



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Tourism and Trade

Reference: CMTEDD EcoDev

Hearing: 14/11/2025

In relation to: Major Events Fund

Question received: 18/11/2025

Answer Due: 01/12/2025

Chief Minister

Major Events Fund

Table 54 of the CMTEDD 2024-25 Annual Report provides the recipients and the funding awarded from the Major Event Fund.

Where are the costs of other events reported, for example:

- Floriade
- Enlighten
- British & Irish Lions Tour match
- Socceroos v New Zealand
- NBL Blitz
- Australian Masters Games
- Spilt Milk at EPIC.

Thank you

Andrew Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Major Event Fund (MEF) supports major events that drive substantial economic impact, engage the community, and enhance Canberra's profile as a tourism destination. Budget is allocated annually to support applications from proponents for funding ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000.

The MEF is a grant program, with successful applicants shown on Table 54: Major Event Fund recipients (page 183) of the CMTEDD 2024-25 Annual Report.

On the other hand, major event acquisition refers to one-off funded events that require bidding or negotiating to secure content in competition with other jurisdictions, typically with a National Sporting Organisation (NSO). Funding is usually reliant on savings or a budget initiative, as no annual budget is in place.

Major event acquisition investments are assessed on their potential to deliver strong economic returns, enhance destination marketing, and provide social and community benefits. This approach ensures that public investment in events maximises value for the ACT and aligns with broader strategic objectives.

The funding amounts associated with event acquisitions are considered *commercial-in-confidence* and are not publicly disclosed. This confidentiality is essential due to the competitive nature of the bidding process, which requires protecting sensitive commercial information and ensuring fairness.

Floriade and Enlighten, two of Canberra's signature events, are delivered by Events ACT through Controlled Recurrent Payments as per Table 5: Accountability Indicators Output 3.1 (page 144) of the CMTEDD 2024-25 Annual Report.

Major event acquisitions, the British & Irish Lions Tour Match, Socceroos v New Zealand, NBL Blitz and Australian Masters Games were also funded through Controlled Recurrent Payments as per Table 5: Accountability Indicators Output 3.1 (page 144).

Funding for Spilt Milk 2025 will appear in the 2025-26 Annual Report.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economics, Industry and Recreation

Signature: 

Date: **2.12.25**

By the Minister for Tourism and Trade, Andrew Barr MLA