****

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE**

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**2016–2017–2018–2019–2020**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**No 137**

[**Thursday, 13 August 2020**](http://www.hansard.act.gov.au/hansard/2020/links/download.htm)

|  |
| --- |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**1** The Assembly met at 10 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Ms J. Burch) took the Chair and made the following acknowledgement of country in the Ngunnawal language:

Dhawura nguna, dhawura Ngunnawal.

Yanggu ngalawiri, dhunimanyin Ngunnawalwari dhawurawari.

Nginggada Dindi dhawura Ngunnaawalbun yindjumaralidjinyin.

*This is Ngunnawal Country.*

*Today we are gathering on Ngunnawal country.*

*We always pay respect to Elders, female and male, and Ngunnawal country.*

The Speaker asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

**2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That leave of absence be granted to Ms Cody for today due to illness.

Question—put and passed.

**3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER**

Mr Wall moved—That leave of absence be granted to Mrs Jones for today due to illness.

Question—put and passed.

**4 Petitions, e-PETITIONs AND MINISTERIAL RESPONSES—PETITIONS AND RESPONSES NOTED—PAPERS**

**Petitions**

The Clerk announced that the following Members had lodged petitions for presentation:

Ms Cody, from 334 and 263 residents, respectively, requesting that the Assembly allocate resources to continue to develop community facilities in Farrer by opening and maintaining a public toilet, with associated security infrastructure, at the Farrer Nature Play and Bike Track (Pet 15-20 and e-Pet 10-20).

Pursuant to standing order 99A, these petitions stand referred to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services.

Ms J. Burch, from 808 residents, requesting that the Assembly call on the ACT Government to conduct a thorough and inclusive community engagement on any proposed development at Chisholm Village, considering the impact on the health and wellbeing of the community, small businesses, cafes and food outlets, and parking and traffic and the changes proposed in the reconsideration of the development (e‑Pet 12-20).

Pursuant to standing order 99A, this petition stands referred to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal.

Miss C. Burch, from 3 residents, requesting that the Assembly assist, where possible, in the reinstatement of the Transport Canberra bus services for Symonston (Pet 14-20).

**Ministerial responses**

The Clerk announced that the following responses to petitions had been lodged:

Ms Berry (Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development), dated 1 August 2020—Response to petition No 8-20, lodged by Ms Lee on 7 May 2020, concerning the closure of schools during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Ms Berry (Minister for Housing and Suburban Development), dated 5 August 2020—Response to petition No 9-20, lodged by Mr Wall on 18 June 2020, concerning proposed redevelopment in Durham Place, Chisholm.

Mr Steel (Minister for City Services), dated 11 August 2020—Response to petition No 7-20, lodged by Ms Orr on 7 May 2020, concerning proposed playground safety in Ngunnawal.

Mr Steel (Minister for City Services), dated 12 August 2020—Response to petition No 7-20, lodged by Mrs Kikkert on 7 May 2020, concerning water refill stations and express container recycling facilities at Kippax and Charnwood shops.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Speaker proposed—That the petitions and responses so lodged be noted.

*Paper:* Ms J. Burch, by leave, presented the following paper:

Petition which does not conform with the standing orders—Chisholm Village—Proposed redevelopment (207 signatures).

*Paper:* Miss C. Burch, by leave, presented the following paper:

Petition which does not conform with the standing orders—Symonston—Reinstatement of bus services (139 signatures).

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**5 City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Amendment Bill 2020**

Mr Barr (Chief Minister), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency Act 2017*.

*Paper:* Mr Barr presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Barr moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Debate adjourned (Mr Wall) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**6 Sexuality and Gender Identity Conversion Practices Bill 2020**

Mr Barr (Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality) and Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act about conversion practices relating to sexuality and gender identity, and for other purposes.

*Paper:* Mr Barr presented the following paper:

Explanatory statement to the Bill, incorporating a compatibility statement, pursuant to section 37 of the *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Title read by Clerk.

Mr Barr moved—That this Bill be agreed to in principle.

Mr Rattenbury, as co-sponsor, spoke to the question.

Debate adjourned (Mrs Dunne) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**7 PLASTIC REDUCTION BILL 2020—EXPOSURE DRAFT—PAPERS AND STATEMENT BY MINISTER—PAPER—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Steel (Minister for Recycling and Waste Reduction) presented the following papers:

Plastic Reduction Bill 2020—Exposure draft—

Exposure draft.

