Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory

2016

Notice Paper

No 2

Wednesday, 14 December 2016

The Assembly meets this day at 10 am

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Notices

*1 MR COE: To move—That this Assembly:
(1) notes regarding the state of the Territory’s finances:
   (a) over the last eight years, revenue has increased by 43 percent but expenses have increased by 61 percent;
   (b) the operating balance in 2015-16 was a deficit of $373 million;
   (c) the operating balance has been in deficit since 2011-12;
   (d) the Territory was a net borrower of $631 million in 2015-16; and
   (e) the Territory has been a net borrower since 2008-09; and
(2) calls on the Government to provide to the Assembly by the last sitting day of this year:
   (a) the Government’s fiscal strategy;
   (b) the year in which the Territory’s net borrowing will cease; and

* Notifications to which an asterisk (*) is prefixed appear for the first time

(c) the year in which the Territory’s UPF net operating balance will be in surplus. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

*2 MS CODY: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes:

(a) that the ACT economy continues to perform strongly in a challenging national and international economic environment;

(b) that the ACT Government used the Territory Budget to support the local economy, and to support jobs, during the Commonwealth’s employment and expenditure cuts;

(c) that this strategy worked, as evidenced by recent economic data showing the strength of the economy:

(i) growth in economic activity, as measured by State Final Demand, in the Territory was the highest in the nation, growing at an annual rate of 6.4 percent;

(ii) growth in the economy, as measured by Gross State Product, in the Territory was the second highest in the nation, growing at an annual rate of 3.4 percent;

(iii) the ACT’s unemployment rate is the lowest in the nation, at 3.4 percent;

(iv) that retail trade is the strongest in the country;

(v) the number of commercial building approvals and residential building approvals are increasing; and

(vi) service exports have increased by 65 percent since 2010, which is well above the national average of 34 percent;

(d) that the Territory retains a AAA credit rating, one of only three State and Territory jurisdictions in Australia to have this highest possible credit rating;

(e) that the ACT Government infrastructure program in the coming four years will be around $2.9 billion;

(f) that the Territory is leading the nation in delivering taxation reform, through abolishing unfair and inefficient taxes;

(g) that commercial stamp duty will be abolished for property transactions valued under $1.5 million from 1 July 2018; and

(h) that by the end of the second stage of taxation reform in 2021-22 stamp duty will be halved for the buyer of a $500 000 home;

(2) further notes:

(a) the risk to this strong economic growth through further Commonwealth expenditure and employment cuts; and
(b) the risk to the ACT’s credit rating by the Commonwealth Government being put on to negative watch by Standard and Poor’s; and

(3) calls on the ACT Government to:

(a) continue supporting the Canberra economy and encouraging jobs growth;

(b) continue providing funding for the world-class services Canberrans deserve and expect, particularly in education and health;

(c) continue taxation reform to make taxes fairer, simpler and more efficient; and

(d) continue to support vulnerable Canberrans. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

*3 MR PARTON: To move—That, in regard to Canberra’s greyhound racing industry, this Assembly:

(1) notes:

(a) that this industry:

(i) generates or attracts in the order of $1.8 million of economic activity for the ACT;

(ii) has over 400 participants in the ACT in addition to those from the surrounding region;

(iii) has more than 50 local people dependent on it for their livelihood; and

(iv) claims a 37 year history of operations without a single allegation being reported;

(b) this Government has provided no evidence of any breaches of conduct or other stipulations placed on it by law or by other agreements or protocols, or evidence of convictions for such;

(c) Canberra’s greyhound racing industry claims a perfect record for protecting animals and fighting cruelty; and

(d) a former Minister for Racing and Gaming has been reported as saying there hasn’t been any evidence that anything inappropriate has occurred in the ACT; and

(2) calls upon the Government to:

(a) explain what conversations and engagement it has had with the ACT greyhound racing industry;

(b) advise this Assembly of the outcome of any consultation it has undertaken;

(c) give the ACT greyhound racing industry a fair go;
(d) allow the ACT greyhound industry the benefit of natural justice that all others in the community are entitled to;

(e) foster this industry to grow and prosper in the way it does for the Canberra Racing Club, the Canberra Harness Racing Club and other sporting and community endeavours in the ACT; and

(f) avoid decisions that would imperil the wellbeing of those Canberrans dependent on the greyhound racing industry and that would deny its patrons a legitimate sporting pastime. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

*4 MR COE: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes, regarding operations of the Land Development Agency (LDA):

(a) the Auditor-General published in a performance audit, Report 7/2016:
   (i) manipulation of documents requested under Freedom of Information;
   (ii) a lack of transparency, accountability and rigour in processes; and
   (iii) major issues around integrity and probity at the LDA;

(b) the former Commonwealth Auditor-General, Ian McPhee, was to conduct a review into the Agency; and

(c) on 29 September, the day before the Auditor-General’s report was published, the Chief Minister announced that the functions of the LDA would be split into two agencies; and

