



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Trade, Investment and the Knowledge Economy

Redirected to: Minister for the Public Service

In relation to: Canberra Innovation Network and 1 Moore Street – Asbestos

Hearing: 31 July 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp47

Transcript provided: 3 August 2026

Answer Due: 10 August 2026

Andrew Barr MLA took on notice the following question(s):

MR EMERSON: Yes, I wanted to ask about Canberra Innovation Network. So they are normally on the fourth and fifth floor of 1 Moore Street, currently closed because of asbestos having been found there. But there was significant renovations recently occurred on the fourth floor. Did the government know about the asbestos in the building prior to those renovations? And do you have an asbestos register for all assets like this?

Mr Barr: Well, the short answer is any buildings of that age will contain some asbestos material. That is a reality of older buildings. In terms of the risk register, obviously, this building sits within the Infrastructure Canberra portfolio. So I will take on notice the sort of specific details around what was known, when. As I understand where the potentially troublesome material was found, was not on levels 4 and 5 of the building, no.

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Hazardous materials surveys for 1 Moore Street were completed in August 2019 and updated in February 2024. The February 2024 hazardous materials report and asbestos register identified asbestos-containing materials in the building and were available before the Canberra Innovation Network refurbishment works commenced on Level 4 in October 2024.

The relevant documentation is maintained on site, including within the building's HAZMAT box, and is available to any parties undertaking works on the building.

OFFICIAL

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026-2027

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot.

Date:

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By the Minister for the Public Service, Rachel Stephen-Smith