Explanatory statement—

and, by leave, made a statement in relation to the papers.

*Paper:* Mr Steel presented the following paper:

Plastic Reduction Bill 2020—Exposure draft—Copy of tabling statement—

and moved—That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question—put and passed.

**8 Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee (Legislative Scrutiny Role)—SCRUTINY REPORT 48—STATEMENT BY MEMBER**

Mr Gupta, by leave, presented the following report:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee (Legislative Scrutiny Role)—Scrutiny Report 48*,* dated 11 August 2020, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and, by leave, made a statement in relation to the report.

**9 Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee—REPORT 9—Youth Mental Health in the A.C.T.—report noted**

Mr Pettersson (Chair) presented the following report:

Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee—Report 9—*Youth Mental Health in the ACT,* dated 10 August 2020, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings—

and moved—That the report be noted.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**10 Administration and Procedure—Standing Committee—INQUIRY—REVIEW OF THE APPLICATION OF SECTION 65 OF THE SELF-GOVERNMENT ACT—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms J. Burch (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure was unable to complete its inquiry into Section 65 of the Self-Government Act and would encourage the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure of the Tenth Assembly to finalise a report and make recommendations to the Assembly about the practices and principles that ought to prevail.

**11 Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee—CONSIDERATION OF STATUTORY APPOINTMENTS—STATEMENT BY CHAIR—PAPER**

Mr Pettersson (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A and Continuing Resolution 5A, made a statement concerning consideration of statutory appointments by the Standing Committee on Education, Employment and Youth Affairs.

*Paper:* Mr Pettersson, pursuant to Continuing Resolution 5A, presented the following paper:

Education, Employment and Youth Affairs—Standing Committee—Schedule of Statutory Appointments—9th Assembly—Period 1 January to 30 June 2020.

**12 Planning and Urban Renewal—Standing Committee—Petition 5-20—WESTON BLOCK 2 SECTION 75—CARPARK TO BE BUILT ON CFZ LAND—STATEMENT BY CHAIR**

Ms Le Couteur (Chair), pursuant to standing order 246A, informed the Assembly that, following consideration of petition 5-20 concerning a carpark proposed to be built on Community Facility Zoned parkland adjacent to Cooleman Court and homes in Watling Place, Weston, and the Minister’s response, the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal had resolved not to hold an additional inquiry at this time.

**13 EXECUTIVE business—precedence**

Ordered—That Executive business be called on forthwith.

**14 Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate adjourned (Mr Hanson) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**15 Education Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

*Paper:* Ms Berry (Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development) presented a revised explanatory statement to the Bill.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to—put and passed.

**16 Adoption Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

*Detail Stage*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

Mrs Kikkert was granted leave to move an amendment that had not been considered or reported on by the Scrutiny Committee.

On the motion of Mrs Kikkert, her amendment No 1 (*see* [Schedule 1](#Schedule1)) was made, after debate.

*Paper:* Mrs Kikkert presented a supplementary explanatory statement to her amendment.

Bill, as a whole, as amended, agreed to.

Question—That this Bill, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

**17 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were asked.

**18 PAPERs**

Mr Steel (Minister for Roads and Active Travel), having added to an answer to a question without notice, presented the following papers:

Monaro Highway road signage—Copy of photos (2).

**19 PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

The Speaker, pursuant to standing order 191, presented the following paper:

Standing order 191—Amendments to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Amendment Bill 2020, dated 3 and 4 August 2020.

**20 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) presented the following papers:

Children and Young People Act, pursuant to subsection 727S(5)—ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee—Annual Report 2019, dated 16 June 2020, together with a statement.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)—ACT Government response—Update, dated 13 August 2020.

Costing Election Commitments 2020—Guidelines.

COVID-19 Pandemic Response—Select Committee—*Interim Report 3*—Government response, dated August 2020.

Entertainment zones—Noise levels—Government response to the resolution of the Assembly of 31 July 2019—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Minister for Planning and Land Management, dated 31 July 2020.

Estimates 2019-2020—Select Committee—Report—*Appropriation Bill 2019-2020 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2019-2020*—Recommendation 84—Status of the building defects and any associated warranty matters at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children—Update, dated 13 August 2020.

Health, Ageing and Community Services—Standing Committee—

Report 9—*Interim Report on Child and Youth Protection Services (Part 1)*—Government response, dated 31 July 2020.

Report 10—*Report on Inquiry into Maternity Services in the ACT—*Government response, dated 13 August 2020.

Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication Scheme—Implementation—Report—1 January to 30 June 2020.

Our Booris, Our Way Review—Recommendations—Government response, dated July 2020.

Parking infringement fines—Government response to the resolution of the Assembly of 12 February 2020—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Minister for Planning and Land Management, dated 7 August 2020.

Planning and Development Act, pursuant to subsection 161(2)—Statement—Exercise of call-in powers—Development applications Nos—

201936662—Block 25 Section 72 Dickson, dated 7 August 2020.

202037196—Blocks 22 and 25 Section 72 Dickson, dated 7 August 2020.

Single-use plastics—Government response to the resolution of the Assembly of 31 October 2018—Copy of letter to the Speaker from the Chief Minister.

Supportive housing—Government response to the resolution of the Assembly of 24 October 2019.

Transport Action Plan—Quarterly update—Number 4, dated August 2020—Response to resolution of the Assembly—Network19—Weekend bus services.

**Subordinate legislation**

Legislation Act, pursuant to section 64—Rates Act—Rates (Instalment Dates) Determination 2020—Disallowable Instrument DI2020-233 (LR, 11 August 2020), together with its explanatory statement.

**21 Planning and Development Act—StatementS—eXERCISE OF CALL-IN POWERS—Development applications Nos 201936662—Block 25 Section 72 Dickson and 202037196—Blocks 22 and 25—Section 72 Dickson—PAPERs NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following papers:

Planning and Development Act, pursuant to subsection 161(2)—Statement—Exercise of call-in powers—Development applications Nos—

201936662—Block 25 Section 72 Dickson, dated 7 August 2020.

202037196—Blocks 22 and 25 Section 72 Dickson, dated 7 August 2020.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**22 Our Booris, Our Way Review—Recommendations—Government response—PAPER NOTED**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Our Booris, Our Way Review—Recommendations—Government response, dated July 2020

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

**23 Supportive housing—Government Response to the resolution of the Assembly—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Supportive housing—Government response to the resolution of the Assembly of 24 October 2019.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned (Mrs Dunne) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**24 Health, Ageing and Community Services—Standing Committee—Report 10—Report on Inquiry into Maternity Services in the A.C.T.—Government response—motion to take note of paper**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business), pursuant to standing order 211, moved—That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Health, Ageing and Community Services—Standing Committee—Report 10—*Report on Inquiry into Maternity Services in the ACT*—Government response, dated 13 August 2020.

Debate adjourned (Mrs Dunne) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**25 Affordable housing—Strategies**

Mr Coe (Leader of the Opposition), pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. notes, regarding the cost of housing in Canberra:
   1. the ACT has a unique ability to control traditional state government and local council levers;
   2. the median price of detached houses in Canberra rose as follows:
      1. 2012—$483 000;
      2. 2016—$623 000; and
      3. 2020—$819 000; and
   3. that the increasing cost of housing is placing high demands on public and community housing; and
2. calls on the Government to provide an update to the Assembly, by the last sitting day of this term, with a detailed update on the following:
   1. the progress of the ACT Housing Strategy;
   2. the Government’s strategy to address the lack of affordable rental accommodation; and
   3. the planned number of high, medium and low density sites to be released for each of the next five years.

Debate ensued.

Ms Berry (Minister for Housing and Suburban Development) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

“(1) notes that:

* 1. over this term of the Assembly, the ACT Government has implemented a range of measures to support Canberrans to buy their first home in Canberra:
     1. introduced a 15 percent affordable housing target to set aside land for affordable, community and public housing;
     2. reviewed the affordable home purchase scheme to require affordable properties built under the scheme to be offered to eligible Canberrans at set price points;
     3. is reducing stamp duty to lower the upfront costs of buying a home and removing stamp duty for eligible first home buyers; and
     4. is releasing land focusing on infill development to protect our natural environment, parks and reserves from future development; and
  2. during the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic circumstances, the Government has implemented a range of further urgent measures to support Canberra homeowners, including:
     1. a 0 percent average residential rates increase this financial year and providing a $150 rebate to the fixed charge component of all 2020-21 rates bills;
     2. scrapping stamp duty on new single residential blocks for owner-occupiers, as well as off-the-plan apartment and townhouse purchases of up to $500 000, until July next year; and
     3. reducing stamp duty on off-the-plan apartment and townhouse purchases by owner-occupiers between $500 000 and $750 000 by $11 400 over the same period;

1. further notes that:
   1. on 26 November 2019, the ACT Housing Strategy Year One Report Card was tabled in the Legislative Assembly to update on the progress of the Strategy and Implementation Plan;
   2. the ACT Government has a strong program of investment in public and community housing;
   3. on a per capita basis, the ACT invests more in public housing growth and renewal than any other jurisdiction, with $1 billion over the 10 years from 2015;
   4. the current public housing growth and renewal program has been extended and will now add at least 260 new homes to the public housing portfolio and renew at least 1000 homes over six years;
   5. for every 1000 people in Canberra, there are:
      1. 27 public or community housing dwellings, the second highest ratio in Australia and above the national average of 17 dwellings; and
      2. 25 public housing dwellings, the highest ratio in Australia and above the national average of 12 dwellings;
   6. the ACT Government has supported the growth and expansion of community housing in the ACT, including through:
      1. supporting the establishment of an affordable real estate management model with direct funding provided to establish HomeGround operated by Community Housing Canberra under the ACT Housing Strategy Innovation Fund;
      2. introducing and expanding the Land Tax Community Housing Exemption Program to allow up to 125 properties to participate and removing the time limit on the exemption;
      3. partnering with community housing providers to provide more affordable rental properties to eligible Canberrans, such as funding to build and operate Common Ground Gungahlin and Dickson and a new social and affordable housing development in Kaleen; and
      4. committing to negotiate long-term arrangements with community housing providers where in the best interests of tenants, for example, the Kaleen social and affordable housing development;
   7. each year, the ACT Government releases an Indicative Land Release Program to provide certainty to builders, developers, investors and residential owner-occupiers;
   8. the Indicative Land Release Program is based on consultation with the housing industry about future demand for housing and forecasts of future market conditions;
   9. the housing market has been impacted by the COVID crisis and there is significant uncertainty over future demand; and
   10. as at 10 August 2020, there are 314 blocks available for purchase over the counter from the Suburban Land Agency; and
2. calls on the ACT Government to provide a brief update to the Legislative Assembly by the last sitting day of this term on:
   1. progress on the ACT Housing Strategy; and
   2. the Indicative Land Release Program.”.

Debate continued.

Ms Le Couteur moved the following amendment to Ms Berry’s proposed amendment: Insert new paragraph (1A) before paragraph (1):

“(1A) notes, regarding the cost of housing in Canberra:

* 1. the ACT has a unique ability to control traditional state government and local council levers;
  2. the median price of detached houses in Canberra rose as follows:
     1. 2012—$483 000;
     2. 2016—$623 000; and
     3. 2020—$819 000; and
  3. that the increasing cost of housing is placing high demands on public and community housing;”.

Debate continued.

Question—That Ms Le Couteur’s amendment to Ms Berry’s proposed amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AYES, 12 | | |  | | NOES, 9 | | |
| Ms Berry | Mr Pettersson | |  | | Miss C. Burch | Mr Parton | |
| Ms J. Burch | Mr Ramsay | |  | | Mr Coe | Mr Wall | |
| Ms Cheyne | Mr Rattenbury | |  | | Mrs Dunne |  | |
| Mr Gentleman | Mr Steel | |  | | Mr Hanson |  | |
| Mr Gupta | Ms Stephen-Smith | |  | | Mrs Kikkert |  | |
| Ms Le Couteur |  | |  | | Ms Lawder |  | |
| Ms Orr |  | |  | | Mr Milligan |  | |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That Ms Berry’s amendment, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

1. notes, regarding the cost of housing in Canberra:
   1. the ACT has a unique ability to control traditional state government and local council levers;
   2. the median price of detached houses in Canberra rose as follows:
      1. 2012—$483 000;
      2. 2016—$623 000; and
      3. 2020—$819 000; and
   3. that the increasing cost of housing is placing high demands on public and community housing;
2. notes that:
   1. over this term of the Assembly, the ACT Government has implemented a range of measures to support Canberrans to buy their first home in Canberra:
      1. introduced a 15 percent affordable housing target to set aside land for affordable, community and public housing;
      2. reviewed the affordable home purchase scheme to require affordable properties built under the scheme to be offered to eligible Canberrans at set price points;
      3. is reducing stamp duty to lower the upfront costs of buying a home and removing stamp duty for eligible first home buyers; and
      4. is releasing land focusing on infill development to protect our natural environment, parks and reserves from future development; and
   2. during the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic circumstances, the Government has implemented a range of further urgent measures to support Canberra homeowners, including:
      1. a 0 percent average residential rates increase this financial year and providing a $150 rebate to the fixed charge component of all 2020-21 rates bills;
      2. scrapping stamp duty on new single residential blocks for owner-occupiers, as well as off-the-plan apartment and townhouse purchases of up to $500 000, until July next year; and
      3. reducing stamp duty on off-the-plan apartment and townhouse purchases by owner-occupiers between $500 000 and $750 000 by $11 400 over the same period;
3. further notes that:
   1. on 26 November 2019, the ACT Housing Strategy Year One Report Card was tabled in the Legislative Assembly to update on the progress of the Strategy and Implementation Plan;
   2. the ACT Government has a strong program of investment in public and community housing;
   3. on a per capita basis, the ACT invests more in public housing growth and renewal than any other jurisdiction, with $1 billion over the 10 years from 2015;
   4. the current public housing growth and renewal program has been extended and will now add at least 260 new homes to the public housing portfolio and renew at least 1000 homes over six years;
   5. for every 1000 people in Canberra, there are:
      1. 27 public or community housing dwellings, the second highest ratio in Australia and above the national average of 17 dwellings; and
      2. 25 public housing dwellings, the highest ratio in Australia and above the national average of 12 dwellings;
   6. the ACT Government has supported the growth and expansion of community housing in the ACT, including through:
      1. supporting the establishment of an affordable real estate management model with direct funding provided to establish HomeGround operated by Community Housing Canberra under the ACT Housing Strategy Innovation Fund;
      2. introducing and expanding the Land Tax Community Housing Exemption Program to allow up to 125 properties to participate and removing the time limit on the exemption;
      3. partnering with community housing providers to provide more affordable rental properties to eligible Canberrans, such as funding to build and operate Common Ground Gungahlin and Dickson and a new social and affordable housing development in Kaleen; and
      4. committing to negotiate long-term arrangements with community housing providers where in the best interests of tenants, for example, the Kaleen social and affordable housing development;
   7. each year, the ACT Government releases an Indicative Land Release Program to provide certainty to builders, developers, investors and residential owner-occupiers;
   8. the Indicative Land Release Program is based on consultation with the housing industry about future demand for housing and forecasts of future market conditions;
   9. the housing market has been impacted by the COVID crisis and there is significant uncertainty over future demand; and
   10. as at 10 August 2020, there are 314 blocks available for purchase over the counter from the Suburban Land Agency; and
4. calls on the ACT Government to provide a brief update to the Legislative Assembly by the last sitting day of this term on:
   1. progress on the ACT Housing Strategy; and
   2. the Indicative Land Release Program.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

**26 Elective surgery**

Mrs Dunne, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. notes the importance of elective surgery for the continued health of the Canberra community;
2. further notes the:
   1. continuous failure of the Labor/Greens Government to keep abreast of the demand for elective surgery and the adverse impact this is having on the health of the Canberra community;
   2. growing number of Canberrans waiting longer than clinically indicated for elective surgery; and
   3. impact of COVID-19 in extending elective surgery waiting lists; and
3. calls on the ACT Government to address the chronic backlog in elective surgery.

Ms Stephen-Smith (Minister for Health) moved the following amendment: Omit paragraphs (2) and (3), substitute:

“(2) further notes that:

(a) the ACT Government has made substantial investments to deliver significant increases in elective surgeries, with admissions growing at twice the national average between 2014-15 and 2018-19;

(b) this resulted in a reduction in the number of people on the elective surgery waiting list between 2014-15 and 2018-19 and an improvement in ‘seen on time’ performance for Category 1 and 2 surgeries;

(c) the ACT Government’s investment delivered a record 14 015 elective surgeries in 2018-19;

(d) ACT hospitals were on track to deliver 14 250 public elective surgeries in 2019-20, prior to the suspension of non-urgent elective surgery due to the COVID-19 emergency; and

(e) more than 16 000 elective surgeries are planned for 2020-21 following the allocation of an additional $20 million to address the impacts of the COVID-19 elective surgery suspension; and

(3) calls on the ACT Government to continue investing to deliver growth in elective surgeries and improvement in performance against clinically recommended timeframes.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes the importance of elective surgery for the continued health of the Canberra community;

(2) further notes that:

(a) the ACT Government has made substantial investments to deliver significant increases in elective surgeries, with admissions growing at twice the national average between 2014-15 and 2018-19;

(b) this resulted in a reduction in the number of people on the elective surgery waiting list between 2014-15 and 2018-19 and an improvement in ‘seen on time’ performance for Category 1 and 2 surgeries;

(c) the ACT Government’s investment delivered a record 14 015 elective surgeries in 2018-19;

(d) ACT hospitals were on track to deliver 14 250 public elective surgeries in 2019-20, prior to the suspension of non-urgent elective surgery due to the COVID-19 emergency; and

(e) more than 16 000 elective surgeries are planned for 2020-21 following the allocation of an additional $20 million to address the impacts of the COVID-19 elective surgery suspension; and

(3) calls on the ACT Government to continue investing to deliver growth in elective surgeries and improvement in performance against clinically recommended timeframes.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

**27 Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

The debate having been closed by the reply of the mover—Ms Cheyne, by leave, addressed the Assembly.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

*Detail Stage*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

Ms Lawder was granted leave to move amendments that had not been considered or reported on by the Scrutiny Committee, and had not been circulated in accordance with standing order 178A, together.

Ms Lawder moved her amendments Nos 1 to 4 (*see* [Schedule 2](#Schedule2)) together.

Debate continued.

Amendments negatived.

Bill, as a whole, agreed to.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to—put and passed.

**28 Crimes (Offences Against Vulnerable People) LEGISLATION Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

*Paper:* Mr Ramsay (Attorney-General) presented a revised explanatory statement to the Bill.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

*Detail Stage*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

On the motion of Mr Ramsay, by leave, his amendments Nos 1 to 3 (*see* [Schedule 3](#Schedule3)) were made together.

*Paper:* Mr Ramsay presented a supplementary explanatory statement to the Government amendments.

Bill, as a whole, as amended, agreed to.

Question—That this Bill, as amended, be agreed to—put and passed.

**29 Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2020**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—

Debate resumed.

Question—That this Bill be agreed to in principle—put and passed.

*Adjournment negatived:* It being 6.30 pm—The question was proposed—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) requiring the question to be put forthwith without debate—

Question—put and negatived.

*Detail Stage*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole—

Debate adjourned (Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**30 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Ms Cheyne, by leave, was granted an extension of time.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.46 pm, adjourned until Thursday, 20 August 2020 at 10 am.

**MEMBERS’ ATTENDANCE:** All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Ms Cody\* and Mrs Jones\*.

\*on leave

**Tom Duncan**

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

**SCHEDULES OF AMENDMENTS**

**Schedule 1**

**ADOPTION AMENDMENT BILL 2020**

Amendment circulated by Mrs Kikkert

1. Proposed new clause 8  
   Page 6, line 17—

insert

8 New section 122

insert

122 Review of certain amendments made by Adoption Amendment Act 2020

(1) The Minister must review the operation of the amendments made by the *Adoption Amendment Act 2020* to the following sections of this Act:

(a) section 5 (Best interests of child or young person paramount consideration);

(b) section 35 (Dispensing with consent).

(2) The Minister must—

(a) start the review no later than 1 September 2022; and

(b) present a report of the review to the Legislative Assembly within 2 months after the day the review is started.

(3) This section expires 3 years after the day it commences.

**Schedule 2**

**BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2020**

Amendments circulated by Ms Lawder

1. Clause 5  
   Proposed new section 19A (b) (ii)  
   Page 3, line 16—

omit

12 years old

substitute

14 years old

1. Clause 6  
   Proposed new section 24 (1) (a) (ii)  
   Page 4, line 10—

omit

12 years old

substitute

14 years old

1. Clause 11  
   Proposed new section 29A (1) (a) (ii)  
   Page 5, line 17—

omit

12 years old

substitute

14 years old

1. Clause 14  
   Proposed new section 29E (3)  
   Page 7, line 17—

omit

not yet 12 years old

substitute

at least 14 years old

**Schedule 3**

**CRIMES (OFFENCES AGAINST VULNERABLE PEOPLE) LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2020**

Amendments circulated by the Attorney-General

1. Clause 2  
   Page 2, line 5—

omit clause 2, substitute

2 Commencement

This Act commences 8 months after its notification day.

*Note* The naming and commencement provisions automatically commence on the notification day (see Legislation Act, s 75 (1)).

1. Clause 5  
   Proposed new section 36A (5), definition of *relevant institution*, examples  
   Page 6, line 18—

omit

, out-of-home carers

1. Clause 6  
   Proposed new section 442C (1)  
   Page 11, line 12—

omit

no later than 2 years after the day they commence

substitute

as soon as practicable after the end of their first 12 months of operation