

## Answers to questions

### Government—notifiable invoices (Question No 1565)

**Mrs Dunne** asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) In relation to the Register of Notifiable Invoices, why are four payments made in May 2018 to Abbott Australasia Pty Ltd, totalling \$391 196.92, described as “Other Creditors” and not allocated to a more specific account classification.
- (2) What was the purpose for each payment referred to in part (1).

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) The payments were incorrectly described as “other creditors”, and should have been described as “pharmaceuticals”.
- (2) The purpose for each payment referred to in part 1 are payments for laboratory consumables for ACT Health.

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### Answers to questions on notice—costs (Question No 1570)

**Mrs Dunne** asked the Chief Minister, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How much did it cost to develop the standard question on notice costing tool used across directorates.
- (2) Was the costing tool developed (a) within the ACT Government or (b) by consultants.
- (3) If consultants were involved in the development, was it developed as (a) part of a wider contract or (b) a standalone contract.
- (4) If consultants were used, (a) how much did it cost to hire the consultants and (b) what is the contract number.
- (5) Do all directorates and government agencies use the costing tool; if not, (a) which directorates and agencies do not use the costing tool and (b) why are they excused.
- (6) Are there any circumstances in which a question on notice would not be costed.
- (7) What measures are in place to ensure consistency in use of the costing tool across directorates and agencies.
- (8) How is the question costed if it is addressed to more than one minister and/or directorate or agency.
- (9) Have training courses been held into use of the costing application; if so, (a) how many have been held, (b) how many staff attended each one and (c) what was the total cost.

- (10) Are “refresher” courses planned.
- (11) Will training on the costing application become part of any induction programs for new staff.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) Development of the costing tool was not separately costed.
- (2) The costing tool was within the ACT Government.
- (3) Consultants were not involved in the development of the tool.
- (4) Consultants were not involved in the development of the tool.
- (5) All Directorates use the costing tool.
- (6) Where a question on notice is not answered, for example where it is considered doing so would require an unreasonable diversion of resources, a costing would not be prepared.
- (7) Guidelines regarding costing of questions on notice have been circulated to directorates and are publically available on the CMTEDD website. Specific guidance on how to use the costing tool is included in the tool itself.
- (8) Generally, a directorate preparing a response for multiple Ministers would calculate the cost of preparing the response, which would be averaged across each applicable question on notice. Where a response requires input from multiple directorates, each directorate would cost their component of the response for incorporation into the final costing.
- (9) No.
- (10) No.
- (11) No.

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**University of Canberra Public Hospital—infrastructure  
(Question No 1573)**

**Mrs Dunne** asked the Minister for Mental Health, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Have the mental health facilities at the University of Canberra Public Hospital been reviewed for ligature points; if so, what was the outcome; if not, why not.
- (2) Have any ligature points been found; if so, have they been removed.
- (3) If any ligature points have not been removed, why not.
- (4) How many full-time psychiatrist positions have been created for the University of

- (5) How many of those positions referred to in part (4) are filled as at the date of the answer given to this question.
- (6) How many full-time mental health nursing positions have been created for the University of Canberra Public Hospital.
- (7) How many of those positions referred to in part (6) are filled as at the date of the answer given to this question.
- (8) How many full-time psychiatrists and mental health nursing staff have been transferred to the University of Canberra Public Hospital from other mental health facilities in the ACT and from which other mental health facilities have they been transferred.
- (9) Have the consequential vacancies at other mental health facilities been filled with new permanent staff; if not, why not.
- (10) How many full-time psychiatrists and mental health nursing staff have been recruited to the University of Canberra Public Hospital other than from other mental health facilities in the ACT.
- (11) How many beds are allocated for mental health patients at the University of Canberra Public Hospital.
- (12) What is the average mental health bed occupancy rate at the University of Canberra Public Hospital up to the date of the answer given to this question.

**Mr Rattenbury:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The mental health units at University of Canberra Public Hospital (UCH) were designed with a focus on ligature point minimisation. Innovations include anti ligature tapware in the ensuites, continuous hinges on the bedroom doors, 15 kilogram weight bearing curtains, towel hooks and wardrobe rails, and weight sensors on top of the doors in the bedrooms.
- (2) Any potential ligature points have been minimised through the design process and the innovations described above.
- (3) As above.
- (4) The two psychiatrists who were previously working at Brian Hennessy Rehabilitation Centre (BHRC) (1.0 FTE) have transferred to UCH. No additional positions have been created.
- (5) All of them.
- (6) The Adult Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit (AMHRU) has 18.81 FTE nursing staff. All these positions transferred from BHRC. The Adult Mental Health Day Service (AMHDS) has 3 FTE nurses. Two of these positions were transferred from the AMHDS located at the Belconnen Community Health Centre and one new position has been created.
- (7) All of them.

- (8) Refer to answers to parts 4 and 6.
  - (9) There are no consequential vacancies at other mental health services as a result of these transfers as the services have transferred to UCH along with the staff.
  - (10) No psychiatrists were recruited. One nurse was recruited from outside the existing mental health service.
  - (11) There are 20 overnight beds in the AMHRU at UCH.
  - (12) As of 6 August 2018, there were 14 people admitted, which is 70% occupancy.
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### **Domestic animal services—dogs (Question No 1576)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Was the owner of the dog that attacked a police officer on a private property in Rivett on 1 July 2018, identified.
- (2) Was the attacking dog seized or held by Domestic Animal Services (DAS).
- (3) Had the attacking dog come to the attention of, or been reported to DAS previously; if so what action had previously been taken by DAS against the (a) owners and (b) dog.
- (4) What has now happened or is happening to the attacking dog.
- (5) Was the attacking dog; (a) registered, (b) desexed and/or (c) microchipped.
- (6) What action has DAS taken or is intending to take against the owner of the attacking dog.
- (7) When and what advice has been provided to the owners of the dog.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes, the dog was seized.
- (3) Yes. (a) and (b) This incident is currently being investigated by TCCS and ACT Policing and it is not appropriate that I address this question at this time.
- (4) The dog remains in the care of DAS while an investigation is conducted.
- (5) (a) No (b) Yes (c) Yes.
- (6) This incident is currently being investigated and further action will be taken pending the outcomes of the investigation.