(2) calls on the Government to provide to the Assembly by the last sitting day of this year:

(a) the changes to governance arrangements that have been made since the Auditor-General’s report was published;

(b) the progress of the McPhee review; and

(c) the details of the announced split of functions from the LDA. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

*5 MR STEEL: To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes that Canberra is a progressive and inclusive city;

(2) calls on the ACT Government to continue to deliver its progressive and inclusive policies for the ACT, including:

(a) the continued support and funding for the Safe Schools program in the ACT;

(b) measures to prevent the harassment of women accessing health care services;
(c) establishing a regulatory environment for ride sharing services like Uber;
(d) establishing the 100 percent renewable energy target;
(e) establishing an Office for Mental Health; and
(f) the largest ever investment in the renewal of public housing; and

(3) calls on the Commonwealth Parliament to:

(a) remove the *Euthanasia Laws Act 1997* (Cth) to enable debate on voluntary euthanasia laws in the Territory; and
(b) bring on the debate on marriage equality for a free vote in the Commonwealth Parliament. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

*MRS JONES:* To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes regarding significant security failings at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) that:

(a) there have been a number of security breaches at the AMC over the last two years;
(b) in May 2015 inmates posted footage of a fight within the gaol to social media;
(c) in May 2015 using mobile phones inmates found to be posting selfies on Facebook;
(d) in May 2016 a prisoner died whilst in custody at the gaol; and
(e) in September 2016 two prisoners escaped from the gaol;

(2) also notes that:

(a) over the eight years of operation the gaol has had the following reviews including recommendations undertaken into its performance:

(i) the Hamburger Review in 2011;
(ii) the Burnet Review in 2011;
(iii) the Auditor-General’s report into rehabilitation of male detainees in 2015;
(iv) the Human Rights Commissioner’s report into human rights compliance of the care of female detainees; and
(v) the Justice and Community Safety Committee reported into sentencing, looking at some of the throughcare and other issues around detainees sentencing and release;

(b) overcrowding and capacity issues are ongoing;
(c) detainees participation and completion rates of training courses or therapy are unfortunately low; and
(d) industry placements for job training are extremely limited at present; and

(3) calls on the Government to:

(a) collate the recommendations of all the abovementioned reports and publish a list of all recommendations detailing those recommendations which have:

(i) been undertaken and completed;
(ii) commenced being worked upon; and
(iii) not yet been acted upon; and

(b) report this information annually to the Assembly via the Justice and Community Safety Committee. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A)

EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

There are no notices or orders of the day.

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

Notices

*1 MR GENTLEMAN: To move—That, unless the Speaker fixes an alternative day or hour of meeting on receipt of a request in writing from an absolute majority of Members, or the Assembly otherwise orders, the Assembly shall meet as follows for 2017:

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MR GENTLEMAN: To move—That standing order 254A be amended as follows: Omit paragraphs (a) and (b), substitute:

“(a) tabled within four months of the presentation of the report; or
(b) provided to the Speaker for out of session circulation to Members within four months of the presentation of the report and tabled by the Minister on the next day of sitting”. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

MR GENTLEMAN: To move—That:

(1) a select committee be established to inquire into the most effective and efficient model of an independent integrity commission for the ACT and that the committee make recommendations on the appropriateness of adapting models operating in other similarly-sized jurisdictions, as well as:

(a) the personnel structure of the commission to ensure the appropriate carriage of workload;
(b) governance and funding that delivers independence;
(c) the powers available to a commission;
(d) the educative functions of a commission;
(e) issues regarding retrospectivity, including human rights, and the timeframes around which former actions can be assessed;
(f) the relationship between any commission and existing accountability and transparency mechanisms and bodies in the ACT; and
(g) any other relevant matter;

(2) the select committee shall consist of the following number of members, composed of:
(a) two Members to be nominated by the Government;
(b) two Members to be nominated by the Opposition;
(c) one Member to be nominated by the Crossbench; and
(d) the Chair shall be a Crossbench member;
(3) the select committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources;
(4) the select committee to report by the end of August 2017;
(5) if the Assembly is not sitting when the committee has completed its inquiry, the committee may send its report to the Speaker or, in the absence of the Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, who is authorised to give directions for its printing, publishing and circulation;
(6) the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders; and
(7) nominations for membership of the committee be notified in writing to the Speaker within two hours following conclusion of the debate on the matter.

