



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Dr Marisa Paterson MLA on 31 August 2022: Ms Rebecca Vassarotti MLA took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Uncorrected Proof Transcript 31 August 2022

In relation to: Heritage Review Terms of Reference

DR PATERSON: Just, are the terms of reference public for the [Nous Group] review?

Ms Vassarotti: I think they are. We have certainly—I think we would be able to provide those to you. They are certainly not secret, so we are happy to provide those to you on notice.

REBECCA VASSAROTTI MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

The following Terms of Reference were emailed to the appointed members of the ACT Heritage Council on 16 August 2022 with an accompanying letter from Mr Bren Burkevics, Executive Group Manager, Environment, Heritage and Water Division, Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate.

Terms of Reference for the Review into the Operational Activities of the ACT Heritage Council

Aim

To review and report to the Minister for Heritage on the state of the ACT Heritage Council (the Council), its relationship with ACT Heritage, the impacts on its performance and ability to delivery statutory functions under the *Heritage Act 2014*, and options to address the findings of the review.

Background

On 8 August 2022, the Minister for Heritage Rebecca Vassarotti MLA wrote to appointed members of the Council to advise that a review would be conducted into the operational activities of Council. The Minister noted that the review will “identify the causes of the Council's current situation and provide me with recommendations on courses of action to address the findings.”

Scope

The review will examine and report to the Minister for Heritage on:

- The nature and effectiveness of the relationships between members of the Council.
- The nature and effectiveness of the Council's relationship with ACT Heritage.
- The current performance of the Council and its ability to discharge its functions under the *Heritage Act 2004*.
- Options to address the findings from the review.

The review will not specifically address procedural, administrative, or statutory processes of Council but may note these for future consideration.

Conduct

The Nous Group will undertake the review. Members of Council and staff of ACT Heritage will have the opportunity on a voluntary basis to engage with the review through the form of individual interviews with Nous Group. The Nous Group will also accept written submissions into the review up to the date specified.

Confidentiality

The individual input from members of Council and staff of ACT Heritage will be kept confidential by the Nous Group. The final report from the review will not personally identify members of Council or staff of ACT Heritage unless they so wish.

Report

The report from the review will be provided to the Minister for the Heritage for consideration. This process is expected to be completed in September 2022.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: 9/9/2022

By the Minister for Heritage, Rebecca Vassarotti MLA