



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Leanne Castley MLA

Addressed to: Ms Rebecca Cross, Director-General, ACT Health Directorate

In relation to: Mental Health Consumer Network Grant 2

Hearing: **11 February 2025**

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 30

Transcript provided: **14 February 2025**

Answer Due: **21 February 2025 5.00 pm**

Ms Cross took on notice the following question(s):

MS CASTLEY: Can I have a supplementary on that one? So I mean, it is a lot of money over five years to not have to hand. Was the grant provided under a competitive tender process?

Ms Cross: It was a commissioning process around the grants for peak bodies.

MS CASTLEY: And with that—I know you have taken it on notice—can you also let us know what the KPI is for the grant and what sort of review will be undertaken to ensure that the goals were met?

Ms Cross: Yes.

MS CASTLEY: Yes. Okay. Thanks.

Minister Stephen-Smith: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Mental Health Consumer Network (MHCN) is the peak mental health consumer organisation in the ACT and represents the interests of these consumers.

The ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) provided the Deed of Grant to MHCN to support its core activities as a peak organisation. A peak organisation (also known as a peak body) is defined as:

a representative non-government organisation, the primary purpose of which is to provide membership engagement and support, coordination, advocacy and representation, information dissemination services, relevant research, policy and sector development services for the Represented Group and other interested parties.

The MHCN reports on the following outcomes for its grant as a peak organisation/body:

1. The peak body's activity reflects a sound understanding of the issues that impact on the Represented Group.

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2. The Represented Group is supported, informed, engaged, and empowered, including the My Rights My Decision program.
3. The voices and/or needs of the Represented Group are heard and/or reflected in the recipient's policy advice and systemic advocacy.
4. The peak body has influence on issues, policies and programs affecting the interests of the Represented Group, including through research and engagement.

ACTHD receives and reviews annual performance reports from MHCN. This includes monitoring the delivery of outcomes against an annual workplan and includes financial reporting.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date:

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By the Minister for Mental Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith