



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

ELIZABETH KICKERT MLA (CHAIR), MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), ANDREW BRADDOCK
MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by **MR CAIN** on 10 March 2021:

Ref: OLA Annual Report 2019-20, Library Usage

In relation to:

1. Page 109 of the Annual Report records expenditure of \$69,000 in 2020-21 on library materials. What does this cover?
2. How many reference or research requests does the Library receive over a twelve-month period?
3. Does the Parliamentary library participate in inter-library loan arrangements with either other parliamentary libraries or the ACT Public Library?

MADAM SPEAKER: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. This amount covers the library's electronic and print subscriptions for journals, research databases, media monitoring, and Trove membership which includes the LADD interlibrary loan services.
2. Reference/research requests for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-2020 is in Table 33 on page 76 of the Annual Report (see table below.) While the overall number of queries has reduced in the last three years, the complexity of the queries and time required to answer them is increasing. The number of queries also fluctuates from year to year.

Table 33: Reference and information services

Service	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Number of reference requests for information— Assembly clients	222	169	152
Number of reference requests for information— ACT government clients	66	48	76
Number of reference requests for information— other clients	40	49	43

3. The library is a member of the National Library of Australia's Libraries Australia Document Delivery (LADD) system, as are the ACT public libraries and all state and territory parliamentary libraries. The library also has reciprocal borrowing agreements (although not necessarily through LADD) with all specialised ACT Government libraries (CHS Library, JACs, Russell Fox Courts Library)

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature:



By Joy Burch MLA, Speaker

Date:

22.3.2021