- (7) The owner of the dog was advised that an investigation was underway at the time of the seizure of the dog. Further communication with the owner is taking place as part of the investigation.
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**Domestic animal services—dogs  
(Question No 1578)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Was the owner of the attacking dog identified in relation to an attack on 18 June 2018 on another dog who was injured and subsequently put down.
- (2) Was the attacking dog seized or held by Domestic Animal Services (DAS).
- (3) Had the attacking dog come to the attention of, or been reported to DAS previously; if so what action had previously been taken by DAS against the (a) owners and (b) dog.
- (4) What has now happened or is happening to the attacking dog.
- (5) Was the attacking dog (a) registered, (b) desexed and/or (c) microchipped.
- (6) What action has DAS taken or is intending to take against the owner of the attacking dog.
- (7) When and what advice has been provided to the owners of the dog who was attacked.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Yes.
  - (2) Yes, the dog was seized.
  - (3) No.
  - (4) The dog remains in the care of DAS while an investigation is conducted.
  - (5) (a) Yes (b) No (c) Yes
  - (6) This incident is currently being investigated and further action will be taken pending the outcomes of the investigation.
  - (7) Investigators initially contacted all parties involved in this case and advised them of the investigation process. Investigators have continued to update those involved, including the owners of the dog that was attacked, with the most recent contact being 3 August 2018.
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**Domestic animal services—dogs  
(Question No 1581)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Domestic Animal Services (DAS) will not take action in relation to a nuisance dog under the *Domestic Animal Act 2000* (the Act) unless and until a ranger directly sees or hears the dog barking or being a nuisance.
- (2) What is the test used by DAS for “excessive disturbance” under the Act.
- (3) What evidence does DAS usually require before it will issue a nuisance notice under section 112 of the Act to require the owners of a dog to take action to reduce the noise made by their dog.
- (4) What is the test for the Registrar to have reasonable grounds to believe that the dog in question is causing animal nuisance or excessive disturbance to one or more persons.
- (5) Has DAS adopted a multiple household or consensus threshold test for taking action under the Act in relation to noise related animal nuisance; if so, does this defeat the purpose and operation of the Act which provides animal nuisance occurs when an animal causes, solely or in part, excessive disturbance to a person (i.e., one) and is intended to provide a remedy for that person.
- (6) To what extent are resourcing and budget issues and the many competing roles and demands on DAS staff a consideration in a decision whether or not to investigate an animal nuisance complaint or issue a nuisance order or obtain the evidence required to issue such an order.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) No. A ranger does not have to see or hear the barking or nuisance but needs to gather sufficient evidence to substantiate a complaint before enforcement action can be taken.
- (2) Consistent with the requirements of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*, rangers must consider the number of people affected, be satisfied that the nuisance is frequent and persistent and that it presents an impost on the quiet enjoyment of the neighbourhood.
- (3) Consistent with the requirements of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*, rangers must believe a nuisance exists and consider the number of people affected, be satisfied that the nuisance is frequent and persistent and that it presents an impost on the quiet enjoyment of the neighbourhood. Rangers must also any consider reasonable precautions that a person whose animal is causing the nuisance has or has not taken to avoid or minimise the nuisance and any reasonable precautions that a person adversely affected by the nuisance has or has not taken to avoid or minimise the effects of the nuisance.
- (4) For the Registrar to establish a reasonable belief, the Registrar reviews the investigative evidence including noise monitoring diaries gathered from the complainant, corroborative evidence from neighbouring residents and the frequency and persistence of the alleged nuisance.
- (5) No.
- (6) As per the Licensing and Compliance Accountability Commitment, DAS applies a risk-based compliance approach to ensure that its resources are targeted to prioritise the most significant risks of harm, unsafe practices or misconduct, thereby

strengthening its capacity to take action where the community, animals and/or the environment are most at risk.

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**Domestic animal services—dogs  
(Question No 1582)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) To what extent is the Animal Welfare and Management Strategy 2017-2022 and the Government policies of promoting and incentivising responsible pet ownership a consideration in a decision whether or not to issue a nuisance order or obtain the evidence required to issue such an order.
- (2) What criteria does Domestic Animal Services (DAS) use for deciding to cease an investigation of a complaint.
- (3) Does DAS provide a complainant with opportunity to comment before any decision is made to end the investigation into their complaint and is there a procedural fairness requirement.
- (4) To what extent does DAS take into account that many complainants will lack any remedy to resolve animal nuisance complaints themselves if the dog owners refuse to act responsibly, particularly after being advised by DAS that DAS has decided not to act on the complaint.
- (5) Can the Minister confirm that a complainant has no right to seek a review of a decision by DAS to refuse to investigate a complaint or issue an animal nuisance order.
- (6) Has the Minister issued any guidelines under section 114C of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* about animal nuisance and the Registrar's functions in relation to animal nuisance, if so, can these be provided.
- (7) What consideration has been given to reform of the animal nuisance provisions of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000*.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Responsible pet ownership is a key underlying consideration in how DAS exercises its compliance functions.
- (2) An investigation into a complaint may be ceased where all reasonable enquiries have been undertaken and a complaint cannot be established (corroborated or proven) or where it is not in the public's best interest to pursue a matter.
- (3) In accordance with procedural fairness principles, DAS notifies each complainant of the outcome of its investigation prior to a matter being closed and explains the rationale for the decision. DAS will reopen an investigation if new evidence becomes available.

- (4) DAS recognises that nuisance matters can be a source of frustration for complainants, however DAS is only able to exercise powers provided for within the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* and is required to obtain sufficient evidence before taking regulatory action.
- (5) There is no current legislative process for a complainant to seek a review of a decision by DAS to refuse to investigate a complaint or issue an animal nuisance order. However, where a complaint relates to a regulatory decision, or a person is dissatisfied with the response, in accordance with the Licensing and Compliance Accountability Commitment, complainants may request an internal review of the decision.
- (6) No.
- (7) Reforms were made to Part 6 (Animal Nuisance) of the *Domestic Animals Act 2000* in 2017 with the introduction of the *Domestic Animals (Dangerous Dogs) Legislation Amendment Act 2017*.

### **Domestic animal services—dogs (Question No 1583)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How many complaint calls to Domestic Animal Services (DAS) for (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018 by (i) all types, (ii) attacking, (iii) roaming, (iv) harassing, (v) nuisance and (vi) barking.
- (2) How many animal nuisance complaints were lodged with DAS in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.
- (3) How many animal nuisance complaints were rejected by DAS as frivolous or vexatious in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.
- (4) How many animal nuisance complaints were accepted by DAS for investigation in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.
- (5) How many animal nuisance investigations are on foot now and on average per month in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.
- (6) What was the average time to complete an animal nuisance investigation in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018 and what was the (i) longest and (ii) shortest.
- (7) How many animal nuisance investigations were completed without issue of an animal nuisance order in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.
- (8) How many animal nuisance investigations were completed with issue of an animal nuisance order in (a) 2013-2014, (b) 2014-2015, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2016-2017 and (e) 2017-2018.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1 – 8) I have been advised by my Directorate that the information sought is not in an easily retrievable form, and that to collect and assemble the information sought solely for the purpose of answering the question would require a considerable diversion of resources. In this instance, I do not believe that it would be appropriate to divert resources from other priority activities for the purposes of answering the Member's question. However, I offer the member a verbal briefing to discuss their questions.
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**Domestic animal services—veterinary services  
(Question No 1584)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How does Domestic Animal Services (DAS) provide veterinary services for animals held by DAS.
- (2) Does DAS (a) employ veterinary services on a full time, part time or on a contract basis and (b) what are the details of those arrangements.
- (3) How does DAS provide veterinary services for animals in its care outside regular working hours.
- (4) Which unit of Transport Canberra and City Services is the Senior Ranger Education and Victim Support located in.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) DAS has a contracted Veterinary Surgeon who attends the facility on a weekly basis to inspect and treat impounded animals. Any animal needing veterinary attention or care outside these hours is taken to the Inner South Veterinary Practice or after hours to the Animal Referral Hospital for treatment.
  - (2) As above.
  - (3) As above.
  - (4) The Licensing and Compliance unit within the City Presentation branch of the City Services Division.
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**ACTION bus service—free services  
(Question No 1587)**

**Ms Lee** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What has been the scheduled frequency of services of the Free City Loop Bus in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.

- (2) Has the scheduled frequency of service changed since the decision to cancel the route was made in June 2018.
- (3) How is the scheduled frequency of service of the Free City Bus Loop monitored.
- (4) What percentage of the Free City Loop services ran to schedule in (a) 2016, (b) 2017 and (c) 2018.
- (5) What is the length of shift for drivers on the Free City Loop.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) (a-c) The intended frequency of services of the Free City Loop Bus was approximately every 10 minutes in 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- (2) There has been no changes to the intended frequency of the service.
- (3) Transport Canberra continually monitors all services across the network, including the Free City Bus Loop through the real-time NXTBUS system.
- (4) The percentage of the Free City Loop services that ran to schedule cannot be calculated as the service does not run to a scheduled timetable. Instead the service operates as a loop with intended 10 minute frequencies.
- (5) The length of the shift for part-time drivers is 4 hours and 37 mins each. The length of the shift for full-time drivers is either 9 hours and 29 mins or 8 hours each.

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**ACTION bus service—network  
(Question No 1588)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How was the consultation advertised to the Canberra community in relation to proposed changes to bus services known as Network 19.
- (2) How could people find out about the roadshows apart from the “yoursay” website.
- (3) Will the flexible bus service be expanded as part of Network 19.
- (4) What public transport alternative is being proposed, apart from the flexible bus service, for people who cannot easily walk to a bus stop under the new network.
- (5) Has the proposed Network 19 taken into account residential aged care facilities that may have a high proportion of public transport users who are unable to walk for any distance.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Canberrans were invited to participate in the public consultation on the proposed changes to bus services:
  - a. at community council meetings and other public meetings;

- b. at roadshows in town centres, group centres and other key locations, such as tertiary institutions;
  - c. online at [www.yoursay.act.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.act.gov.au) and [www.canberrabuses.com.au](http://www.canberrabuses.com.au);
  - d. through social media and online advertising;
  - e. through interviews, media releases and other statements to broadcast and print media, such as *The Canberra Times* and the ABC;
  - f. through advertising on buses and at bus stops;
  - g. in the *Our Canberra* newsletter distributed to all households throughout the ACT;
  - h. in meetings with individual stakeholders and community groups; and
  - i. through direct communication with schools and parents, including information provided for inclusion in school newsletters and letters to school principals.
- (2) The roadshows were advertised through community council meetings, at other public meetings, at [www.canberrabuses.com.au](http://www.canberrabuses.com.au), through social media and other channels.
- (3) Transport Canberra has received feedback from the community as part of the public consultation about the flexible bus service, which the ACT Government will take into account when making a decision about improvements to public transport services in 2019.
- (4) The Flexible Bus Service is designed to serve customers who cannot easily walk to a bus stop. Some customers also use other services, such as community transport services. Travel distances have also been considered in configuring the new bus network and the location of bus stops.
- (5) Yes.

### **ACTION bus service—Xpresso services (Question No 1589)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What is the average patronage for each current Xpresso bus **service** (not route).
- (2) Which existing Xpresso bus **routes** are proposed to be substantially replaced by a new Rapid route or combination of inter-connecting Rapid routes.
- (3) Can the Minister provide travel time comparisons for key destinations between the current service and the proposed replacement for each route listed in part (2).

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Based on data from the MyWay ticketing system, the average patronage for each current Xpresso bus service from 1 January to 30 June 2018 was as follows:

<b>Route</b>	<b>Start time</b>	<b>Average boardings per Trip</b>
<b>705</b>	6:51	11
	7:08	14
	7:13	12
	7:35	19
	8:01	17

Route	Start time	Average boardings per Trip
	8:11	32
	16:30	13
	16:46	15
	17:03	13
	17:14	13
	17:27	9
	17:42	7
<b>712</b>	6:34	12
	6:49	10
	7:04	26
	7:16	29
	7:43	58
	16:42	16
	17:11	25
	17:39	15
	18:07	10
<b>714</b>	6:38	15
	6:52	19
	7:32	54
	16:53	19
	17:20	14
	17:47	9
<b>717</b>	6:52	21
	7:16	28
	7:47	50
	17:14	25
	17:41	14
	18:08	17
<b>718</b>	6:35	12
	6:51	21
	7:34	41
	16:34	25
	17:01	24
	17:34	17
<b>719</b>	6:38	16
	7:08	32
	7:40	31
	16:22	29
	16:46	20
	17:13	18
	17:40	13
<b>720</b>	7:05	19
	7:36	40
	8:10	38
	16:39	22
	17:09	29
	17:30	21
<b>725</b>	6:58	8
	7:19	23
	7:53	39

Route	Start time	Average boardings per Trip
	16:49	24
	17:27	19
<b>726</b>	6:51	13
	7:17	21
	8:26	27
	16:52	26
	17:38	18
<b>732</b>	7:19	12
	8:00	40
	8:41	22
	16:41	16
	17:14	26
	17:43	15
<b>743</b>	6:38	30
	6:58	23
	7:09	22
	7:19	36
	7:38	43
	7:55	37
	16:21	30
	16:35	20
	16:50	24
	17:05	27
	17:20	23
	17:35	23
	17:53	16
<b>744</b>	6:53	23
	7:09	29
	7:20	22
	7:35	42
	7:55	47
	16:29	21
	16:43	17
	16:58	18
	17:13	25
	17:29	18
	17:45	18
<b>749</b>	7:12	6
	7:33	15
	8:37	5
	16:40	16
	17:12	10
	17:13	11
<b>765</b>	6:51	20
	7:15	28
	7:46	38
	16:36	29
	17:02	22
	17:33	12

Route	Start time	Average boardings per Trip
<b>767</b>	6:42	27
	6:57	22
	7:19	30
	16:46	25
	17:17	18
	17:46	11
<b>775</b>	6:23	10
	7:28	30
	16:35	20
<b>783</b>	17:35	8
	7:06	16
	7:32	26
	17:09	17
<b>791</b>	17:30	11
	7:16	17
	7:33	14
	7:59	23
	8:23	29
	8:41	11
	16:38	14
	16:59	18
	17:20	16
	17:44	14
<b>792</b>	6:39	11
	7:06	18
	7:23	13
	7:45	24
	8:10	23
	8:30	17
	16:31	30
	16:48	23
	17:07	15
	17:27	10
17:48	6	
<b>Total Average</b>		21

- (2) The ten high frequency, direct Rapid routes and connecting local routes in the proposed network will serve as an alternative for customers using any of the existing Xpresso routes.
- (3) At present, Transport Canberra cannot calculate the travel time comparisons between the existing network and the proposed network. This is because timetables for the new network are yet to be developed, as the ACT Government is currently consulting on the proposed routes. In any event, individual travel times are not simply a function of bus journey times between two points. Time spent waiting for services to arrive is also another important consideration.

**Waste—illegal dumping  
(Question No 1590)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Has the government land along Warragamba Avenue in Duffy been cleared of all rubbish illegally dumped.
- (2) How long is the standard waiting period from notification of illegal dumping to clean up of the site.
- (3) Can the Minister provide an update on how the littering and illegal dumping working group recently established by Transport and City Services is tracking and if the government doing extra work to address these issues.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Illegally dumped rubbish is programmed for removal as it is identified or reported. In the case of the area along Warragamba Avenue in Duffy, TCCS faces an ongoing challenge to keep the area free of illegally dumped rubbish because more material is often dumped after the area is cleaned up.
- (2) Typically illegally dumped material is removed within 7 days of being identified or reported.
- (3) The working group is looking at a number of options to address the issue of illegal dumping and are actively collecting information on dumping patterns and sites to inform preventative and compliance activities. For example, this information will inform the installation of additional surveillance cameras and warning signage. There is increased collaboration with other Directorates with a role in managing illegal dumping, such as the Environment Protection Authority. Changes to the *Litter Act 2004* have been made recently to provide for improved enforcement action. Other waste management initiatives being rolled out or in the planning stages are also expected to reduce the prevalence of dumping, such as the Container Deposit Scheme, the expansion of the green waste collection scheme and a bulky waste pick up service.