(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

*4 MR GENTLEMAN: To move—That:

(1) a select committee be established to review the operation of the 2016 ACT election and the Electoral Act and other relevant legislation and policies in regards to election-related matters, and make recommendations on:
   (a) lowering the voting age;
   (b) improving donation rules and donation reporting timeframes;
   (c) increasing voter participation in elections and encouraging political activity; and
   (d) any other relevant matter;
(2) the select committee shall consist of the following number of members, composed of:
   (a) two Members to be nominated by the Government;
   (b) two Members to be nominated by the Opposition;
   (c) one Member to be nominated by the Crossbench; and
   (d) the Chair shall be a Government Member;
(3) the select committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources;
(4) the select committee is to report by the last sitting day in 2017;
(5) if the Assembly is not sitting when the committee has completed its inquiry, the committee may send its report to the Speaker or, in the absence of the
Speaker, to the Deputy Speaker, who is authorised to give directions for its printing, publishing and circulation;

(6) the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders; and

(7) nominations for membership of the committee be notified in writing to the Speaker within two hours following conclusion of the debate on the matter. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

**MR STEEL:** To move—That this Assembly:

(1) notes:

(a) that the employment rate of people with disability in the ACT Public Service is 2.2 percent as at June 2016; and

(b) that the Australian Human Rights Commission report, *Willing to Work: National Inquiry into Employment Discrimination Against Older Australians and Australians with Disability* found the ACT to be the only jurisdiction with an increase in the employment of people with disability over the 2013-15 period;

(2) further notes that the ACT Government’s new Office for Disability and Disability Reference Group has been established to provide strategic policy advice on disability issues; and

(3) resolves that the Standing Committee on Health, Ageing and Community Services shall conduct an inquiry into the employment of people with a disability in the ACT, to report back to the Assembly by the end of 2017 with reference to:

(a) the implementation of the ACT Public Service Disability Employment Strategy;

(b) the effectiveness of current attraction and retention programs in the ACT Public Service and private enterprise;

(c) data collection, monitoring and reporting mechanisms;

(d) relevant experiences and learnings from Australian State, Commonwealth and international jurisdictions;

(e) the applicability to the ACT Public Service, of recommendations and findings from the report *Employing people with disability in the APS* published by the University of Canberra; and

(f) any other relevant matter. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*
MR STEEL: To move—that this Assembly:

(1) notes the Mitchell Institute Report *Preschool—Two Years are Better Than One—Developing a universal preschool program for Australian 3 year olds—evidence, policy and implementation*; and

(2) resolves that the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs conducts an inquiry into the value of universal access to early childhood education, including evidence around the benefits to children of starting preschool at age three. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

MR PETTERSSON: To move—that the matter of enrolments and capacity in Canberra public schools, including Priority Enrolment Areas and other factors affecting demand on schools, and any related matters, be referred to the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs for inquiry and report. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

MS ORR: To move—that the matter of the interaction of housing types, market settings and land release with changes in consumer behaviour and the goal of achieving greater housing affordability be referred to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal for inquiry and report. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

MS CODY: To move—that the matter of evidence and best practice around prevention and early intervention programs in the prevention of domestic and family violence and any other related matters be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety for inquiry and report. *(Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).*

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Notice

MR RATTENBURY: To move—that this Assembly:

(1) notes:

(a) climate change impacts will have serious environmental, health and economic consequences for the ACT;
(b) the Australian Government has signed and ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change, which requires it to try and limit the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C;

(c) the Australian Government has approved the construction of the massive Carmichael coal mine and is considering providing financial support for the project through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility; and

(d) facilitating the construction and operation of the Carmichael coal mine is radically contrary to the Government’s commitment to the Paris Agreement and the imperatives to mitigate climate change; and

(2) opposes the construction of the proposed Carmichael coal mine, and opposes the contribution of any Federal Government support to the proposed Carmichael coal mine and related infrastructure. (Notice given 13 December 2016. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on within 4 sitting weeks—standing order 125A).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

On the first sitting day of a period of sittings a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only new and redirected or revised questions are included on the Notice Paper.

Unanswered questions

1-3.

M M Kiermaier
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND TO PETITION

(in accordance with standing order 100)

14 March 2017

Cannabis medicines—Safe and adequate access—Attorney-General—Petition lodged by Mr Rattenbury (Pet 1-16).
COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for the life of the Ninth Assembly. The dates of the amendments to the committees’ resolution of appointment are reflected, but not changes in the membership.

Standing

Pursuant to standing order

ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURE: (Formed 31 October 2016): The Speaker (Chair), Ms Cheyne, Mr Rattenbury, Mr Wall.

Pursuant to resolution

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mr Hanson, Ms Orr, Mr Parton, Mr Pettersson.

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mrs Kikkert, Mr Pettersson, Mr Steel, Mr Wall.

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Cheyne, Mr Doszpot, Ms Orr, Mr Parton.

HEALTH, AGEING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Mrs Dunne, Mrs Kikkert, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Pettersson, Mr Steel.

JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Cody, Mrs Jones, Ms Lee, Mr Steel.

PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL—STANDING COMMITTEE: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Cheyne, Ms Lawder, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Milligan, Ms Orr.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: (Formed 13 December 2016): Ms Cody, Mr Coe, Mrs Dunne, Mr Pettersson.