



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2023-2024

Mr Mark Parton MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

MR JAMES MILLIGAN MLA: To ask the Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Ref: Output class 4: Emergency Services. Budget Outlook. JACS book D

Hearing Date: 18/07/2023

In relation to: Acton, Molonglo and Casey

- (1) On p.180 of the Budget Outlook, you mention the building of the Molonglo and Casey Fire and Emergency Services Stations.
 - (a) This is the first mention of Casey, when is this to be built?
 - (b) It appears from the text on p. 181 that this is being built to replace the Gungahlin JESC, can you confirm this?
 - (c) What is the timeframe for this building?
- (2) I note that a total of \$66 million was mentioned in the announcement in the paper on the 16th of June, but here it appears there is almost \$68 million.
 - (a) Can you explain why the difference?
 - (b) The \$23 million offset was obviously the provision for the Molonglo station from last years budget – why was this not spent?
 - (c) Given that Acton station has not yet been built, can you guarantee that this timeline for a 2026 completion is realistic?
- (3) With reference to the Acton station – I note on p. 320 of the Budget Outlook that only about \$14 million will be spent on this in the coming year.
 - (a) When will the Acton station be completed?
 - (b) How much additional money has been budgeted from the initial amount quoted?
- (4) I note that the money set aside in the previous two years budgets for the refurbishment of the Gungahlin JESC has yet again been rolled over.
 - (a) Why has this money not been spent?
 - (b) How much longer will it take till ACTAS and the Fire Service can leave this overcrowded and not fit for purpose building?

MICK GENTLEMAN MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- (1)
 - (a) the time frame for the delivery of a new Casey Station is yet to be considered by Government.
 - (b) Casey Station will provide a new location in Gungahlin for ACT Fire and Rescue and the ACT Ambulance Service enabling ACT Policing to occupy the whole of the Gungahlin JESC.

- (c) Current funding is for design and future business case development. The time frame for the delivery of a new Station is yet to be considered by Government.
- (2) (a) The cost of \$67.9 million comprises Molonglo Station (\$66m) and the design of Casey Station (\$1.9m).
(b) Provisioned funding forecasts potential future capital works. In this case, the site due diligence, design and business case development were required prior to the capital works provision being accessed.
(c) Based on the current delivery program and subject to the existing TPV process and industry capacity, delivery of Molonglo Station in 2026 is achievable.
- (3) (a) The expected completion date is August 2024.
(b) Project budget is within the original funded amount of \$40.317 million and no additional funding has been provided.
- (4) (a) The budget appropriation is funding three separate projects that need to be phased in order to deliver the final outcome which will be to provide ACT Policing with occupation of the entire JESC facility. All three projects have critical path activities managed by other Directorates.

Phase 1 - The relocation of RFS and SES from the Gungahlin JESC to a new site in Mitchell

The relocation of RFS and SES to Mitchell was impacted initially by limited commercial leasing opportunities during the Covid-19 pandemic in the Mitchell area. The Territory subsequently identified a site (ACT Health Supplies - building 3) within an ACT Government owned precinct located at 9 Sandford Street in Mitchell for the relocation of RFS and SES services. ACT Health Services were due to vacate the property in May 2023 following the completion of their new facility in Hume, this has now been delayed to November 2023. Once ACT Health Services relocate from the site, the redevelopment work will then be able to commence.

Phase 2 - The interim fit out changes at the JESC for the remaining ACT Policing, ACTAS and ACTF&R

Sketch plan design for the Gungahlin JESC is nearing completion with the engagement of a project manager in August to manage delivery for the works expected later this year.

Phase 3 - Undertaking due diligence to find a new site for ACTAS and ACTF&R in Gungahlin.

An Estate Development Planning process to confirm the site in Casey is currently underway with design procurement due August 2023.

(b) Planning and community consultation is underway for a new location for ACTAS and ACTF&R within the Gungahlin area. The 2023-24 budget includes funding to complete the planning and design stages with a subsequent construction business case to be brought forward through a future budget process, where a definitive delivery timeframe will be determined.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2023-2024

Signature: 

Date: 27/2/2023

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Mick Gentleman MLA