

Gonczarek, Melinda

From: Speaker
Sent: Thursday, 18 August 2022 3:39 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Cc: Burch, Joy; Duncan, Tom; Agostino, Julia; Gonczarek, Melinda
Subject: FW: Letter for Commissioner Agius from Madam Speaker
Attachments: Letter to Speaker - Update on Consultation.pdf; Combined feedback.pdf; OLA COVID-19 Risk Register V2.docx; Letter Commissioner Agius 180822.pdf

Dear Committee,

Please find attached correspondence which has been sent to the WorkSafe Commissioner.

Regards
Joy Burch MLA

From: Speaker
Sent: Thursday, 18 August 2022 3:35 PM
To: Agius, Jacqueline <Jacqueline.Agius@worksafe.act.gov.au>; O'Connor, Meaghan <Meaghan.O'Connor@worksafe.act.gov.au>
Subject: Letter for Commissioner Agius from Madam Speaker

Dear Commissioner,

Please find attached correspondence in relation to Prohibition Notices N-000005068 and N-0000005078 served on the ACT Legislative Assembly.

Joy Burch MLA
Speaker





Speaker

Ms Jacqueline Agius
Work Health and Safety Commissioner
Worksafe ACT
Canberra Nara Centre
3 Constitution Avenue
CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email: jacqueline.agius@worksafe.act.gov.au

Dear Ms Agius

Prohibition Notice in relation to activities of the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

I am writing to you in relation to Prohibition Notices issued to me under section 195 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011, on Friday, 12 and 15 August 2022. The latter notice purports to prohibit the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 (the Committee) from holding in person hearings at the Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory until a risk assessment has been undertaken, adequate control measures are implemented in line with the Hierarchy of Control, and consultation has been undertaken with all affected workers.

The Committee has written to me today to advise that it has met the terms of your Prohibition Notice. See attached correspondence.

I ask that you now lift the Prohibition Notice without further delay, and I seek confirmation of the lifting of the notice by 12pm tomorrow, Friday 19 August 2022. This will allow the Committee to notify witnesses and proceed with the important business of scrutinising the budget, to commence from Monday, 22 August 2022.

Please note that I reserve the right to pursue legal action in relation to the issuing of the Prohibition Notice, as per my earlier correspondence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy Burch".

Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
18 August 2022



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

Ms Joy Burch MLA
Speaker
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
By email: joy.burch@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Madam Speaker,

Select Committee on Estimates 2022–2023: Update on Consultation Undertaken

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chair of the Select Committee on Estimates 2022–2023 (Committee).

The Committee met today and resolved to update you on its work health and safety consultations with PCBUs to assist you in your correspondence with WorkSafe ACT.

You will be aware that, out of an abundance of caution, the Committee has written to invited Ministers, Officers of the Assembly, Statutory Office Holders, and yourself to consult on its plans to conduct hearings in the Assembly Chamber. The Committee has seen high levels of participation from its consultation, receiving positive and constructive feedback on hearing safety.

Minister Gentleman has responded representing all Ministers in their capacity as PCBUs. The Minister has provided input to the consultation process for consideration by the Committee. The Minister has requested that supporting officials be allowed to attend hearings online. The Committee will not consider this request until the Prohibition Notice has been lifted. This is because it is the Committee's priority to commence hearings with principal witnesses under its proposed model without the delay the minister's proposal would entail.


The Committee has also requested the Office of the Legislative Assembly to consult with the 26 PCBUs relevant to it and engage with its Health and Safety Committee for comments by affected workers.

A full list of those the Committee has consulted with directly is set out below:

- All ACT Government Ministers
- The Office of the Legislative Assembly
- The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
- The Director of Public Prosecutions
- The ACT Human Rights Commissioner
- The Auditor-General
- The CEO of Legal Aid ACT
- The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment
- The Electoral Commissioner
- The Inspector of Correctional Services
- The ACT Ombudsman
- The Inspector of the Integrity Commission
- The Public Trustee and Guardian
- The Solicitor-General

The Committee has resolved to provide you with all available feedback it has received from these witnesses, which has been provided in a separate attachment along with the Committee's Risk Assessment.

Yours sincerely,



James Milligan MLA
Chair
18 August 2022

Thompson, SamuelR

From: Emy Yoneda <Emy.Yoneda@ombudsman.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 1:56 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Cc: ACT Ombo; Adele Morey
Subject: RE: [External] Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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OFFICIAL

Hi Samuel

Thank you for your email.

We understand the reasons for the proposed arrangements and will cooperate with the Committee as required. We would like to request that officials be permitted to attend remotely via video conference to ensure the ACT Ombudsman is appropriately supported to answer the Committee's questions.

Could you please let me know if this is possible?

We have no further input into the COVID register.

Thank you

Emy Yoneda

Strategy Officer, ACT Strategy and Coordination | Program Delivery Branch

ACT OMBUDSMAN

OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN

Email: emy.yoneda@ombudsman.gov.au

Website: ombudsman.act.gov.au



Influencing systemic improvement in public administration

I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the ACT. I acknowledge & respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city & region.

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2022 7:32 PM
To: Emy Yoneda <Emy.Yoneda@ombudsman.gov.au>
Cc: ACT Ombo <actombo@ombudsman.gov.au>; LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Subject: [External] Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear ACT Ombudsman,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch
P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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The Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, culture and community. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

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Thompson, SamuelR

From: Commisso, Taylah
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 7:31 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Cc: Smith, Caroline
Subject: RE: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear Mr Milligan MLA

The Auditor-General thanks you for your consultation and has no other comment on the proposed arrangements including the Risk Register.

Kind regards
Taylah

Taylah Commisso | Executive Officer to the ACT Auditor-General

Phone: (02) 6207 4280 | **Email:** taylah.commisso@act.gov.au
ACT Audit Office | Auditor-General An Officer of the ACT Legislative Assembly
Nara Centre, Level 4, 3 Constitution Avenue, Canberra | PO Box 275 Civic Square ACT 2608 | www.audit.act.gov.au

The ACT Audit Office acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and pays respect to the elders; past, present and future. The Office acknowledges and respects their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2022 7:33 PM
To: Harris, MichaelL <MichaelL.Harris@act.gov.au>
Cc: Commisso, Taylah <Taylah.Commisso@act.gov.au>
Subject: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear Auditor-General,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch
P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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Communications from the ACT Audit Office may contain protected information for the purposes of Part 5A of the Auditor-General Act 1996 (ACT).

Thompson, SamuelR

From: John Boersig <John.Boersig@legalaidact.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 1:33 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Subject: RE: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Good afternoon.

We have our COVID protocols in place. It includes outreach and attendance at sites outside our office, which are not inconsistent with your risk register.

No further comment.

John

John Boersig
Chief Executive Officer
Executive

Legal Aid ACT

2 Allsop Street Canberra 2601
Phone: 02 6243 3455
Fax: 02 6243 3423
John.Boersig@legalaidact.org.au
www.legalaidact.org.au

Legal Aid ACT respectfully acknowledges the traditional land owners whose land we are working on today and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Aboriginal people who draw their ancestral lines from this land.

Please consider the environment - do you really need to print this email?

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2022 7:35 PM
To: John Boersig <John.Boersig@legalaidact.org.au>
Cc: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Subject: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear Dr Boersig,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch
P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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Thompson, SamuelR

From: Reichstein, Megan on behalf of Lewis, Sophie
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 3:09 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Subject: FW: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair
Attachments: Commissioner for Sustainability - Consultation - 16 August 2022.pdf; OLA COVID-19 Risk Register V2.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

To: Mr James Milligan, MLA
Chair, Select Committee on Estimates 2022-23

Dear Mr Milligan

Following receipt of your letter of 16 August 2022, I wish to confirm that I believe that comprehensive consideration has been given in relation to the COVID risks associated with witness appearances at Estimates, and that the necessary preventive procedures have been identified as described in the Risk Register.

I would preference online for simplicity but am not overly worried about COVID under these arrangements.

Kind regards
Sophie



ACT Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

Our Reference:
Your Reference:

17 August 2022

Mr James Milligan MLA
Chair
ACT Legislative Assembly Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Via email: lacommitteeestimates@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Milligan

Thank you for your letter dated 16 August 2022 and attached Risk Register, in consultation of in-person appearances at Estimates hearings for 2022-2023.

I confirm that I have read the attached COVID-19 Risk Register, and I am confident that the COVID risks of in-person attendance are appropriately identified and mitigated. Accordingly, I would be happy to appear as a witness at Estimates hearings at the ACT Legislative Assembly in-person.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Shane Drumgold', written in a cursive style.

Shane Drumgold SC
Director - ACT Director of Public Prosecutions

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair)
Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Milligan

Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 – Hearing Consultation

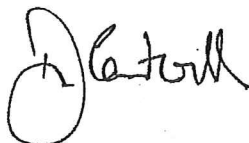
Thank you for your letter of 16 August 2022 seeking feedback about the proposed conduct of the upcoming Estimates hearings in light of WorkSafe ACT's Prohibition Notice.

I have reviewed the information contained in your letter as well as the identified risks and controls in the accompanying COVID-19 risk register. As an Independent Statutory Office Holder and witness at the hearings, I am comfortable that the measures you have outlined including limits on the number of witnesses and moving the hearings to the larger Legislative Assembly Chamber are all positive steps to ensure the ongoing safety and wellbeing of participants. As such, I have no issues of concern with the Committee's proposal.

I understand that the schedule of hearings will be updated in the coming days and as part of this consultation process, wish to advise that I am unavailable next Monday 22 August and Tuesday 23 August 2022 due to pre-existing commitments.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the consultation process.

Yours sincerely



Damian Cantwell AM CSC
Electoral Commissioner

17 August 2022

cc: LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au

Thompson, SamuelR

From: Watchirs, Helen
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 3:47 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Cc: Budavari, Rosemary; Acton, Jenny
Subject: RE: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

Hi Samuel

Thank you for letter from Chair of Estimates Committee, James Milligan MLA and offer to consult on your Risk Register.

In relation to the controls for the hazard of lack of mask wearing, we suggest that you clarify signage regarding good hygiene practices by including wording about masks being required unless the person is speaking, that there is a process to apply for an exemption from mask wearing for medical or other reasons, or to make alternative arrangements for remote participation if a person cannot wear a mask. Another control for this hazard would be to ensure that there are supplies of masks available at the entry to the LA building and hearing room.

Please note that my role includes President of the HRC – under s12(2) of the *Human Rights Commission Act 2005* the President is the Human Rights Commissioner.

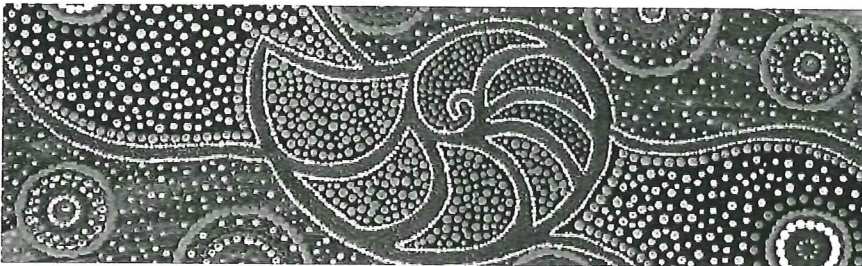
Regards, Helen.

Dr Helen Watchirs OAM

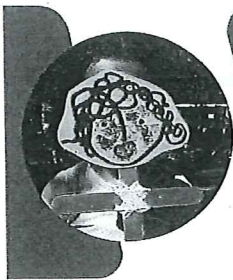
ACT President and Human Rights Commissioner
Level 2, 11 Moore Street
Canberra City ACT 2601

Tel (02) 6205 2222
Fax (02) 6207 1034

The ACT Human Rights Commission's website is at www.hrc.act.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the ACT and their continuing connection to land and community. I pay my respects to them and their culture, and to their elders past, present, and future. Artwork by Lynnice Keen, Ngunnawal artist.



Have your say about racism!

Do you know a child or young person with something to say about racism in the ACT?

They can scan the QR code or go to actkids.act.gov.au to answer a short survey and share their views.



From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, August 16, 2022 7:30 PM
To: Watchirs, Helen <Helen.Watchirs@act.gov.au>
Subject: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear Human Rights Commissioner,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch

P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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Thompson, SamuelR

From: McAllister, Neil
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 7:57 AM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Subject: RE: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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OFFICIAL

Dear Samuel

Thank you for inviting to comment on this "issue". I have no concerns about the risk register but, for what it's worth, I have major concerns about the intervention of WorkSafe ACT in the workings of the Legislative Assembly. I have attended a number of estimates and annual report hearings and do not consider that the hearings room or adjacent waiting areas pose any greater COVID exposure risk than any other place where people gather (offices, shops, restaurants, bars, clubs, etc.). I visit a major hospital regularly and I can enter without vaccination proof (which I have) and am only required to wear a mask indoors.

I would have been very happy to appear in-person this week regardless of WorkSafe ACT's fear mongering.

Regards

Neil

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2022 7:41 PM
To: McAllister, Neil <Neil.McAllister@act.gov.au>
Cc: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Subject: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear Mr McAllister,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch
P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Our Ref: (TRIM REF)

Mr James Milligan MLA
Chair,
Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

By email:

Dear Mr Milligan,

Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Thank you for your letter of 16 August about the sitting arrangements for the Committee's impending hearings.

Whilst I naturally defer to the Committee's views about who should be witnesses and, of course, will be attending myself, I have discussed the issue of their possible attendance with the Commission's CEO (Mr John Hoytink) and Chief Financial Officer (Mr Scott Hickey), having brought to their attention the Risk Register. Each has assured me that, if it could be useful, they would be happy to attend, taking the necessary safety precautions.

Having regard to the complexity in some respects of the Commission's budgetary position, it would be helpful to me if it were possible for Messrs Hoytink and Hickey to attend.

Please let me know if this can be achieved.

Yours sincerely,



The Hon Michael F Adams QC
Commissioner

17 August 2022



Mick Gentleman MLA

Manager of Government Business
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety

Member for Brindabella

James Milligan MLA

Chair
Select Committee on Estimates 2022-23
ACT Legislative Assembly
CANBERRA ACT 2601
By email: LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Chair *JAMM*

Thank you for your letter about Select Committee of Estimates 2022-2023 - Hearing Consultation and for the opportunity to provide feedback on the arrangements in place to manage the Estimates Hearings 2022-2023 in a COVID safe manner.

I have consulted with, and am responding on behalf of all Ministers.

I can confirm that Ministers have advised they will be available to attend hearings in person commencing from Monday 22 August, subject to compliance with quarantine and isolation requirements as directed by ACT Health.

To assist the functionality of the Committee process and the effectiveness of questioning, Ministers request that facilities be available for relevant ACTPS officials to appear online at the Hearings. Ministers consider this step would comply with the Prohibition Notice currently in force, given there would be no transmission risk to participants appearing in this way.

Ministers also advise that to assist the Committee they would be able to conduct quick consultation with relevant Directors-General and Deputy Directors-General to attend in person, when the Committee considers this possible.

ACT Legislative Assembly London Circuit, GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601

 +61 2 6205 0218  gentleman@act.gov.au

 @GENTLEMANMick

 MickGentleman

 mick.gentleman

Ministers further request that the Committee Secretariat provide indicative times for sections within portfolios, to allow the efficient attendance of Directors-General or Deputy Directors-General in person (when the Committee considers that possible) and other officials online.

For example, two hours were originally set down for the hearings on Economic Development and Tourism. If the Committee Secretariat was able to advise if that comprises approximately one hour for each section, it would practically assist any required movement in and out of the hearing room. Similarly, the portfolios of Water, Energy and Emissions reduction could require significant physical or online movement of officials, so indicative time splits would assist this process.

In addition to the above, I seek confirmation of the intent of the reference to 'statutory office holders' in your correspondence. I seek clarification from the Committee that this is limited to Officers of the Assembly, and is not intended to capture public servants who also hold statutory office positions.

I also note that due to the delay in the commencement of Hearings, and the necessary rescheduling of the first week, that the Committee Secretariat be mindful of pre-existing Ministerial commitments and travel in the course of Government duties. Could the Committee Secretariat please consult with Ministers on their availability before settling on appearance times.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback to make our hearings safe and productive. As noted previously, the Government stands ready to assist you in any way it can.

Yours sincerely


Mick Gentleman MLA
Manager of Government Business

17/03/2022

Thompson, SamuelR

From: Taylor, Andrew
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 12:10 PM
To: LA Committee - Estimates
Cc: Hughes, Callum; Toy, Kathryn; Connolly, Helen; Burn, Gregory
Subject: RE: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

UNOFFICIAL

Thanks...we have no comments and are OK to attend in person...

Cheers
Andrew

ANDREW TAYLOR PUBLIC TRUSTEE AND GUARDIAN

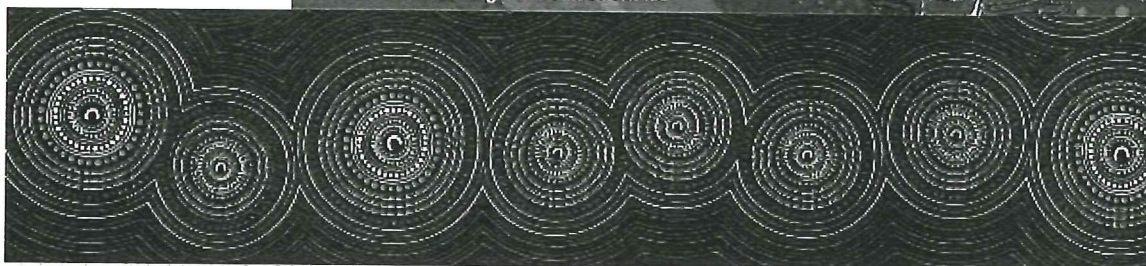
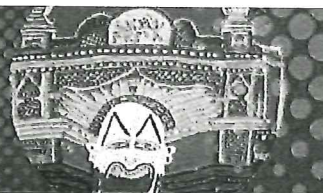


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☎ (02) 620 79800 | www.ptg.act.gov.au
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RENEWAL: PUTTING RIGHTS INTO PRACTICE



20 - 21 October 2022
Pullman Melbourne Albert Park | Online
www.agacconference.com.au



**We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people
We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make
to the life of this city and this region**

Artwork by Ngarrindjeri artist Jordan Lovegrove

Due to an increase in the number of staff being impacted by illness, the Public Trustee and Guardian is currently experiencing critical staff shortages.

Whilst every effort is being made to action your requests, things are taking longer to resolve. We thank you for your patience.

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 9:54 AM
To: Taylor, Andrew <andrew.taylor@act.gov.au>
Cc: Hughes, Callum <Callum.Hughes@act.gov.au>; LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>; Toy, Kathryn <Kathryn.Toy@act.gov.au>; Connolly, Helen <Helen.Connolly@act.gov.au>; Burn, Gregory <Gregory.Burn@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

UNOFFICIAL

Dear Andrew

Thankyou for this advice, and acknowledging your intention to attend next Wednesday 24 August with Callum Hughes.

I take it from your response that you and Callum have no comments on the proposed arrangements and the risk register, but if you do please let us know by 5pm today.

Thanks for letting us know about your availability regarding the call back sessions again, we have advised the Committee on this.

Regards

Kathleen de Kleuver

Committee Secretary | Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety
Office of the Legislative Assembly for the ACT
P (02) 620 70524 | E LACommitteeJCS@parliament.act.gov.au



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From: Taylor, Andrew <andrew.taylor@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 17 August 2022 9:41 AM

To: de Kleuver, Kathleen <Kathleen.deKleuver@parliament.act.gov.au>

Cc: Hughes, Callum <Callum.Hughes@act.gov.au>; Toy, Kathryn <Kathryn.Toy@act.gov.au>; Connolly, Helen <Helen.Connolly@act.gov.au>; Burn, Gregory <Gregory.Burn@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

UNOFFICIAL

Hi again Kathleen

As Public Trustee and Guardian, I will attend the Wednesday hearing in person (along with Deputy PTG Callum Hughes) on Wednesday, 24 August 2022 from 12.15pm to 1.00pm, unless advised otherwise.

I will be interstate when the possible carryover sessions may be heard on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th and will not be accessing emails.

Can I please ask that, should the Committee require carryover sessions on the Thursday and/or Friday, you contact Callum Hughes at PTG on Mob 0402603 804 or by email to callum.hughes@act.gov.au who will coordinate attendance by the other witnesses who are on standby (all copied to this email).

I have attached the witness form I previously sent with details of witnesses for Wed/Thurs and Fri.

Cheers
Andrew

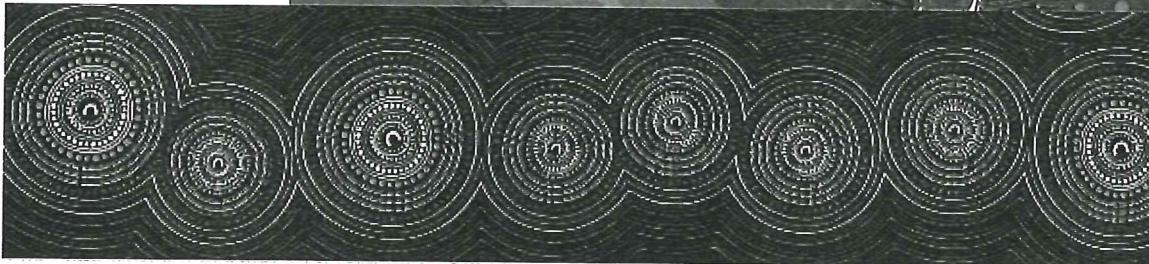
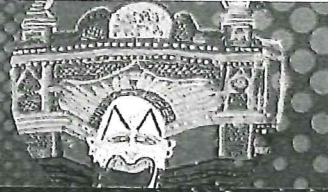
ANDREW TAYLOR PUBLIC TRUSTEE AND GUARDIAN



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20 - 21 October 2022
AGAC Pullman Melbourne Albert Park | Online
www.agacconference.com.au



**We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people
We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make
to the life of this city and this region**

Artwork by Ngarrindjeri artist Jordan Lovegrove

Due to an increase in the number of staff being impacted by illness, the Public Trustee and Guardian is currently experiencing critical staff shortages.

Whilst every effort is being made to action your requests, things are taking longer to resolve. We thank you for your patience.

From: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 16 August 2022 7:46 PM

To: Taylor, Andrew <andrew.taylor@act.gov.au>

Cc: LA Committee - Estimates <LACommitteeEstimates@parliament.act.gov.au>

Subject: Estimates Hearings - Letter from Chair

Dear Mr Taylor,

Please find attached a letter to you on behalf of the Chair of the Select Committee for Estimates 2022-23.

Regards,

Samuel Thompson

Committee Secretary | Committee Support Office | Parliamentary Support Branch
P (02) 620 50435 | E SamuelR.Thompson@parliament.act.gov.au



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**Solicitor-General for the
Australian Capital Territory**

Our Reference

Contact
Peter Garrison
6207 0654
peter.garrison@act.gov.au

17 August 2022

Mr James Milligan MLA
Chair
Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023
Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: committees@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Milligan

Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 – Hearing Consultation

Thank you for your letter of 16 August 2022 and the attached Risk Register.

I am happy to attend a hearing of the Committee in person in accordance with the Committee's proposal. I have no comments on the Risk Register.

Yours sincerely

Peter Garrison AM SC
Solicitor-General



Speaker

Mr James Milligan
Chair, Select Committee on Estimates
ACT Legislative Assembly
By email: lacommitteeestimates@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr Milligan

Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 – Hearing Consultation

I refer to your letter of 16 August 2022, regarding consultation for the 2022-23 select committee on estimates.

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the committee's risk assessment. I am comfortable with the approach the committee has taken. I wish to advise that from Friday 19 August 2022, I will be absent from the country on CPA business returning on 01 September 2022.

I will be available to the committee from the afternoon of the 1 September.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy Burch".

Joy Burch MLA
Speaker

17 August 2022

COVID-19 Risk Register: ACT Legislative Assembly Hearing 2022-23

Location: ACT Legislative Assembly Building

Date: 16/08/2022

Hazard	What is the harm that the hazard could cause?	What is the likelihood that the harm would occur?	What is the level of risk?	What controls are currently in place?	Are further controls required?
Transmission of COVID-19 from staff or other attendees who are infected	Staff or other attendees catching COVID-19 (could result in serious illness or death).	Medium, new infections are declining and ACT community has a very high vaccination rate.	Moderate, while infections are declining consequences may be severe, especially if unvaccinated.	<p>Cleaning and disinfecting in accordance with guidance from Safe Work Australia and public health authorities.</p> <p>Frequently touched surfaces including desks, handrails, doors, phones, keyboards etc are regularly cleaned.</p> <p>Desks are wiped clean with surface wipes after each use.</p> <p>Physical distancing – room has markings to keep workers and other attendees at least 1.5m apart. Room occupancy limits consistent with public health directions are in place and signs placed around the precinct advising of these.</p> <p>Alcohol based hand sanitiser is provided at entry points to the building and available in meeting rooms.</p> <p>Posters on good hygiene practices and physical distancing are prominent in Assembly building and hand washing facilities are available in the bathrooms.</p> <p>The Assembly Office has increased fresh air intake into the building through the HVAC system from 30% to 50%.</p>	<p>A reminder by the Chair of the committee witnesses, and others, practice good hand and respiratory hygiene.</p> <p>Mandated mask wearing except when speaking.</p>
Staff or attendees attending workplace with COVID 19 or other flu like symptoms	Staff or attendees catching COVID-19 (could result in serious illness or death).	Medium, new infections are declining and ACT community has a very high vaccination rate.	Moderate, while infections are declining consequences may be severe, especially if unvaccinated.	<p>Cleaning and disinfecting in accordance with guidance from Safe Work Australia and Health authorities.</p> <p>Frequently touched surfaces including desks, handrails, doors, phones, keyboards etc are regularly cleaned.</p> <p>Staff have been briefed on symptoms of COVID-19 and have been told to stay home if they aren't feeling well.</p> <p>Signage is displayed at entry</p>	

Hazard	What is the harm that the hazard could cause?	What is the likelihood that the harm would occur?	What is the level of risk?	What controls are currently in place?	Are further controls required?
Inadequate arrangements for addressing a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the precinct	Staff or attendees catching COVID-19 (could result in serious illness or death).	Medium, new infections are declining and ACT community has a very high vaccination rate.	Moderate, while infections are declining consequences may be severe, especially if unvaccinated.	<p>alternative arrangements can be made, including attending remotely.</p> <p>The Office has increased fresh air intake into the building through the HVAC system from 30% to 50%.</p> <p>Signage is displayed at entry points reminding staff and building attendees of the importance of staying home when experiencing flu like symptoms.</p> <p>Secretariat will maintain a record of all attendees at hearings and approximate timeframes of appearances.</p> <p>If a witness has a health condition that would classify them as vulnerable to risk of exposure, alternative arrangements can be made, including attending remotely.</p> <p>The Office has increased fresh air intake into the building through the HVAC system from 30% to 50%</p> <p>Process as outlined by ACT Health in the case of exposure will be followed.</p>	
Lack of mask wearing	Staff or attendees catching COVID-19 (could result in serious illness or death).	Medium, new infections are declining and ACT community has a very high vaccination rate.	Moderate, while infections are declining consequences may be severe, especially if unvaccinated.	<p>Cleaning and disinfecting in accordance with guidance from Safe Work Australia and Health authorities</p> <p>Staff have been briefed on symptoms of COVID-19 and have been told to stay home if they aren't feeling well.</p> <p>Signage is displayed at entry points reminding staff and building attendees of the importance of staying home when experiencing flu like symptoms.</p> <p>Posters on good hygiene practices and physical distancing are prominent in Assembly building and hand washing facilities are available in the bathrooms.</p> <p>Soap and water for hand washing and paper towel or air dryer for hand drying is available in bathrooms with instructional signs on hand washing.</p> <p>If a witness has a health condition that would classify them as vulnerable to risk of exposure,</p>	

Hazard	What is the harm that the hazard could cause?	What is the likelihood that the harm would occur?	What is the level of risk?	What controls are currently in place?	Are further controls required?
social distance requirements	catching COVID-19 (could result in serious illness or death).	has a high knowledge and compliance record.	have been adequately informed of requirements – generally a high level of knowledge and compliance in the community.	<p>Safe Work Australia and Health authorities</p> <p>Signage is displayed at entry points reminding staff and building attendees of the importance of staying home when experiencing flu like symptoms.</p> <p>Posters on good hygiene practices and physical distancing are prominent in Assembly building and hand washing facilities are available in the bathrooms.</p> <p>If a witness has a health condition that would classify them as vulnerable to risk of exposure, alternative arrangements can be made, including attending remotely.</p> <p>The Office has increased fresh air intake into the building through the HVAC system from 30% to 50%.</p>	

