

2025

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

**Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office Holders - Report No. 2 -
Inquiry into the Effectiveness of Transparency Arrangements for Members of the Legislative
Assembly**

Government Response

**Presented by
Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
December 2025**

Introduction

On 9 April 2025, the ACT Legislative Assembly requested that its Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office Holders inquire into the transparency arrangements for Members, including the publication of:

- Travel for Members;
- Member's diaries;
- Members staffing expenditure; and
- Any other relevant matter.

The ACT Government acknowledges and thanks the Standing Committee for their report following their inquiry into the effectiveness of transparency arrangements for Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee has made four recommendations, with one recommendation for the ACT Government, and one finding. In this response, the ACT Government has noted three recommendations, noted one finding, and has agreed to one recommendation relating to the publication of Annual Report Directions.

The ACT Government remains committed to transparency in its annual reporting and ensuring that our practices strengthen the integrity of the Government and alignment with contemporary best-practice in other jurisdictions. The Government's response to each of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee is detailed on the following page.

Response to recommendations made by the Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office holders

RECOMMENDATION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
Recommendation 1 The Committee recommends that the Clerk write to all entities on the ACT Register of Lobbyists, reminding them of the ACT Lobbyist Code of Conduct and Regulation Guidelines, and noting that these may differ from the Commonwealth and other state and territory requirements.	Noted This is a recommendation to the Clerk, an independent Office of the Legislative Assembly.
Recommendation 2 The committee recommends that the ACT Integrity Commission, as part of its inquiry into lobbying, examine the feasibility of requiring registered lobbyists to report on their meetings with both executive and non- executive Members	Noted This is a recommendation to the ACT Integrity Commission, an independent Office of the Legislative Assembly.
Finding 1 The Committee finds that no case has been made for the publication of non-executive Members' diaries.	Noted This is a recommendation to the Legislative Assembly. The Government believes that parliamentary transparency would be significantly enhanced by all Members of the Legislative Assembly declaring relevant lobbying and stakeholder influence over legislative decision making.
Recommendation 3	Agreed

RECOMMENDATION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
The Committee recommends that the ACT Government include instructions on the inclusion of ministerial staffing expenditure in the Annual Report Directions which align with those produced by the Office of the Legislative Assembly for the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.	Following a motion in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 9 April 2025, the Chief Minister agreed to publish the staffing expenditure for Executive members in all future Annual Reports¹.
Recommendation 4 The Committee recommends that the Office of the Legislative Assembly examine whether it would be feasible to publish details of travel on Assembly or official business undertaken by non-executive members of their staff at least quarterly, instead of twice yearly.	Noted This is a recommendation to the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

¹ ACT Legislative Assembly, Minutes of Proceedings, No.15, 9 April 2025. Section 16