



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs

Reference: HCSD

Hearing: 10 November 2025

In relation to: Budget challenges

Question received: 12 November 2025

Answer Due: 25 November 2025

1. Why is it that the Directorates concerns (reflected in briefings to the Minister) about the impact of government decisions on your ability to deliver Housing services, not reflected in the annual report?
2. Who decided that those concerns should not be reflected in the annual report?
3. Why is appropriate for your concerns about funding to be edited out of the annual report?
4. What should Canberrans infer about your commitment to honesty and transparency if your views are not honestly reflected in your annual report?
5. I note in your question time briefs to the Minister you refer to offsetting as a strategy and the Minister in her response to my question without notice on 30 October 2025 referred to discussions with you about “disemploying people”. Can you describe how a downsizing strategy will improve your budget situation?
6. I note you have made recommendations to government about insourcing of a number of areas of Public Housing management. How will insourcing save money?

Ms Yvette Berry: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

- 1-3. The delivery of Annual Reports are the responsibility of government directorates, not Ministers.

The then Community Services Directorate’s 2024-25 Annual Report is fully compliant with the ACT Government’s 2024-25 Annual Report Directions.

4. The ACT Government is committed to honesty and transparency. The information provided in Annual Reports is informed by the Annual Report Directions, is transparent and contains factual reporting on the directorate’s activities.

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5. The Health and Community Services Directorate is required to operate within its defined budget. Various strategies may be deployed to ensure business units are operating within their budgets.
6. The commitment to insourcing public housing repairs and maintenance is intended to drive better value for money for the Territory long term through greater and holistic oversight of service standards and in parallel, provide secure, fair employment opportunities.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'Y' or 'B' shape with a loop at the top and a long, sweeping tail that curves back towards the start.

Date:

19/12/25

By the Minister for Homes, Homelessness and New Suburbs, Ms Yvette Berry MLA