****

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2016–2017

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

No 18

[**Wednesday, 7 June 2017**](http://www.hansard.act.gov.au/hansard/2017/pdfs/20170607.pdf)

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

**1** The Assembly met at 10 am, pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Ms Burch) took the Chair and asked Members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

2 Crimes (Intimate Image Abuse) Amendment Bill 2017

Mr Hanson, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Crimes Act 1900*.

*Paper:* Mr Hanson presented an explanatory statement to the Bill.

Title read by Clerk.

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

Debate adjourned (Mr Ramsay—Attorney-General) and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 CRIMES (INVASION OF PRIVACY) AMENDMENT BILL 2017—EXPOSURE DRAFT AND PAPERs—STATEMENT BY MEMBER

Ms Le Couteur, by leave, presented the following papers:

Crimes (Invasion of Privacy) Amendment Bill 2017—Exposure draft—

Exposure draft.

Explanatory statement.

Consultation arrangements.

Invasions of Privacy & Technology-Facilitated Abuse—ACT Greens discussion paper, dated June 2017—

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

4 Bushfire Abatement Zone

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mrs Jones, as amended—

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) Mr Ron McLeod’s 2003 report, ‘Inquiry into the Operational Response to the January 2003 Bushfires in the ACT’, made the following recommendations:

* + 1. ‘A bushfire-abatement zone (BAZ) should be defined between the north-west and western perimeter of Canberra and the Murrumbidgee River and the foothills of the Brindabella Range.’;
    2. ‘A set of Bushfire Protection Planning Principles in relation to fire mitigation and suppression should be adopted and applied to future developments in the designated abatement zone.’; and
    3. ‘The abatement zone should be declared a bushfire-prone area, and the requirements of the Building Code of Australia—in particular, its standards for bushfire-prone areas—should be applied to all future developments in the zone.’;

(b) following the recommendations of Mr Ron McLeod, and in line with the later report handed down by Coroner Maria Doogan, the *Emergencies Act 2004* was enacted and provided:

* + 1. a Bushfire Abatement Zone for planning and operational purposes;
    2. for the BAZ to include ‘City Areas’ (‘built-up areas’ (BUA)); and
    3. the Response Arrangements at that time (see Notifiable Instrument NI2004-499) included that: ‘If, in the opinion of the ACT Fire and Rescue, the fire poses a risk to life or property in the Built-up Area, then the ACT Fire and Rescue will assume incident control.’. This remained in place in the 2006 iteration (Notifiable Instrument NI2006-221);

(c) the BAZ remains in place as a land planning and management tool as intended following the McLeod Inquiry;

(d) in 2011, the BAZ was updated to clarify response arrangements, as agreed by the then Chief Officers of the ACT Fire Brigade and the ACT Rural Fire Service;

(e) in 2016, following a review of the *Emergencies Act 2004*, there was an update to further clarify response arrangements; and

(f) in 2017, the BAZ and BUA boundaries were updated again to include the suburbs of Throsby and Jacka as built-up areas. This was notified by the Acting ESA Commissioner in a notifiable instrument in April 2017;

(2) notes that:

(a) changes to the BAZ and BUA have not altered the existing response arrangements, which are that first response to all grass and bush fires in the ACT will be by the nearest available most appropriate resource, irrespective of jurisdiction or Service; and

(b) ACT fire services continue to work together in responding to fires in the bushfire abatement zone; and

(3) calls on the Minister to report to the Assembly by the last sitting day in August:

(a) how the BAZ is controlled in regards to planning and operations and what operational procedures are in place to protect the ACT’s urban and rural areas; and

(b) what planning or actions the ACT Emergency Services Agency is undertaking for when the built-up areas encroach onto the New South Wales border.”—

and on the amendment moved by Mr Wall: Insert new paragraph (3)(a):

“(a) the rationale behind the 2011 changes and to explain, for the benefit of the community, how BAZ is controlled both in regards to fuel reduction burning and in the event of a fire being within metres or kilometres of built-up areas;”—

Debate resumed.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) Mr Ron McLeod’s 2003 report, ‘Inquiry into the Operational Response to the January 2003 Bushfires in the ACT’, made the following recommendations:

* + 1. ‘A bushfire-abatement zone (BAZ) should be defined between the north-west and western perimeter of Canberra and the Murrumbidgee River and the foothills of the Brindabella Range.’;
    2. ‘A set of Bushfire Protection Planning Principles in relation to fire mitigation and suppression should be adopted and applied to future developments in the designated abatement zone.’; and
    3. ‘The abatement zone should be declared a bushfire-prone area, and the requirements of the Building Code of Australia—in particular, its standards for bushfire-prone areas—should be applied to all future developments in the zone.’;

(b) following the recommendations of Mr Ron McLeod, and in line with the later report handed down by Coroner Maria Doogan, the *Emergencies Act 2004* was enacted and provided:

* + 1. a Bushfire Abatement Zone for planning and operational purposes;
    2. for the BAZ to include ‘City Areas’ (‘built-up areas’ (BUA)); and
    3. the Response Arrangements at that time (see Notifiable Instrument NI2004-499) included that: ‘If, in the opinion of the ACT Fire and Rescue, the fire poses a risk to life or property in the Built-up Area, then the ACT Fire and Rescue will assume incident control.’. This remained in place in the 2006 iteration (Notifiable Instrument NI2006-221);

(c) the BAZ remains in place as a land planning and management tool as intended following the McLeod Inquiry;

(d) in 2011, the BAZ was updated to clarify response arrangements, as agreed by the then Chief Officers of the ACT Fire Brigade and the ACT Rural Fire Service;

(e) in 2016, following a review of the *Emergencies Act 2004*, there was an update to further clarify response arrangements; and

(f) in 2017, the BAZ and BUA boundaries were updated again to include the suburbs of Throsby and Jacka as built-up areas. This was notified by the Acting ESA Commissioner in a notifiable instrument in April 2017;

(2) notes that:

(a) changes to the BAZ and BUA have not altered the existing response arrangements, which are that first response to all grass and bush fires in the ACT will be by the nearest available most appropriate resource, irrespective of jurisdiction or Service; and

(b) ACT fire services continue to work together in responding to fires in the bushfire abatement zone; and

(3) calls on the Minister to report to the Assembly by the last sitting day in August:

(a) the rationale behind the 2011 changes and to explain, for the benefit of the community, how BAZ is controlled both in regards to fuel reduction burning and in the event of a fire being within metres or kilometres of built-up areas;

(b) how the BAZ is controlled in regards to planning and operations and what operational procedures are in place to protect the ACT’s urban and rural areas; and

(c) what planning or actions the ACT Emergency Services Agency is undertaking for when the built-up areas encroach onto the New South Wales border.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

5 Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm

Mr Milligan, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. notes:
   1. the Government has spent more than $12 million on a facility known as the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm (the facility);
   2. that there has been a significant lack of progress in establishing and opening the facility since it was first mooted in 2007;
   3. the Government has to date spent significant monies on developing four different models of care to be delivered at the facility but there is still no agreed model of care;
   4. that successive ACT Labor Governments have failed to keep the community informed about the nature of the rehabilitation services to be offered at the facility; and
   5. that this ACT Government wrongly attributed confusion over the nature of the facility to the ACT’s indigenous community, when the confusion lay within the Health Directorate; and
2. calls on the ACT Labor Government to:
   1. accept responsibility for its own confusion and purveying of inconsistent information over the purpose for which the facility was built;
   2. apologise to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community for causing the confusion;
   3. by close of Assembly business on Thursday, 8 June 2017, table a copy of the crown lease and the detailed chronology of any changes to the lease purpose clause which cover the facility;
   4. by the close of Assembly business on Thursday, 24 August 2017 report on:
      1. the full implementation of the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm;
      2. the final Model of Care to be delivered;
      3. a timetable of when the facility will be opened; and
      4. the final full cost to the Canberra community, including land purchase, building cost, land remediation, access and egress road and bridge construction, legal costs, and development of the model of care; and
   5. commit to the urgent development of a Residential Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation centre as requested by the ACT indigenous community.

Ms Fitzharris (Minister for Health), by leave, moved the following amendments together:

(1) Omit paragraph (1)(b), substitute:

“(b) the facility was first proposed in 2007;”.

(2) Omit paragraph (1)(c), substitute:

“(c) since 2007 there has been widespread community discussion about the services to be delivered at the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm, and although significant progress has been made in recent months towards the final services model and securing a service provider for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm, the Government acknowledges the delays in this process;”.

(3) Omit paragraph (1)(d), substitute:

“(d) the ACT Government is continuing to hold frequent meetings with the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Advisory Board to ensure the continued involvement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in delivering the best possible model of care, including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body and the United Ngunnawal Elders Council;”.

(4) Omit paragraph (1)(e), substitute:

“(e) that the ACT Government was not clear in its recent tender process, acknowledges these actions caused confusion in the community, and apologises for this confusion;”.

(5) Omit paragraph (2)(c), substitute:

“(c) by the close of Assembly business on Thursday, 8 June 2017, report on:

* + 1. a copy of the crown lease and the detailed chronology of any changes to the lease purpose clause which cover the facility; and
    2. the relevant permitted uses of the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm site under the Territory Plan;”.

(6) Omit paragraphs (2)(d) and (e), substitute:

“(d) provide a ministerial statement to the Assembly by the end of September 2017, following the completion of remaining works at the site, that outlines the final evolving model of care, available services, and their estimated commencement dates.”.

Debate continued.

Ms Fitzharris, who had already spoken, by leave, again addressed the Assembly.

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Question that the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

1. notes:
   1. the Government has spent more than $12 million on a facility known as the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm (the facility);
   2. the facility was first proposed in 2007;
   3. since 2007 there has been widespread community discussion about the services to be delivered at the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm, and although significant progress has been made in recent months towards the final services model and securing a service provider for the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm, the Government acknowledges the delays in this process;
   4. the ACT Government is continuing to hold frequent meetings with the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Advisory Board to ensure the continued involvement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in delivering the best possible model of care, including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body and the United Ngunnawal Elders Council; and
   5. that the ACT Government was not clear in its recent tender process, acknowledges these actions caused confusion in the community, and apologises for this confusion; and
2. calls on the ACT Labor Government to:
   1. accept responsibility for its own confusion and purveying of inconsistent information over the purpose for which the facility was built;
   2. apologise to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community for causing the confusion;
   3. by the close of Assembly business on Thursday, 8 June 2017, report on:
      1. a copy of the crown lease and the detailed chronology of any changes to the lease purpose clause which cover the facility; and
      2. the relevant permitted uses of the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm site under the Territory Plan; and
   4. provide a ministerial statement to the Assembly by the end of September 2017, following the completion of remaining works at the site, that outlines the final evolving model of care, available services, and their estimated commencement dates.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

6 Community facilities zone land—Government transparency

Mr Parton, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. notes:
   1. this Government says it is committed to transparency in process and information;
   2. former Chief Minister Katy Gallagher has stated that as a first principle information available to the Government should be made available for use by the community;
   3. Mr Jack Waterford has said the ACT has the weakest FOI Act in Australia, possibly the world; and
   4. in August last year, the Government passed a new Freedom of Information Act that Mr Rattenbury said will ensure the ACT is one of the most open jurisdictions in the country;
2. further notes:
   1. that in relation to a recent FOI request by the Leader of the Opposition for information on sites for the public housing renewal program, the Government provided a heavily redacted response with very substantial portions of documentation blacked out;
   2. this response and this approach is contrary to the spirit of where the Government’s own legislation is heading and is a stark refutation of its own transparency principles; and
   3. this response is a compelling demonstration of a Government committed to a culture of secrecy and suppression of its public housing development intentions; and
3. calls on the Government to:
   1. provide this Assembly with details of all community facilities zoned land that is being considered for, or has been earmarked for development of public housing, by the end of this sitting week;
   2. explain why so much secrecy is necessary on issues of vital and enduring concern to the community; and
   3. demonstrate proper transparency and commitment to a genuine open government.

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

“(1) notes that:

(a) the ACT Government is committed to transparency in process and information;

(b) former Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA, stated ‘that as a first principle information available to the Government should be made available for use by the community’;

(c) in 2011, the ACT Government progressed an important reform agenda across government, which included:

* + 1. the publication of a weekly summary of cabinet proceedings;
    2. a dedicated open government website providing a gateway for government information; and
    3. establishment of a dedicated Government Information Office;

(d) freedom of information (FOI) legislation was a key part of the 2012 Labor-Greens Parliamentary Agreement;

(e) the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*, due to commence on 1 January 2018, will build on and enhance the Government’s commitment to open, transparent government;

(f) the Government has provided $954 000 in the 2017-18 Budget to support implementation of the new legislation;

(g) transparency and open government facilitate meaningful community engagement and are core components of a well-functioning democracy;

(h) best-practice community engagement involves ensuring that community members have a genuine influence over government decisions that affect them and are provided with the information needed to meaningfully participate and contribute;

(i) ACT Public Service agencies responding to FOI requests from the Canberra community do so independent of the political process and the Government of the day does not intervene; and

(j) the factors which may serve as a basis for redacting information are clearly set out in the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* and include provisions such as those that protect the privacy of individuals; and

(2) calls on the Government to:

(a) provide the following information to the Assembly on or before the first sitting day in August:

1. the policy for using community facilities zoned (CFZ) land for social housing;
2. how many social housing dwellings are currently located on CFZ land; and
3. how many remaining undeveloped CFZ blocks exist across the ACT;

(b) continue its commitment to pre-DA consultation for all public housing development proposals on CFZ land; and

(c) continue to improve community engagement processes across the Government.”.

Debate continued.

Mr Wall moved the following amendment to Ms Berry’s proposed amendment: Insert new paragraph (2)(a)(iv):

“(iv) details of all CFZ land that is being considered for, or has been earmarked for development of public housing;”.

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment to the proposed amendment be agreed to—put.

The Assembly voted—

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AYES, 9 | |  | NOES, 12 | |
| Mr Coe | Mr Milligan |  | Ms Berry | Ms Le Couteur |
| Mrs Dunne | Mr Parton |  | Ms Burch | Ms Orr |
| Mr Hanson | Mr Wall |  | Ms Cheyne | Mr Ramsay |
| Mrs Kikkert |  |  | Ms Cody | Mr Rattenbury |
| Ms Lawder |  |  | Ms Fitzharris | Mr Steel |
| Ms Lee |  |  | Mr Gentleman | Ms Stephen-Smith |

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

(a) the ACT Government is committed to transparency in process and information;

(b) former Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher MLA, stated ‘that as a first principle information available to the Government should be made available for use by the community’;

(c) in 2011, the ACT Government progressed an important reform agenda across government, which included:

1. the publication of a weekly summary of cabinet proceedings;
2. a dedicated open government website providing a gateway for government information; and
3. establishment of a dedicated Government Information Office;

(d) freedom of information (FOI) legislation was a key part of the 2012 Labor-Greens Parliamentary Agreement;

(e) the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*, due to commence on 1 January 2018, will build on and enhance the Government’s commitment to open, transparent government;

(f) the Government has provided $954 000 in the 2017-18 Budget to support implementation of the new legislation;

(g) transparency and open government facilitate meaningful community engagement and are core components of a well-functioning democracy;

(h) best-practice community engagement involves ensuring that community members have a genuine influence over government decisions that affect them and are provided with the information needed to meaningfully participate and contribute;

(i) ACT Public Service agencies responding to FOI requests from the Canberra community do so independent of the political process and the Government of the day does not intervene; and

(j) the factors which may serve as a basis for redacting information are clearly set out in the *Freedom of Information Act 1989* and include provisions such as those that protect the privacy of individuals; and

(2) calls on the Government to:

(a) provide the following information to the Assembly on or before the first sitting day in August:

1. the policy for using Community Facilities Zone (CFZ) land for social housing;
2. how many social housing dwellings are currently located on CFZ land; and
3. how many remaining undeveloped CFZ blocks exist across the ACT;

(b) continue its commitment to pre-DA consultation for all public housing development proposals on CFZ land; and

(c) continue to improve community engagement processes across the Government.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice being asked—

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

*Speaker’s ruling:*  A point of order having been raised, the Speaker ruled that a word was not required to be withdrawn.

Mrs Dunne sought leave to move a motion of dissent from the Speaker’s ruling.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

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

*Suspension of standing orders—Dissent from Speaker’s ruling:* Mrs Dunne moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mrs Dunne from moving a motion of dissent from the Speaker’s ruling.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority.

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

*Dissent from Speaker’s ruling moved:* Mrs Dunne moved—That the Speaker’s ruling be dissented from.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

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

Questions continued.

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER

Mr Gentleman (Manager of Government Business) moved—That leave of absence be granted to Mr Pettersson for this sitting due to illness.

Question—put and passed.

9 Presentation of paper

The Speaker presented the following paper:

Auditor-General Act, pursuant to subsection 17(5)—Auditor-General’s Report No 4/2017—Performance information in ACT public schools—Corrigendum.

10 Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Documents—Order to table

Mr Wall moved—That the Assembly orders the production of the following documents in accordance with standing order 213A:

(1) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 6: Land Supply (23 April 2015).

(2) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 7: Land Supply (10 September 2015).

(3) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 4: Land Supply (12 August 2015).

(4) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 4: Land Supply (21 August 2015).

(5) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 6: Land Supply (23 September 2016).

(6) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 8: Land Supply (2 November 2016).

(7) Public Housing Renewal Steering Committee—Agenda Item 5.1: Land Supply and Purchase (21 February 2017).

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11 Health and wellbeing—Investment

Ms Cody, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. recognises the ACT Government’s longstanding commitment to delivering better health services and investing in modern health infrastructure to improve the health and wellbeing of Canberrans;
2. acknowledges that this commitment has clearly been demonstrated in recent years through the Government’s $909 million investment in health infrastructure, which has already delivered key health facilities including:
   1. a major upgrade to The Canberra Hospital’s Emergency Department, including new treatment spaces and ambulance bays, an expanded Paediatric Unit and more acute and sub-acute beds;
   2. the University of Canberra Public Hospital, delivering a significant expansion of sub-acute healthcare as well as major new clinical training facilities on Canberra’s northside;
   3. the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, providing high quality specialist care for women and children in the Canberra region;
   4. Community Health Centres and Nurse Walk-in Centres to provide community based health care in Canberra’s regions; and
   5. the development of the Canberra Region Cancer Centre to provide specialist care and treatment for Canberrans dealing with many forms of cancer;
3. notes that the 2017 Budget will further the Government’s investment in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans by commencing the delivery of the ACT Government’s 10-Year Health Plan including through:
   1. expanding the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children with new services, including a new child and adolescent mental health unit, an adolescent gynaecology service, a new paediatric high-dependency unit and paediatric intensive care beds;
   2. delivering and planning for three new walk-in centres in Gungahlin, the Weston Creek region and the inner north;
   3. investing in our nursing workforce, including through hiring more graduate nurses and nurse navigators to help Canberrans get the best frontline healthcare possible;
   4. planning for a major expansion of the successful Hospital in the Home program which especially benefits older Canberrans; and
   5. making it easier for Canberrans on the southside to access bulk-billing GP services through a new grants program;
4. acknowledges that mental health is an important part of overall health and wellbeing and that the 2017 Budget will also invest in better mental health support for Canberrans, including through:
   1. more specialised interventions and support for pregnant women, new mothers, children, adolescents and older people;
   2. better suicide prevention through partnerships with the Black Dog Institute and the Wayback Program; and
   3. delivering rehabilitation beds in the Dhulwa Mental Health Unit;
5. recognises the inherent linkages between a healthy lifestyle and positive health outcomes and notes the 2017 Budget will further invest in preventative health including through:
   1. a new Territory-wide preventative health strategy supported by an additional $4 million in new resources aimed at helping all Canberrans live longer, healthier lives; and
   2. significant new investment in active transport including building the Belconnen Bikeway and enhancing community path networks in high priority areas to make walking or cycling an easier transport option; and
6. calls on the ACT Government to continue investing in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans through prevention, primary, community and acute health services and facilities.

Debate ensued.

Ms Fitzharris (Minister for Health), by leave, moved the following amendments together:

(1) Omit paragraph (3), substitute:

“(3) notes that the 2017 Budget will further the Government’s investment in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans by commencing the delivery of the ACT Government’s 10-Year Health Plan including through:

(a) establishing the Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) Centre at The Canberra Hospital to enhance the delivery of hospital-based healthcare through boosting the number of operating theatres, expanding the Emergency Department, providing a larger intensive care unit which will also include dedicated paediatric care, a coronary care unit, more inpatient wards, more elective and day surgical spaces and state of the art surgical, procedural and imaging facilities;

(b) expanding the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children with new services, including a new child and adolescent mental health unit, an adolescent gynaecology service, a new paediatric high-dependency unit, and paediatric intensive care beds;

(c) refurbishing and upgrading the Acute Aged Care and Oncology wards at The Canberra Hospital to enhance patient safety and security and improve the quality of inpatient services;

(d) delivering and planning for three new walk-in centres in Gungahlin, the Weston Creek region and the inner north;

(e) investing in our nursing workforce, including through hiring more graduate nurses and nurse navigators to help Canberrans get the best frontline healthcare possible;

(f) planning for a major expansion of the successful Hospital in the Home program which especially benefits older Canberrans; and

(g) making it easier for Canberrans on the southside to access bulk-billing GP services through a new grants program;”.

(2) Omit paragraph (4), substitute:

“(4) acknowledges that mental health is a vital part of overall health and wellbeing and that the 2017 Budget will also invest in better mental health support for Canberrans, including through:

(a) more specialised interventions and increased support for pregnant women, new mothers, children, and young people;

(b) better suicide prevention through partnerships with leading providers;

(c) expanding the Dhulwa Mental Health Unit to deliver new rehabilitation beds in the secure mental health unit; and

(d) establishing the Office for Mental Health to improve coordination across the service system.”.

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

1. recognises the ACT Government’s longstanding commitment to delivering better health services and investing in modern health infrastructure to improve the health and wellbeing of Canberrans;
2. acknowledges that this commitment has clearly been demonstrated in recent years through the Government’s $909 million investment in health infrastructure, which has already delivered key health facilities including:
   1. a major upgrade to The Canberra Hospital’s Emergency Department, including new treatment spaces and ambulance bays, an expanded Paediatric Unit and more acute and sub-acute beds;
   2. the University of Canberra Public Hospital, delivering a significant expansion of sub-acute healthcare as well as major new clinical training facilities on Canberra’s northside;
   3. the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, providing high quality specialist care for women and children in the Canberra region;
   4. Community Health Centres and Nurse Walk-in Centres to provide community based health care in Canberra’s regions; and
   5. the development of the Canberra Region Cancer Centre to provide specialist care and treatment for Canberrans dealing with many forms of cancer;
3. notes that the 2017 Budget will further the Government’s investment in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans by commencing the delivery of the ACT Government’s 10-Year Health Plan including through:
   1. establishing the Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) Centre at The Canberra Hospital to enhance the delivery of hospital-based healthcare through boosting the number of operating theatres, expanding the Emergency Department, providing a larger intensive care unit which will also include dedicated paediatric care, a coronary care unit, more inpatient wards, more elective and day surgical spaces and state of the art surgical, procedural and imaging facilities;
   2. expanding the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children with new services, including a new child and adolescent mental health unit, an adolescent gynaecology service, a new paediatric high-dependency unit, and paediatric intensive care beds;
   3. refurbishing and upgrading the Acute Aged Care and Oncology wards at The Canberra Hospital to enhance patient safety and security and improve the quality of inpatient services;
   4. delivering and planning for three new walk-in centres in Gungahlin, the Weston Creek region and the inner north;
   5. investing in our nursing workforce, including through hiring more graduate nurses and nurse navigators to help Canberrans get the best frontline healthcare possible;
   6. planning for a major expansion of the successful Hospital in the Home program which especially benefits older Canberrans; and
   7. making it easier for Canberrans on the southside to access bulk-billing GP services through a new grants program;
4. acknowledges that mental health is a vital part of overall health and wellbeing and that the 2017 Budget will also invest in better mental health support for Canberrans, including through:
   1. more specialised interventions and increased support for pregnant women, new mothers, children, and young people;
   2. better suicide prevention through partnerships with leading providers;
   3. expanding the Dhulwa Mental Health Unit to deliver new rehabilitation beds in the secure mental health unit; and
   4. establishing the Office for Mental Health to improve coordination across the service system;
5. recognises the inherent linkages between a healthy lifestyle and positive health outcomes and notes the 2017 Budget will further invest in preventative health including through:
   1. a new Territory-wide preventative health strategy supported by an additional $4 million in new resources aimed at helping all Canberrans live longer, healthier lives; and
   2. significant new investment in active transport including building the Belconnen Bikeway and enhancing community path networks in high priority areas to make walking or cycling an easier transport option; and
6. calls on the ACT Government to continue investing in the health and wellbeing of Canberrans through prevention, primary, community and acute health services and facilities.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

12 Recidivism rate

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

1. notes that:
   1. the recidivism rate in the ACT continues to rise;
   2. the Australian Bureau of Statistics report on Prisoners in Australia 2016 found that 74 per cent of ACT prisoners had previously been imprisoned under sentence, the largest proportion of any State or Territory;
   3. a recent *Canberra Times* article (14 April 2017) reported that the Throughcare Program is failing to lower recidivism rates for Aboriginal inmates;
   4. the ACT Policing 2015-16 annual report states crimes against the person have increased by 22.2 per cent;
   5. assaults in the Canberra City Centre have almost doubled from 281 in 2014 to 430 in 2016; and
   6. on 16 March 2017, the Evaluation of the ACT Extended Throughcare Pilot Program was released. Minister Rattenbury says in his ministerial statement the Program has contributed to a reduction of both recidivism among participants in the Program and of crime rates; and
2. calls on the Minister to advise by 21 September 2017:
   1. what impact the Extended Throughcare Program has had on reducing the rate of recidivism and crime;
   2. what the Government is doing to address the 74 per cent recidivism rate and by when is the Government aiming to achieve this;
   3. what, if anything, is being done to assist the 26 per cent of those who did not participate in the Program and who had far worse recidivism rates;
   4. what programs are underway in the Alexander Maconochie Centre to address the rate of re-imprisonment; and
   5. outside of the Extended Throughcare Program, what government/non-government organisations have been engaged to facilitate inmates re‑entering the community, what funding is provided to these organisations and what services is the funding for.

Mr Rattenbury (Minister for Corrections), by leave, moved the following amendments together:

(1) Omit paragraph (1)(a).

(2) Omit paragraphs (1)(c) to (e).

(3) Omit paragraph (2)(c).

Debate continued.

Amendments agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

1. notes that:
   1. the Australian Bureau of Statistics report on Prisoners in Australia 2016 found that 74 per cent of ACT prisoners had previously been imprisoned under sentence, the largest proportion of any State or Territory; and
   2. on 16 March 2017, the Evaluation of the ACT Extended Throughcare Pilot Program was released. Minister Rattenbury says in his ministerial statement the Program has contributed to a reduction of both recidivism among participants in the Program and of crime rates; and
2. calls on the Minister to advise by 21 September 2017:
   1. what impact the Extended Throughcare Program has had on reducing the rate of recidivism and crime;
   2. what the Government is doing to address the 74 per cent recidivism rate and by when is the Government aiming to achieve this;
   3. what programs are underway in the Alexander Maconochie Centre to address the rate of re-imprisonment; and
   4. outside of the Extended Throughcare Program, what government/non-government organisations have been engaged to facilitate inmates re‑entering the community, what funding is provided to these organisations and what services is the funding for.”—

be agreed to—put and passed.

13 adjournment negatived

It being 6 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.

14 Demonstration housing precincts

Ms Le Couteur, pursuant to notice, moved—That this Assembly:

1. notes that:
   1. the ACT has historically led Australia in development quality—for example, in the late 1990s, Kingston Foreshore and Gungahlin Town Centre were leading showcases of street-based mixed-use development;
   2. nationally and internationally, best practice has moved forward since the 1990s—for example, leading precincts in Europe are delivering profitable, high-quality, environmentally-sustainable housing, including substantial affordable housing;
   3. in “Canberra: A Statement of Ambition”, the Chief Minister states that “we need more than a ‘business as usual’ approach to achieve our potential and deliver the successful, equitable and sustainable city Canberrans seek”;
   4. the Minister for Planning and Land Management’s Statement of Planning Intent and the New Experimental Architecture Typologies (NEAT) competition moved towards delivering a demonstration housing precinct, however, no housing has eventuated to date;
   5. demonstration precincts are important as they test innovative design, construction and planning processes, prove the financial viability of new approaches, increase industry skill levels, drive demand for innovative products and showcase local industry capabilities;
   6. Canberra’s design and construction sectors include world-class skills and could provide highly-competitive export firms for the ACT;
   7. Canberra’s research and academic community includes world-class skills in areas such as design and renewable energy;
   8. housing is becoming increasingly unaffordable in the ACT;
   9. many older Canberrans remain in the family home due to the lack of appropriate options for “ageing-in-place” within their neighbourhoods; and
   10. the environmental impact of housing comes from construction, occupation, renovation and eventual demolition and it is important to consider the impact of all phases; and
2. calls on the ACT Government to deliver one or more world-leading demonstration housing precinct/s that:
   1. include at least 600 dwellings in total;
   2. learn from the best examples in Australia and overseas to deliver a project that cements Canberra’s international reputation as a liveable city;
   3. showcase on a national and international stage, and provide a springboard for growth for, the ACT’s best designers and construction industry companies;
   4. advance the quality of development in the ACT through:
      1. delivery of world best practice environmental performance, including demonstration of carbon neutral buildings and life-cycle environmental impact analysis;
      2. achieving sustainable transport usage substantially above similar business-as-usual projects;
      3. demonstrating excellence in construction and design quality;
      4. inclusion of at least one infill project containing high-quality medium-density housing suitable for replication by industry in suburban infill settings;
      5. demonstrating the feasibility of delivering mixed socio-economic and mixed-age communities;
      6. inclusion of a substantial proportion of both public and affordable housing;
      7. demonstrating world best practice community engagement, including effective forms of local consultation, and achieving very high levels of community support;
      8. including a high percentage of local industry content across every stage;
      9. close partnerships with industry bodies such as the Master Builders Association, Canberra Business Chamber, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the Housing Industry Association;
      10. demonstrating planning approaches and potential Territory Plan changes that support both the precincts and ongoing innovation after the precincts are complete; and
      11. demonstrating at least one innovative housing product that is new to the ACT, such as co-housing or long-lease rentals, as well as new housing typologies; and
   5. meet the following timeframes:
      1. announcement of the site/s and quantitative performance targets against the requirements in 2(d) above within one year;
      2. completion of the master plan/s within two years;
      3. commencement of the construction of dwellings within three years;
      4. completion of construction of dwellings within eight years; and
      5. six-monthly reporting of progress to the Assembly and the ACT community until completion.

Mr Gentleman (Minister for Planning and Land Management) moved the following amendment: Omit all words after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

“(1) notes that:

* 1. the ACT has historically led Australia in development quality, for example, in the late 1990s, Kingston Foreshore and Gungahlin Town Centre were leading showcases of street-based mixed-use development;
  2. nationally and internationally, best practice has moved forward since the 1990s, for example, leading precincts in Europe are delivering profitable, high-quality, environmentally-sustainable housing, including substantial affordable housing;
  3. in ‘Canberra: A Statement of Ambition’, the Chief Minister states that ‘we need more than a ‘business as usual’ approach to achieve our potential and deliver the successful, equitable and sustainable city Canberrans seek’;
  4. the Minister for Planning and Land Management’s Statement of Planning Intent and the New Experimental Architecture Typologies (NEAT) competition include delivering demonstration housing projects;
  5. demonstration precincts are important as they test innovative design, construction and planning processes, prove the financial viability of new approaches, increase industry skill levels, drive demand for innovative products and showcase local industry capabilities;
  6. Canberra's design and construction sectors include world-class skills and could provide highly-competitive export firms for the ACT;
  7. Canberra’s research and academic community includes world-class skills in areas such as design and renewable energy;
  8. housing affordability is a challenge the ACT Government continues to address;
  9. there is increasing desire in the community for greater housing choice, including options for ageing-in-place;
  10. the environmental impact of housing comes from construction, occupation, renovation and eventual demolition and it is important to consider the impact of all phases; and
  11. feedback from the community and industry stakeholders is that they want to be included early in discussions about future planning ideas and decisions; and

1. calls on the ACT Government to:
   1. engage with the community and industry stakeholders on how best to deliver a housing demonstration project that promotes best practice environmental performance, including:
      1. excellence in construction and design quality;
      2. carbon neutral buildings;
      3. medium density infill;
      4. innovative planning and engagement approaches;
      5. innovative housing products and typologies;
      6. close partnership with industry bodies; and
      7. options for public and affordable housing; and
   2. report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in November 2017, with a plan for delivery of a housing demonstration project, with detailed planning work to begin during this term of government.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment agreed to.

Question—That the motion, as amended, viz:

“That this Assembly:

(1) notes that:

* 1. the ACT has historically led Australia in development quality, for example, in the late 1990s, Kingston Foreshore and Gungahlin Town Centre were leading showcases of street-based mixed-use development;
  2. nationally and internationally, best practice has moved forward since the 1990s, for example, leading precincts in Europe are delivering profitable, high-quality, environmentally-sustainable housing, including substantial affordable housing;
  3. in ‘Canberra: A Statement of Ambition’, the Chief Minister states that ‘we need more than a ‘business as usual’ approach to achieve our potential and deliver the successful, equitable and sustainable city Canberrans seek’;
  4. the Minister for Planning and Land Management’s Statement of Planning Intent and the New Experimental Architecture Typologies (NEAT) competition include delivering demonstration housing projects;
  5. demonstration precincts are important as they test innovative design, construction and planning processes, prove the financial viability of new approaches, increase industry skill levels, drive demand for innovative products and showcase local industry capabilities;
  6. Canberra's design and construction sectors include world-class skills and could provide highly-competitive export firms for the ACT;
  7. Canberra’s research and academic community includes world-class skills in areas such as design and renewable energy;
  8. housing affordability is a challenge the ACT Government continues to address;
  9. there is increasing desire in the community for greater housing choice, including options for ageing-in-place;
  10. the environmental impact of housing comes from construction, occupation, renovation and eventual demolition and it is important to consider the impact of all phases; and
  11. feedback from the community and industry stakeholders is that they want to be included early in discussions about future planning ideas and decisions; and

1. calls on the ACT Government to:
   1. engage with the community and industry stakeholders on how best to deliver a housing demonstration project that promotes best practice environmental performance, including:
      1. excellence in construction and design quality;
      2. carbon neutral buildings;
      3. medium density infill;
      4. innovative planning and engagement approaches;
      5. innovative housing products and typologies;
      6. close partnership with industry bodies; and
      7. options for public and affordable housing; and
   2. report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in November 2017, with a plan for delivery of a housing demonstration project, with detailed planning work to begin during this term of government.”–

be agreed to—put and passed.

15 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

Ms Fitzharris (Minister for Health), by leave, was granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the Assembly, at 6.57 pm, adjourned until tomorrow at 10 am.

**MEMBERS’ ATTENDANCE:** All Members were present at some time during the sitting, except Mr Pettersson\*.

\*on leave

Tom Duncan

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly