



Inquiry into Caretaker Conventions

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: MR ANDREW BRADDOCK MLA

Addressed to: CHIEF MINISTER

Redirected to:

In relation to: ACT public service and Caretaker Conventions and Incoming

Government Brief

Hearing: 02/10/2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript page 11-13

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Answer Due: 15/10/2025

ANDREW BARR MLA took on notice the following question(s):

UPT pp 11-13

Mr Barr: Well, on election night it was clear that the Labor Party would win 10 seats, if not 11, that we were in the race for 11; that the Liberal Party could win a maximum of 10, but was likely to win nine; and that the Greens Party certainly had three seats and could have won four, and did in the end, and that the two independents were likely to be elected. And so there were a number of pathways to government for the Labor Party, and negotiations were such that it was reasonable to expect that they would reach a positive conclusion.

MR BRADDOCK: So did you violate the caretaker conventions by accepting that incoming government brief?

Mr Barr: I do not believe so, no.

MS CASTLEY: Because it would have been totally viable for—

MR BRADDOCK: Did your office request that incoming government brief?

Mr Barr: No, I believe it would be standard practice for the public service to have prepared incoming government briefs for both. As I say, a red book and a blue book.

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MR BRADDOCK: So did the Head of Service violate the caretaker conventions by offering you that incoming government brief before there was certainty?

Mr Barr: Well, again, I do not believe so, but again, I will take that on notice on behalf of the Head of Service.

ANDREW BARR MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

See answer to QTON 16.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Caretaker Conventions

Signature:



Date:

17.10.25

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA