



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

JEREMY HANSON MLA (CHAIR), MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), SUZANNE ORR MLA,
MARK PARTON MLA

Inquiry into referred 2015–16 Annual and Financial Reports ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE 27 February 2017

QON 34* Asked by MR COE:

In relation to: complaints and bullying

1. The State of the Service report indicates that a total of 16 general complaints from employees across the ACT public sector were received in 2015-16 reporting period (page 17). Of that number two matters were not finalised by the end of the reporting period. Have those complaints now been finalised?
2. In 2015-16 there were a total of 117 contacts received by Agency Respect, Equity and Diversity (RED) officers.
 - a. Is this a matter of concern?
 - b. Is bullying and misconduct a major issue in the ACT Public Service?
 - c. List the five agencies that reported the highest number of bullying and misconduct complaints.

CHIEF MINISTER: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. Both matters have now been closed.
2. (a) No. Contacts with RED Contact Officers and Human Resources areas can often be preliminary to seek advice on how best to deal with workplace conflict or whether an experience constitutes bullying and harassment. Feedback indicates that a large proportion of the issues behind initial contacts are resolved at a local level.

(b) Bullying and Harassment is not a major issue in the ACTPS. Nevertheless, eliminating bullying and harassment remains an important issue for the ACTPS, with considerable work progressed during the 2015-16 reporting period to foster positive workplace cultures and promote the ACTPS Signature Values and Behaviours.

(c) The five agencies that reported the highest number of reports of bullying or harassment where a preliminary assessment under Section H of ACTPS Enterprise Agreements was commenced during the 2015-16 financial year were: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, Community Services Directorate, Education Directorate, Health Directorate and Territory and Municipal Services Directorate.

For circulation to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism

Signature:



Date: 20.3.2017

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA