



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Chief Minister

Redirected to:

Reference: CMTEDD CMCD

Hearing: 20 November 2025

In relation to: Private sector investments for community infrastructure

Question received: 2 December 2025

Answer Due: 5 December 2025

What investments in sport and recreation facilities (excluding gyms), aquatic facilities and creative industry facilities, community centres have been provided by the private sector?

- which ones have been handed back to the ACT Government?
- which ones are owned by the private sector in a stand-alone facility?
- which ones are owned by the private sector as part of a mixed-use development managed by a strata manager and an executive committee?

Andrew Barr MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The provision of sport and recreation facilities, including aquatic centres, has historically been delivered by a wide range of private sector organisations and continues to be so. In the ACT, this includes contributions from the ACT Government, the Australian Government, tertiary institutions, private schools, licensed clubs, not-for-profit organisations, and registered businesses.

The ACT Government does not maintain a consolidated list or database of investments made by external groups or individuals in Canberra, nor is there a requirement to do so. Much of this information may be commercially sensitive or not readily shared by the private sector. Additionally, some investment decisions for sport and recreation facilities date back many years, including periods prior to Self-Government.

Examples of sport and recreation facilities developed by the private sector include:

- Aquatic facilities such as learn-to-swim and program pools (e.g., Stellar Canberra, Aquatots Swim School). The Canberra International Sports and Aquatic Centre (CISAC) in Belconnen was developed by the private sector with funding support provided by the ACT Government through the provision of a grant.
- Facilities owned or operated by state sporting organisations and clubs, including ACT Netball Centre, ACT Hockey Centre, Woden Squash Centre, National Capital Motorsports Clubs, golf clubs, rowing clubs, and lawn bowling clubs.
- Private school facilities, such as those at Radford College, Marist College, and Canberra Grammar School.
- Commercial and privately-owned facilities, including Weston Indoor Sport, Action Indoor Sports Kambah, and Zone Bowling.

Many organisations and registered businesses choose to provide sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of their stakeholders or members (e.g., licensed clubs, universities, private schools) or to respond to specific market opportunities (e.g., establishing a swim school). A range of land ownership and tenure models also apply. For example, some organisations hold land under a Crown Lease and have developed facilities on that land, while others operate under commercial lease or licence arrangements (e.g., certain gymnastics clubs, Canberra Racquet Club, ACT Futsal, BMX clubs).

In some cases, sport and recreation facilities are initially delivered by the private sector and later transferred to the ACT Government for ongoing maintenance (e.g., Crace Community Recreation Park).

The following table lists facilities iCBR currently lease:

Facility	Location (street address)	Built by (Public, Private or Community) *Note only if we can readily find the information – I take built by to be funded by.	Managed by (Government, Private or Community)	Current Purpose (how is it used)
Griffin Centre	20 Genge Street Canberra City	Griffin Centre (or Griffin Community Centre) in Canberra's Civic area was a result of significant private sector involvement as part of the Section 84 development,	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable rooms

OFFICIAL

		integrating retail, commercial, housing, and community spaces with government planning		
Downer Community Centre	Unit 4/6 Frencham Place Downer	Built in 1941 the former workshop for CS&IR - the forerunner of the CSIRO.	Downer Community Association	Community tenancies and hireable space
Erindale Neighbourhood Centre	1 Comrie Street Wanniasa	ACT Government 1985	Tuggeranong Uniting Church	Community tenant and hireable space
Gungahlin Community Centre	47 Ernest Cavanagh Street Gungahlin	Constructed in 1998 through a private sector partnership – Leda Holdings and the Marketplace Group as part of the Marketplace project.	Communities@Work	Community tenant and hireable space
Holt Community Hub (former Holt Primary School)	80 Beaurepaire Crescent Holt	ACT Schools, ACT Government	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable hall
Hughes Community Centre	2 Wisdom Street Hughes	National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) in the 1960s	Council on the Ageing (COTA)	Community tenant and hireable space
Majura Community Centre	4 Rosevear Place Dickson	ACT Government, purpose built facility in the 1990's	Northside Community Service	Community tenant and hireable space
Ngunnawal Neighbourhood Centre	40 Yarrawonga Street Ngunnawal	ACT Government	Communities@Work	Community tenant and hireable space
Nicholls Community Centre	30 Kelleway Avenue Nicholls	Developed through government grants (Stronger Communities), community groups like <u>Community Services of Gungahlin Inc.</u> and local businesses, and	Community Services of Gungahlin	Community tenant and hireable space

OFFICIAL

		Indigenous contributors		
Southside Community Centre (former Narrabundah Primary School)	63 Boolimba Crescent Narrabundah	Commonwealth Government 1952	Community Services #1	Community tenancies and hireable space
Tuggeranong Community Centre	Cowlishaw Street Greenway	ACT Government	Communities@Work	Community tenant and hireable space
Tuggeranong Youth Centre	43 Pitman Street Greenway	ACT Government	Communities@Work	Community tenant and hireable space
Woden Youth Centre	29 Callam Street Phillip	ACT Government	Woden Community Service	Community tenant and hireable space
Belconnen Community and Youth Centre	23 Swanson Court Belconnen	ACT Government	Capital Region Community Service	Community tenant and hireable space
Civic Youth Centre	30 Scotts Crossing Canberra City	ACT Government	YWCA	Community tenant
Cook Community Hub (former Cook Primary School)	41 Templeton Street Cook	Commonwealth Government 1969	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable hall
Flynn Community Hub (former Flynn Primary School)	21 Bingle Crescent Flynn	Commonwealth Government 1974	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable hall
Gordon Community Centre	110 Lewis Luxton Circuit Gordon	ACT Government	Anglicare	Community tenant and hireable space
Lanyon Community Centre	22 Sidney Nolan Street Conder	ACT Government	YWCA	Community tenant and hireable space
Maitland Centre/House (former Hackett Primary School)	100 Maitland Street Hackett	The contract for building the former <u>Hackett Primary School</u> in Canberra was awarded to J. Fletcher Co P/L in 1963, with the school	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies

OFFICIAL

		opening its doors in May 1966		
Mt Rogers Community Centre (former Spence Primary School)	55 Crofts Crescent Spence	Commonwealth Government 1977	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies
Tuggeranong 55 Plus Club Centre	Cowlishaw Street Greenway	ACT Government, purpose built 2013	Tuggeranong 55 Plus Club Inc.	Community tenant and hireable space
Janelle Burns Centre (PTY BID: 1329)	Cowlishaw Street Greenway	ACT Government	Tuggeranong 55 Plus Club Inc.	Community tenant and hireable space
Weston Community Hub (former Weston Primary School)	6 Gritten Street Weston	Commonwealth Government 1971	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable hall
Weston Creek Community Centre	12 Whitney Place Weston	Lobbying by the Weston Creek Community Association (WCCA), with construction happening as part of the broader Cooleman Court development in the late 1970s, opened in 1978, with developer Lend Lease building it as part of their deal 1978	Weston Creek Community Association	Community tenant and hireable space
Erindale Business Park (former John Knight Hostel)	4 Lansell Circuit Wanniassa	Designed and constructed in stages by landscape architecture firm Denton Corker Marshall Pty Ltd, with work beginning in 1980 and final completion in 1987	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies
Forde Community Centre	26 Francis Forde Boulevard Forde	Forde Developments covered construction costs and the ACT Government funded the fit-out in 2012	Capital Woodlands and Wetlands	Community tenant and hireable space

OFFICIAL

Salthouse Community Centre (former Parks Depot)	Henty Street Braddon	Original build Commonwealth Government. Building refurbishment funded by ACT Government 2023	Northside Community Service	Community tenant and hireable space
Grant Cameron Community Centre (former Holder High School)	27 Mulley Street Holder	Commonwealth Government 1975	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies
Gratton Court Centre (former Erindale Police Station)	2 Grattan Court Wanniassa	Existing building within the Erindale Centre complex that was adapted for use as a police station in the late 1990s	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies
Gugan Gulwan Youth Centre	36 Grattan Court Wanniassa	ACT Government 2025	Gugan Gulwan Youth Aboriginal Corporation	Community tenant (hireable?)
Pearce Community Centre (former Pearce Primary School)	7 Collet Place Pearce	Commonwealth Government 1967	Pearce Community Centre	Community tenancies and hireable space
Chifley Community Hub (former Melrose Primary School)	70 Maclaurin Crescent Chifley	Commonwealth Government 1966	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies and hireable space
Isabella Plains Neighbourhood Centre	123 Ellerston Avenue Isabella Plains	ACT Government	Tuggeranong Link	Community tenant and hireable space
Chisholm Community Centre	15 Halley Street Chisholm	ACT's planning for suburban amenities by bodies like the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC) 1986	Tuggeranong Link	Community tenant and hireable space
Blaxland Centre (former Griffith Primary School)	21 Blaxland Crescent Griffith	Commonwealth Government 1955	iCBR ACT Government	Community tenancies
Ainslie Arts Centre (former Ainslie School)	30 Elouera Street Ainslie	Commonwealth Government 1938	Arts Capital Limited	Rehearsal, tuition and performance spaces for hire,

OFFICIAL

				supported office accommodation.
Belconnen Arts Centre	118 Emu Bank Drive Belconnen	ACT Government 2009	Belconnen Arts Centre Incorporated	Multi-arts precinct – hireable venue with theatre, function spaces, gallery, office spaces
Canberra Contemporary Arts Space	44 Queen Elizabeth Terrace Parkes	Single building built by an organization established by a merger in 1987	Canberra Contemporary Arts Space Inc	Art Gallery
Canberra Glassworks	11 Wentworth Avenue Kingston	Commonwealth Government 1913	Canberra Glassworks Limited	Workshops, studios, visitor experiences, retail shop
Fitters Workshop	21 Wentworth Avenue Kingston	Commonwealth Government 1916	Infrastructure Canberra	Venue for hire for arts related activities
Former Transport Depot	21 Wentworth Avenue Kingston	Commonwealth Government 1926	Infrastructure Canberra	Old Bus Depot Markets under licence + venue for hire
Gorman Arts Centre	55 Ainslie Avenue Braddon	Commonwealth Government 1924	Arts Capital Limited	Gallery, workshops, performance spaces, office spaces and meeting rooms, artist studios, future cafe
Manuka Arts Centre (former Griffith Child Welfare Centre)	Cnr. NSW Crescent and Manuka Circle Griffith	Commonwealth Government 1937	PhotoAccess Incorporated	Photography studio and gallery, community radio
Megalo Studio	21 Wentworth Avenue Kingston	Commonwealth Government 1926	Megalo Access Arts Incorporated	Printing studio, gallery, offices and retails spaces

OFFICIAL

Nissen Hut	Kambah	Australian Defence, Commonwealth Government 1916	Tempo Theatre	Storage space for props, costumes, sets
Strathnairn Arts (former homestead)	90 Stockdill Drive Belconnen	Built by Jack Read in the early 1900's	Strathnairn Arts Association Inc	Gallery, artists in residence, workshops, spaces for hire for arts activities, café,
Street Theatre	Cnr Childers Street and University Avenue Acton	ACT Government 1994	The Stagemaster Inc	Performance program and spaces, creative programs, café / bar
Tuggeranong Arts Centre	137 Reed Street Greenway	ACT Government purpose built in 1998	Tuggeranong Community Arts Associate Inc	Dance studios, galleries, live performance program, art workshop, theatre
Watson Arts Centre (former fire station)	1 Aspinall Street Watson	Constructed by the Commonwealth Government in the 1960s. Purpose built upgrades by ACT Government 2011	Canberra Potters Society	Ceramics production, exhibitions, retail space, workshops
Canberra Olympic Pool	Allara St, Canberra City	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility
Dickson Pool	Cowper St, Dickson	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility
Erindale Leisure Centre	McBride Cres, Wanniassa	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility and Theatre

OFFICIAL

Gungahlin Leisure Centre	The Valley Way, Gungahlin	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility
Lakeside Leisure Centre including Southside Hydrotherapy Pool	Anketell St, Greenway	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility and Hydrotherapy Pool
Manuka Pool	New South Wales Cres, Griffith	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Big Island Sports.	Aquatics Facility
Stromlo Leisure Centre	David McInnes Road	Public	Government with Service Agreement for Operational Management with Belgravia Leisure.	Aquatics Facility

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Administration

Signature: 

Date: **23.1.26**

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA