got 13. We employed three in this year, and we can give you a further breakdown, but the three that we put in this year—

**MR COCKS:** I am happy if you want to provide that on notice.

**Mr Rutledge:** Yes, happy to put that on notice, but the three we put in this year are really to try to get that backlog, whilst we have got the council and external reviewers helping us with the review and including the work of this committee.

**Ms Vassarotti:** We also do have a specific secretariat role for the council, but—

**MR COCKS:** Sorry, is that in addition to the 13 or within the 13?

**Mr Rutledge:** No, within that 13.

**Ms Vassarotti:** Within the 13, but in terms of the question about support to council in terms of the different functions, a range of staff will be providing the advice and support up to council. But I think you were asking a question about specific secretariat—

**MR COCKS:** Those who are responsive to council in particular, so ...(indistinct)...[4.51.00]

**Mr Rutledge:** Yes. Okay.

**Ms Vassarotti:** Yes.

**Mr Rutledge:** I will take that on notice, Mr Cocks, and then put it in writing for you.

**MINISTER Vassarotti:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As of 1 May 2023, ACT Heritage had 15.74 full time equivalents. This includes permanent staff and temporary staff working on the Review.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature: 

Date: 24/5/2023

Minister for Heritage, Ms Rebecca Vassarotti MLA