



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

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Nicole Lawder MLA: To ask the Minister for the Arts

Ref: <https://www.arts.act.gov.au/policy/economic-overview-of-the-arts-in-the-act>

In relation to: Economic Impact of the Arts in the ACT

1. Minister the 'Economic Impact of the Arts in the ACT' page on the ArtsACT websites most recent statistic is from June 2014. Why hasn't this been updated?
2. What data has been collected by this government since June 2014 relating to the economic impact of the arts in the ACT?
3. Why hasn't there been a focus on collecting and promoting data that demonstrates the economic impact of the arts in the ACT?
4. Minister how can you expect Canberra to become the Arts Capital of Australia when you aren't actively collecting and measuring the economic impact of the arts in the ACT?

TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

1. The artsACT website includes a link to the *Economic Overview of the Arts in the ACT* under the Policy and Publications tab. This was a one-off report released in June 2015.
2. Data regarding the arts ecosystem in the ACT including employment, revenue generated (from live performances) and visitation is available on the [artsACT website](#), and is updated as various sources become available.

The Government recently commissioned the University of Canberra to undertake an analysis of the ACT's creative industries to identify the ACT's competitive advantage, and opportunities for future jobs creation and the sustainable economic development of the sector. This research is expected to be concluded by the end of 2022.

The ACT Government is trialling the collection of high-level economic data through the recent Creative Recovery and Resilience Program including number of artists and arts workers employed.

Where appropriate the ACT Government seeks to leverage national research and data collection. For example, the ACT Government contributes to Audience Outlook Monitor research undertaken by the Australia Council for the Arts, Patternmakers and WolfBrown to produce ACT specific data. The Government is also working with the Australia Council for the Arts on the next iteration of the National Arts Participation Survey to boost the sample size for the ACT.

3. The ACT Government is committed to improving its understanding of the economic impact of the arts however, this impact can be challenging to measure. On 28 July 2022, the ACT Government released [Canberra: Australia's Arts Capital - Arts, Culture and Creative Policy 2022-26 and Action Plan](#). The Policy and Action Plan commit to exploring how to better measure and communicate the cultural, social and economic outcomes of the Government's investment in the arts.
4. [Canberra: Australia's Arts Capital - Arts, Culture and Creative Policy 2022-26 and Action Plan](#) commits to actions that will demonstrate and promote the cultural, social and economic impact of arts, culture and creative industries. This includes contributing to national data and research initiatives to grow its collective understanding of the arts and working with local organisations to collect and share data to strengthen cultural development.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: 9/9/22

By the Minister for the Arts, Tara Cheyne MLA