



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Vicki Dunne MLA (Chair), Tara Cheyne MLA (Deputy Chair)
Nicole Lawder MLA, Bec Cody MLA



Inquiry into the Appropriation Bill 2019-2020 (No 2)

Answer to Question Taken on Notice

The Committee asks ministers to provide Answers to Questions Taken on Notice within 5 working days of receipt of the Uncorrected Proof Transcript, where Day One is the first working day after the hearing.

Question taken on notice by Vicki Dunne MLA on 28 February 2020, p. 34-35 of the Proof Transcript:

THE CHAIR: In relation to what was just south of \$6 million from the 2018-19 SPIRE budget, who was responsible for ensuring the rollover?

Mr Edghill: In terms of the mechanics of it, we work with treasury and with Health to make sure that that happens.

THE CHAIR: So you are responsible for the rollover. Has there been a rollover of that nearly \$6 million unexpended from 2018-19, or will there be a rollover of that?

Mr Edghill: Yes. My understanding is that the money has already been rolled over. If I need to correct that, I will take it on notice and come back to you.

THE CHAIR: As far as I know, as of 19 November it was not. I asked this question on notice a couple of weeks ago.

Mr Miners: The normal process of a rollover would be that the relevant agency would write to the Treasurer seeking that; it would come through to treasury for advice; and we would provide advice on whether it was appropriate to roll that over or not. I cannot remember exactly where that process is at, but that would be the normal process that would take place.

THE CHAIR: There may be a time when you think that it is not appropriate to roll it over and you would give that money up?

Mr Miners: Yes.

THE CHAIR: Who makes that decision? Treasury?

Mr Miners: Ultimately the Treasurer would make that decision.

THE CHAIR: The Treasurer, on the advice of treasury?

Mr Barr: On advice, yes.

THE CHAIR: On notice, I would like clarification of where that money is.

Mr Barr: Yes; we will take that on notice

The Answer to Question Taken on Notice by Andrew Barr MLA as Chief Minister in connection with Major Projects Canberra, Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, considered in hearings of 28 February 2020 is as follows:

Government appropriation is provided on an annual basis through the Appropriation Act. Funding not expended at end of a financial year does not automatically lapse. However, in order to access those funds, Ministers must seek the Treasurer's agreement to roll that appropriation into the following financial year pursuant to Section 16B of the *Financial Management Act 1996* (FMA).

On 5 March 2020, unspent funds of \$6.240 million were rolled over from 2018-19 to 2019-20 for the delivery of the SPIRE project. Of those funds, \$916,000 was retained by the ACT Health Directorate, with the remaining \$5.324 million transferred to Major Projects Canberra.

In accordance with the FMA, the instruments will be tabled along with the March Quarter Consolidated Financial Report.

Signed



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

10.3.20