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**Transport—social inclusion  
(Question No 1591)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Minister for Community Services and Social Inclusion, upon notice, on 3 August 2018 (*redirected to the Minister for Transport and City Services*):

- (1) How have the impacts of reduced local public transport services on social inclusion for those people in Canberra who cannot easily walk to a bus stop been evaluated in relation to proposed changes to bus services known as Network 19.
- (2) What actions are proposed to ameliorate the reduction of local bus services on social inclusion for isolated members of our community.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) & (2) The number of local public transport services will not be reduced under the proposed bus network. The number of bus trips on Rapid and local routes in the proposed network is expected to be 4,300 or more, compared to around 3,400 in today's network. This equates to an increase of 26% in the number of daily bus trips on Rapid and local routes compared to today.

### **Housing—rates (Question No 1592)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What proportion of the revenue from residential rates was raised from the following types of properties, (a) units, (b) houses and (c) other types of properties, for (i) 2014-2015, (ii) 2015-2016, (iii) 2016-2017 and (iv) 2017-2018.
- (2) What proportion of the revenue from residential rates is expected to be raised from the following types of properties in the current financial year, (a) units, (b) houses and (c) other types of properties.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

	Houses	Units	Other
2014-15	82%	16%	2%
2015-16	82%	17%	2%
2016-17	81%	17%	2%
2017-18	79%	19%	2%
2018-19	78%	20%	2%

Notes:

- Totals may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.
- 'Other' includes Religious residential, Patio housing, Homes for the Aged, Flats and Broadacre development.

### **Planning—Giralang shops (Question No 1593)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Minister for Planning and Land Management, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) For what reason was the Development Application (DA) for the Giralang Shops in July 2018 called in.
- (2) How many objections in total were made on the Giralang Shops DA that was subsequently called in, and how many were (a) from commercial competitors such as supermarket operators or shopping centre owners and (b) made by residents or owners of residential property in Giralang.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Under Section 159 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* I may consider a development application if I consider it: to respond to a major policy issue; or have a substantial effect on achieving objectives of the Territory Plan; or provide a substantial public benefit.

I have used my call-in powers in this instance because I formed the view that the proposal will provide a substantial public benefit, particularly to the community of Giralang and surrounding suburbs with delivery of a long overdue local centre.

I considered that the people of Giralang have been denied this facility as a result of prolonged legal challenges that eventually escalated to the High Court.

I also had regard of the fact that my decision cannot be reviewed by a third party in the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

I trust the use of my ability to consider, and approve this new development application will at last signal the end to a long and frustrating journey for the Giralang community.

- (2) The development application received 41 written representations in total, including one late representation. Of the 41 written representations received, 17 objected to the proposal, 13 supported the proposal, and 11 provided qualified support.
  - a. One objection was received from a commercial operator.
  - b. One objection was received from a community group, and 15 were made by individual residents or owners of residential properties in Giralang.

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### **Municipal services—flood maps (Question No 1595)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018 (*redirected to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage*):

- (1) Can the Minister provide a copy of any maps prepared for 100 year floods and the year each map was updated for (a) Inner North Canberra, (b) Inner South Canberra, (c) Belconnen, (d) Gungahlin, (e) Tuggeranong, (f) Weston Creek, (g) Woden.
- (2) How often are these flood maps reviewed.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate is currently developing maps that identify areas that potentially could be impacted (in terms of extent, depth and hazard) from riverine flooding in a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flood event, previously known as the 1 in 100 year flood.

The maps will cover areas of Sullivan's Creek, Yarralumla Creek, Long Gully Creek, Weston Creek, Woolshed Creek, Tuggeranong Creek, and Ginninderra Creek systems.

The maps have been developed based on extensive technical input and flood modelling expertise. These maps are currently undergoing a final peer review to confirm on-ground conditions and are proposed to be available publicly in the near future.

It is industry practice to review flood maps every five to ten years based on the level of potential impact and occurrence and the observed changes to climate, land use (such as increases in impervious surfaces due to development, and understanding of climate including expected rainfall intensity) and the stormwater network.

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### **Roads—Mirrabai Drive (Question No 1596)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) When will the Mirrabai Drive duplication be completed.
- (2) How many lanes will the road have after the duplication has been completed.
- (3) Will there be any points within the duplication that only has three lanes.
- (4) What was the total cost of the duplication.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The works on Mirrabai Drive are scheduled for completion in the fourth quarter of 2018.
  - (2) Mirrabai Drive will have three lanes between Gundaroo Drive and Paul Coe Crescent on completion of the works. This being two lanes Southbound and one lane Northbound.
  - (3) Mirrabai Drive will have three lanes between Gundaroo Drive and Paul Coe Crescent on completion of the works.
  - (4) The project budget is \$2.8m.
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### **Roads—Monaro Highway (Question No 1597)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Why do the three lanes southbound on the Monaro Highway at Hume revert to two lanes at a culvert where there is limited room for motorists to take evasive action should drivers not allow a merge.
- (2) Why is westbound traffic on Canberra Avenue forced to travel up Ipswich Street to gain access to the Monaro Highway heading north and the reverse going south to Canberra Avenue.

- (3) Why does the up ramp to Dairy Flat Road heading north (Monaro Highway) cause drivers to turn their backs on approaching traffic on the highway thereby not being able to be aware of this traffic and causing the Monaro traffic to have to move into the right hand lane to avoid possible issues.
- (4) Why were the traffic lights installed for the Alexander Maconochie Centre on the Monaro Highway, which is a major arterial road, often causing traffic in peak hours to bank up back to Hindmarsh Drive so one or two vehicles can leave the facility.
- (5) Could the vehicle entrance be moved around to the lights at Sheppard Street/Lanyon Drive.
- (6) Why does the Lanyon Drive/Monaro Highway intersection not have a flyover for the northbound traffic and (a) has this been considered and (b) when will it occur.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The third lane southbound on the Monaro Highway is provided before, and for a short distance after, the Sheppard Street signalised intersection. The third lane provides capacity for queuing and allows the traffic signals to clear more vehicles through the intersection each cycle and so makes the signals more efficient. Road capacity is constrained by intersections and so the additional lane is not necessary after the signals and so the three lanes are merged into two lanes a short distance after the intersection.
  - (2) The intersection of Monaro Highway with Canberra Avenue does not have all movements provided. However, there are alternative access routes to join the Monaro Highway via Ipswich Street and Hindmarsh Drive. Any upgrade to this intersection to include an on ramp connecting Canberra Avenue westbound to the northbound Monaro Highway would be predicated on traffic volumes and road network performance.
  - (3) The northbound on-ramp from Dairy Road on to the Monaro Highway is a standard intersection treatment and as such is a road layout familiar to motorist. Drivers should be using their mirrors to look behind and should give way to traffic on the Monaro Highway. Traffic on the Monaro Highway is not required to move to the right to allow traffic to enter the highway.
  - (4) Traffic lights were installed at David Warren Road to provide safe access to and from the centre. The lights are activated when vehicles need to exit the centre otherwise the lights remain green on the Monaro Highway.
  - (5) This change would need to be investigated for feasibility and cost/benefit implications.
  - (6) Grade separation of roads, such as the construction of a flyover, is predicated on traffic volumes and road network performance. Currently this section of the Monaro Highway is performing acceptably. However, the intersection will be investigated as part of the Monaro Highway Improvements Program.
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### **Roads—speed limits (Question No 1598)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

Why is Mugga Lane from Long Gully Road speed limit 70kph when similar roads in NSW are 80kph or 100kph.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

Mugga Lane is an arterial road carrying over 5,000 vehicles per day with a high number of heavy vehicles. As part of the review of speed limits in 2010, this section of road was assessed using the latest guides and Australian Standards. The speed limit was reduced from 80 km/h to 70 km/h, primarily due to considerations of road characteristics including crash history.

### **Roads—resurfacing (Question No 1599)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Why does ACT Roads use the tar and blue metal chip method of resealing roads.
- (2) How long does tar and blue metal chip last.
- (3) How much does it cost for tar and blue metal chip per km.
- (4) What other options are there for resealing roads.
- (5) Why are these options not undertaken by the Government.
- (6) How much does it cost to use these other resealing options per km.
- (7) How is the decision made as to which roads are chip sealed and which have other methods.
- (8) Can the Minister provide a copy of the risk assessment comparing chip seal and other methods.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The chip seal treatment is a preventative maintenance treatment and is applied before the road surface deteriorates to the point where damage occurs that would require costly rehabilitation treatment. Maintaining roads to be safe and useable requires the road pavement to be kept dry and for the surface to have a good skid resistance. Spray or chip sealing achieves this and is a cost effective preventative maintenance treatment. For this reason it is widely used to maintain roads in the ACT and other jurisdictions across Australia. Asphalt is mostly used to correct damage to the road

surface (rutting or polishing) typically at intersections. The cost of asphalt is about five to ten times more per square metre than chip seal and is only used when it is required.

- (2) The life span for chip seal is up to 25 years depending on traffic volume, condition and capacity of base layers.
- (3) The unit cost is recorded for each square metre. Main road resealing costs approximately \$15 per square metre, residential street resealing costs approximately \$10 per square metre.
- (4) The other treatments available are asphalt, ultra-thin asphalt and microsurfacing. Each treatment has distinct purposes and applications. They may be applied in combination to achieve desired outcomes, for example microsurfacing is often combined with chip seal.
- (5) All treatments mentioned above are used in ACT. The most appropriate and cost effective treatment, or combination of treatments, is selected according to site specific conditions and required outcomes

(6)

<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Cost per square metre</b>
Asphalt	Approximately \$55 to \$80 per square metre depending on thickness
Thin Asphalt (TOGAS)	Approximately \$30 per square metre
Microsurfacing	Approximately \$15 per square metre

- (7) The aim of the annual resurfacing program is to deliver a large, regular preventive resurfacing program using cost effective treatments. This helps to prevent structural damage to the road thus extending its serviceable life to make the most out of the existing road. During the development of annual resurfacing program, Roads ACT analyses pavement history and condition attributes such as cracking, roughness, skid resistance and rutting etc. and prioritises the roads to be resurfaced. Various surfacing treatment types are considered for each site and their suitability and cost effectiveness are carefully evaluated. Roads ACT also considers the possibility of environmental effects such as noise when selecting a surface. Generally municipal streets in residential areas have low speed, low volume traffic. Resealing is the normal and most used surface treatment for municipal streets which provides excellent water proofing, good skid resistance and value for money. Asphalt is predominantly used for correcting pavement defects and at intersections on high volume urban arterial roads.
- (8) During the development of the annual resurfacing program, various surfacing treatment types are considered for each site. These treatments are not a direct alternative to each other, hence there is not a risk assessment of one against another in general. Pavement history and condition attributes such as cracking, roughness, skid resistance and rutting etc. are analysed using a computer based pavement management system. As part of the process road deterioration models, traffic volume, road user cost, economic, social and environmental effects are analysed. The draft program including treatment for any particular road section is then generated. Finally the data is validated and the resurfacing program is finalised.

**Roads—duplication costs  
(Question No 1600)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Over the last 5 years how long does it take to duplicate 1km of road in the ACT on average.
- (2) How does this compare with other states.
- (3) How much does it cost to duplicate 1km of road in the ACT on average.
- (4) How does this compare with other states.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) There are many factors that contribute to the length of time it takes to complete road duplications in the ACT. Various factors that differ from project to project can affect project duration and cost, including site access, the location of services, ground conditions, total project length and weather. As the length taken to duplicate roadways is subject to various factors and not a figure of practical use in the conduct of road duplications, it's not a measure calculated by the ACT Government. The ACT Government is unaware of any other state calculating that measure.
- (2) The ACT Government is unaware of any other state calculating that measure. As the design and construction of road duplications is governed by national, ACT and NSW Roads and Maritime Services standards, the ACT Government expects the length of time to complete road duplications in the ACT is comparable to other states.
- (3) Please see answer to Question 1.
- (4) Please see answer to Question 2.

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**Crime—infringement notices  
(Question No 1601)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018 (*redirected to the Minister for Regulatory Services*):

- (1) How many infringement notices were issued per year for each of the past three years for (a) speeding, (b) use of mobile phone, (c) failure to keep left, (d) failure to wear seat belt, (e) failure to use indicator, (f) failure to stop at red light, (g) failure to stop at stop sign, (h) driving an unregistered car, (i) distracted driving, (j) driving under the influence of alcohol, (k) driving under the influence of drugs, (l) road rage, (m) tailgating and (n) other (please specify).
- (2) How many infringement notices were issued per year for each of the past three years in each suburb by (a) speeding, (b) use of mobile phone, (c) failure to keep left, (d) failure to wear seat belt, (e) failure to use indicator, (f) failure to stop at red light, (g)

failure to stop at stop sign, (h) driving an unregistered car, (i) distracted driving, (j) driving under the influence of alcohol, (k) driving under the influence of drugs, (l) road rage, (m) tailgating and (n) other (please specify).

**Mr Ramsay:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

(1) Please refer to **Attachment A**.

As the question was originally asked to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, this data only relates to infringement notices issued by ACT Policing and does not include traffic camera infringements.

(2) Please refer to **Attachment B**.

As the question was originally asked to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, this data only relates to infringement notices issued by ACT Policing and does not include traffic camera infringements.

*(Copies of the attachments are available at the Chamber Support Office).*

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### **Roads—traffic management (Question No 1602)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How many keep left signs are there in the ACT.
- (2) Why are there not more “keep left unless overtaking” signs in the ACT.
- (3) How is it decided where “keep left unless overtaking signs” are placed.
- (4) Why are ACT highways and parkways speed limited to 100Kph.
- (5) Why isn't traffic flow encouraged in the ACT by coordinating traffic lights to traffic flow needs.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) There are approximately 4000 ‘keep left’ signs in the ACT.
- (2) ‘Keep left unless overtaking’ signs are only used on multi lane roads with speed limits higher than 80 km/h. The great majority of the ACT road network is within the urban environment with speed limits at or lower than 80km/h and hence there is limited use of this sign in the ACT.
- (3) Australian Standards specify the use of “keep left unless overtaking signs”.
- (4) The criteria for setting speed limits is set out in the relevant Australian Standard. Setting speed limits seeks to maximise safe movement while minimising adverse impacts such as noise and air pollution. Canberra is predominantly urban and so there are only a few road sections where 100km/h speed limits are appropriate.

- (5) Traffic flows in the ACT are encouraged by coordinating traffic light to flow needs. This is achieved using one of the worlds most advanced traffic signal control system called SCATs to coordinate and optimise traffic flows through traffic signals across the ACT road network. This system is also used by all the majority of road agencies in Australia and is regularly improved and updated to incorporate the latest advances in traffic engineering research.

### **Planning—West Basin (Question No 1603)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Chief Minister, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Has the ACT Government prepared a West Basin Precinct Conservation Management Plan; if so, can the Chief Minister provide a copy.
- (2) What evidence do you have to support your claim that the “Griffins’ original plan intended the city’s street layout would continue down to the lake in West Basin”; if so, can the Chief Minister provide a copy of this evidence.
- (3) Why has the heritage planning value of the existing Lake not been respected.
- (4) How does the development of private apartments and retail premises “enhance” the “cultural” and “heritage” value of the lake”.
- (5) How will people, including visitors to Canberra, get to this “precinct” to meet, celebrate and relax with no real means of significant motor vehicle, or public transport access as light rail alone is unlikely to provide sufficient public access.
- (6) What building height for “low rise” is intended for the West Basin development.
- (7) Is this consistent with the previous policies and plans of the LDA.
- (8) How will the allocation of a comparatively small amount of space in this strategic dedicated open space area meet best practice city open space designs.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) No; there is no statutory requirement to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the area.
- (2) The significant aspects of the Griffin Plan which are required to be conserved are outlined in the Griffin Legacy produced by the NCA in 2004. Amendment 61 to the National Capital Plan embeds the *Griffin Legacy* strategies that apply to the development of West Basin. A stated policy in Amendment 61 is to “*Extend the city grid of streets and paths to enhance connectivity and accessibility to the lake.*”
- (3) The planning for West Basin is required to be, and is, consistent with the planning controls prescribed in the National Capital Plan.
- (4) West Basin is currently an underutilised space that is dominated by surface car parks. The development of the West Basin precinct and waterfront will create a world class public space asset attracting Canberrans and visitors to appreciate and connect to the lake and its environs.

- (5) There will be multiple modes of transport available to connect locals and visitors to the West Basin Precinct. The development of West Basin will improve upon the current access options by providing improved pedestrian and cyclist networks and enhanced public transport services, including light rail.
- (6) The permissible building heights for the West Basin precinct are prescribed in Amendment 61 to the National Capital Plan.
- (7) Yes.
- (8) Currently the open space in West Basin is dominated by surface carparks. At the completion of the development of West Basin project there will be approximately 4.3 hectares of public open space which will include approximately 600 metres of generously scaled waterfront promenade; a new linear urban park; segregated cycle way; a network of pocket parks, plazas, playgrounds and water play elements; and restaurant/cafe pavilions.

### **Waste—illegal dumping (Question No 1607)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What is the evidentiary test for taking action against dumpers in relation to several recent reports of illegal dumping at Oakey Hill where in one case identifying materials such as a garage sale sign was found with the dumped rubbish.
- (2) How many instances of action against litterers or dumpers have occurred in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, (c) 2016, (d) 2017 and (e) 2018.
- (3) What is the government doing to ensure a more vigorous approach to compliance with regards to littering and illegal dumping.
- (4) How many cases of dumping illegal rubbish in nature reserves and parks have there been in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, (c) 2016, (d) 2017 and (e) 2018.
- (5) Can the Minister list the number of incidences of rubbish dumping in (a) 2014, (b) 2015, (c) 2016, (d) 2017 and (e) 2018, by (i) location and (ii) name of park.
- (6) What has been done to discourage dumping at the most common sites.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) As is the case for all offences, the legislated elements of an illegal dumping offence must be proven. The presence of identifying information is not necessarily adequate on its own in the absence of other supporting evidence.
- (2, 4, 5) I have been advised by my Directorate that the information sought is not in an easily retrievable form and that to collect and assemble the information sought solely for the purpose of answering the question would require a considerable diversion of resources. In this instance, I do not believe that it would be

appropriate to divert resources from other priority activities for the purposes of answering the Member's question. However, I offer the member a verbal briefing to discuss their questions.

- (3) On 31 July 2018, new regulations were introduced to support compliance activity in relation to illegal dumping. Building on from this legislative work, in the coming months, TCCS intends to target identified illegal dumping areas across Canberra using surveillance cameras to deter and identify offenders. Areas will be sign posted that cameras may be used in the area, with rangers relocating cameras at various locations intermittently.
- (6) Due to the intermittent and surreptitious nature of illegal dumping, capturing offenders committing the offence is difficult and occurs infrequently. Rangers have been proactively targeting known illegal dumping sites, and have infringed business and people where offenders have been identified. The above mentioned surveillance camera and signage activities should aid in deterring and identifying offenders and holding them accountable.

### **Rural fire services—funding (Question No 1614)**

**Mr Coe** asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Why is the \$602,000 grant from the Commonwealth for the renovations at the Rural Fire Service (RFS) Molonglo Shed project not accounted for in the ACT Budget papers
- (2) Under which line item(s) of the ACT Budget papers was the \$550,000 drawn for this project.
- (3) Why is there not a single line item in the ACT Budget papers showing total expenditure on this project.
- (4) What joint training exercises took place between Molonglo RFS and West Belconnen ACT Fire and Rescue and (a) where did this training occur and (b) on what date did this training occur.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The \$602,000 is part of the 2015-17 Natural Disaster and Resilience Program (NDRP) funding received from the Commonwealth, and is embedded in the base of the controlled recurrent payments in the ACT Budget Papers - Budget Statement D.
- (2) The ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA) contributed \$550,000 from its own controlled recurrent payments (Please refer to 2018-19 ACT Budget Papers under Budget Statement D (page 47) and Question on Notice Number 1364).
- (3) NDRP funding is not reported in this manner. NDRP projects are disclosed at an aggregate level per the Commonwealth funding provided.

- (4) The co-location of the ACT Rural Fire Service (ACTRFS) and ACT Fire & Rescue (ACTF&R) crews at West Belconnen provided an opportunity to train and familiarise themselves with each other's response capabilities. While this training was not formal, or scheduled, it gave each Service a better understanding of their respective roles. Members of ACTRFS and ACTF&R also took the opportunity to learn about the other Services' vehicles, the equipment carried on them, how the equipment is used, and the circumstances in which each piece of equipment is used.

I am advised that this continues the excellent interaction between the Services, including working together on Level 3 Incident Controller training, the further development of ESA's rapid damage assessment capability, hot props training, and fitness testing. Members of both Services are on deployment assisting in fighting the bushfires in the United States, and a member of ACTF&R is also currently on secondment in the ACTRFS.

### **ACT Ambulance Service—crews (Question No 1615)**

**Mr Coe** asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) In relation to QON No E18-036, on which dates did the six day shifts which fell below minimum crewing between 11 April 2018 and 10 May 2018 occur.
- (2) On which dates did the 10 day shifts which fell below minimum crewing between 11 April 2018 and 10 May 2018 occur.
- (3) On which dates did the 10 day shifts which fell below minimum crewing between 11 May 2018 and 3 July 2018 occur.
- (4) On which dates did the nine night shifts which fell below minimum crewing between 11 April 2018 and 10 May 2018 occur.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

I am advised that the ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) does not routinely report on the information sought in these questions. Each time a request of this nature is received, it is taking a considerable amount of staff time and resources to answer, and unreasonably redirecting ACT Emergency Service Agency (ESA) personnel away from important functions. As such, on the advice of the ESA, I have determined it is not appropriate to provide a response to this question.

### **ACT Policing—gun ownership (Question No 1618)**

**Mr Coe** asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Under what powers can the ACT Government or AFP Registrar demand a mental health check in order to issue a firearms licence(s).

- (2) Have there been any court or tribunal rulings on the validity of the ACT Government or AFP Registrar demanding these mental health checks; if so, how do they impact the issuing of firearms licences.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The *Firearms Act 1996* (ACT) (Firearms Act) establishes the licensing and registration scheme for all firearms possessed or used in the ACT. Part 7 of the Firearms Act provides the regulatory framework governing the issue of firearms licences. The ACT Policing Firearms Registry is responsible for the delivery of regulatory and licensing functions in accordance with the Firearms Act.

The general authorisation mechanism for licensing and registration is broadly a two-step process under the Firearms Act. First, a person must obtain a firearms licence (either Category A, Category B, Category C, Category D, Category H, collector, heirlooms, dealers or paintball markers), and second, a licensee must obtain a permit to acquire a firearm.

In assessing an application made by a person under the Firearms Act, the Registrar of Firearms (Registrar) must consider any discretionary criteria under section 18 that apply to the individual, which includes whether the Registrar believes on reasonable grounds that, because of the individual's mental health, the individual may not handle firearms responsibly.

Under Part 7 of the Firearms Act the Registrar may give the applicant written notice requiring the applicant to give the Registrar stated further information or documents that the Registrar reasonably needs to decide an application. If the Registrar believes on reasonable grounds that the applicant's mental health may affect the applicant's ability to handle firearms responsibly, this may include the Registrar asking the applicant to consent to the disclosure of personal health information about the applicant from a health record (for an adult pursuant to section 56; for a child pursuant to section 86; and for a composite entity licence pursuant to section 102). The Registrar may refuse to consider an application further if the requested information is not provided, but failure to consent to the disclosure to the Registrar of personal health information, alone, does not allow the Registrar to refuse to consider the application.

- (2) As there is no power for the Registrar to demand mental health assessments under the Firearms Act, the question of whether any Court or Tribunal decisions have been made about the validity to demand any such assessments does not arise. Relevantly, in *P v Registrar of Firearms* (Administrative Review) [2018] ACAT 20, the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal considered whether section 56 of the Firearms Act extends to allowing the Registrar, and the Tribunal, to require an applicant to undergo a mental health assessment. The Tribunal observed that there is no explicit indication in that provision that the power extends to requiring the applicant to create new information or new documents, in particular by undergoing a mental health examination which results in a report. Having regard to the text of section 56, context and purpose of the provisions in the Firearms Act, the terms of the *Mental Health Act 2015*, the principle of legality, and provisions in the *Human Rights Act 2004*, the Tribunal concluded that section 56 does not extend to require a person to undergo a mental health assessment without their consent.

**Government—contractors  
(Question No 1620)**

**Mr Coe** asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What were the average payment waiting times for individual contractors engaged by the ACT Government on casual or short-term employment contracts in (a) 2015-2016, (b) 2016-17 and (c) 2017-2018.
- (2) What practices you have implemented to improve payment waiting times for those employed by the ACT Government on casual or short-term contracts, (a) when were these practices implemented and (b) how effective have they been at reducing wait times.
- (3) Are there targets for payment waiting times for individuals employed by the ACT Government on casual or short-term contracts; if so, (a) how does the Government determine the target, (b) how frequently it is reviewed and (c) what the target wait times were during (i) 2015-16, (ii) 2016-17, and (iii) 2017-18; if not, why not.
- (4) Are there national benchmarks or guidelines in relation to payment time frames for individuals employed by the government entities on casual or short-term contracts; if so, how does the ACT Government compare to other jurisdictions; if not, does the ACT Government consider the practices of other jurisdictions when determining the priority of payments and internal policies.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The average payment waiting times for an initial payment to individual contractors engaged by the ACT Government on casual or short-term employment contracts are as follows:
  - (a) 2015-2016 – 18 days;
  - (b) 2016-2017 - 20 days; and
  - (c) 2017-2018 – 20 days.

After this initial period individual contractors engaged by the ACT Government on casual or short-term employment will be paid fortnightly in arrears, subject to a correctly rendered time sheet being received.

- (2) Shared Services works closely with Directorates in respect to deadlines when submitting timesheets. Where there are deviations from established deadlines, for example during Christmas, communication via email is sent to all ACT Government employees. Shared Services is not aware of any systemic concerns with regards to timeliness of payments.
  - (3) No. Shared Services looks to make payments within established pay cycles and enterprise agreements.
  - (4) No. Shared Services looks to make payments within established pay cycles and enterprise agreements. When developing and reviewing internal procedures and processes, benchmarking and best practices within other jurisdictions are considered.
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**Government—contractors  
(Question No 1621)**

**Mr Coe** asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What were the average payment waiting times for individual contractors engaged by the ACT Government on casual or short-term employment contracts in (a) 2015-2016, (b) 2016-17 and (c) 2017-2018.
- (2) What practices you have implemented to improve payment waiting times for those employed by the ACT Government on casual or short-term contracts, (a) when were these practices implemented and (b) how effective have they been at reducing wait times.
- (3) Are there targets for payment waiting times for individuals employed by the ACT Government on casual or short-term contracts; if so, (a) how does the Government determine the target, (b) how frequently it is reviewed and (c) what the target wait times were during (i) 2015-16, (ii) 2016-17, and (iii) 2017-18; if not, why not.
- (4) Are there national benchmarks or guidelines in relation to payment time frames for individuals employed by the government entities on casual or short-term contracts; if so, how does the ACT Government compare to other jurisdictions; if not, does the ACT Government consider the practices of other jurisdictions when determining the priority of payments and internal policies.

**Ms Berry:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The average payment times for an initial payment to individual contractors engaged by the Education Directorate on a casual or short-term employment contracts are as follows:
  - a. 2015-16 – 17.927 days;
  - b. 2016-17 – 21.581 days; and
  - c. 2017-18 – 22.0344 days.

After this initial period individual contractors engaged by the ACT Government on casual or short-term employment will be paid fortnightly in arrears, subject to a correctly completed and approved time sheet being received.

- (2) Shared Services works closely with the Directorate in respect to deadlines when submitting timesheets. Where there are deviations from established deadlines, for example during Christmas, communication via emails is sent to all ACT Government employees. Shared Services is not aware of any systemic concerns with regards to timeliness of payments.
- (3) No. Shared Services undertakes to make payments within established pay cycles and enterprise agreements.
- (4) No. Shared Services undertakes to make payments within established pay cycles and enterprise agreements. When developing and reviewing internal procedures and processes, benchmarking and best practices within other jurisdictions are considered.

**Access Canberra—service delivery  
(Question No 1622)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Regulatory Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) In relation to the triage service that has been introduced to service centres “to ensure members of the community are directly appropriately to the information or services they need”, (a) when was the triage service introduced, (b) how does the triage service operate and (c) has any feedback been collected on its effectiveness to date; if so, what were the results; if not, when and how will feedback be collected.
- (2) How has website accessibility been improved for Access Canberra.
- (3) Which Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) groups have been consulted with on how to better respond to specific vulnerable groups within the ACT community and what (a) recommendations, (b) concerns and (c) other feedback have been given to Access Canberra by each group.
- (4) What are the new services that are now available and when were they introduced to the Access Canberra website in relation to the more than fifty new digital services that were added to the Access Canberra website since the start of 2017.
- (5) What online services are currently under development by Access Canberra.
- (6) What online services are being considered for development and online implementation via the Access Canberra website.
- (7) Which CALD organisations are being consulted by Access Canberra in discussions for improving service operations.
- (8) Are there any specific services targeted towards the CALD community; if so, what are these services; if not, why not.

**Mr Ramsay:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1)
  - a) 2006.
  - b) All customers are greeted by a Concierge when they enter an Access Canberra Service Centre. The Concierge asks questions to determine what transactions the customer wants to complete, check the customer has all relevant paperwork with them to complete their transaction, ensure all relevant forms have been completed, and provide customers the various options for completing their transaction (self-service via touchscreen, via a customer service officer etc). At this time any accessibility considerations can be identified and the services provided targeted to support customer experience and understanding. This may include for example identifying any translation support required.

The Concierge service also supports customers by ensuring that they do not wait unnecessarily if they need to obtain more evidence to complete a transaction.

It does not prioritise specific customers or transactions within a service centre.

- c) A question on how customers score the satisfaction of the Concierge role in Service Centres has been included in the external market research survey since 2011. Results below. (Please note the question was not asked in 2015 as this was the first year of operation for Access Canberra and the survey was not undertaken).

2011	90%
2012	91%
2013	89%
2014	93%
2015	N/A
2016	88.5%
2017	87.3%

- (2) The Access Canberra website is being continuously developed to meet the ACT Government's web accessibility requirements, including meeting the World Wide Web Consortium's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.0 (WCAG 2.0) at level AA. Web content is published in a way that information is accessible to all users, including those with a disability. If a user finds anything on the website inaccessible or experiences any issues accessing web content, they can contact Access Canberra via phone, a web form or web chat.
- (3) During 2018 Access Canberra has met with the following community organisations to seek feedback on service delivery:

- Deafness Resource Centre
- Council on the Ageing
- Dementia Australia
- Multicultural Community Forum
- Mental Health Consumer's Network
- Carers ACT
- Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (ATSIA)

Feedback about the services provided by Access Canberra from each of these groups has been very positive, in particular the Concierge service.

Improvements to the ease of access to information on the website have been suggested. Simplification of information on the website is an ongoing activity by Access Canberra.

Noting feedback from the Multicultural Community Forum Access Canberra is now displaying key information on the internal TV message screens within the Service Centres in Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Hindi.

Access Canberra continues to explore additional ways to improve accessibility of services and information for the community.

- (4) Refer to **Attachment A**.

- (5) Refer to **Attachment B**.

- (6) Access Canberra is committed to ensuring Canberrans can access services in a way which meets their needs when they are doing business with government. There is a growing preference for digital service delivery by our community, as it allows transactions to be undertaken quickly and easily at any time and from the comfort of home.

In 2017-18 more than 6.4 million transactions were undertaken digitally by our community. For members of the community who may want to transact digitally, but accessibility is a problem, touch screen terminals are available in service centres and shopfronts in Woden, Tuggeranong, Belconnen, Gungahlin and Civic.

Noting the growing preference for up to 60% of those transacting with Access Canberra to do so digitally, Access Canberra continues to work to identify new services for digital service delivery. There is a target of 80% of services to be digital by 2020.

As part of this work service transactions are also being reviewed to see if they can be made simpler and easier through the reduction of red tape or duplicate processes.

- (7) See response to question 3.

- (8) Access Canberra provides services for all Canberrans including people from diverse backgrounds.

Staff working in Access Canberra's Service Centres have fluency in languages such as: Arabic, Russian, Maltese, Greek, Croatian, Pidgin English & Krio, South African, Hebrew, Sri Lankan and French. Other staff also understand Spanish, German and Gaelic.

In addition, Service Centre staff are aware of staff in other areas of Access Canberra who are fluent in additional languages and call on them for assistance as required.

If a customer requires interpretation support there are translation services available to assist.

The design of Service Centres themselves also support cultural diversity, for example, placement of the licence camera in a place that allows for privacy for the individual.

Finally, information messaging on the TV screens within the Service Centres is now being displayed in Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin and Hindi.

#### **Attachment A**

- (4) What are the new services that are now available and when were they introduced to the Access Canberra website in relation to the more than fifty new digital services that were added to the Access Canberra website since the start of 2017.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fair trading portal</li> <li>• New FixMyStreet page (services by suburb)</li> <li>• Driver Licence renewal online</li> <li>• Representation for EIS/EIS Exemption or Territory Plan Variation Notification</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worksafe ACT portal</li> <li>• Infringement withdraw or dispute</li> <li>• Post display report</li> <li>• WWVP complaint form</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

- Application for Replacement of Licence, Authorisation Certificate or Authorisation Schedule
- Radiation Source Registration Annual Reapplication
- Proactive Workplace Visit Record of Engagement
- Notice of intention to erect a lift for use in the ACT
- Partnership interest
- Commercial lease with a premium
- Corporate Reconstruction Application
- Partitions - Approvals only
- Requests for exemptions, extensions or a reduction from conditional requirements of home buyer assistance schemes
- Application for Approved insurers Licence
- Declaration of Trust
- First Home Owner Grant eLodge Application
- Liquor - Incident register notification
- Eligible Impacted Properties - Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication BuyBack Concession Scheme
- Interstate licence search
- Application for Approval for a Female to Compete in a Professional Combat Sport Contest
- ACT Government Graduate program
- Record of Visit
- Smoke-free sign application
- Transport Canberra and City Services Infringement Payments
- ACTION Lost Property
- Bus Accident Payments
- Application for records search
- Application to Promote or Arrange a Combat Sport Contest
- Veterinary Practitioner Registration Annual Renewal
- Application to carry on the business of transporting clinical waste
- Application for exemption self insurers
- Permit to conduct a circus
- Animal Keepers Application for a licence under Chapter 11 of the Nature Conservation Act 2014
- Catering provider multi use list request for application
- ACTION Travel for Victims of Domestic Violence
- ACTION Buses Infringement dispute/waive/extension
- ACT Revenue Discount Land Rent Application review
- Cancellation of a contract giving effect to a sub sale
- Charitable Organisation Status and Beneficial Organisation Determination Application
- Landholder Transfer of unlisted Shares, Units and Interests
- Acquisition of Land Use Entitlements by Allotment of Shares or Issue of Units
- Motor Vehicle Duty Request for Refund or Exemption
- Agreement for the use of Actsmart Public Event program equipment
- Child Development Child referral
- Request for Additional Security Guarding Services
- HBA Late Lodgement eLodge Coversheet
- Long service leave claim form
- Liquor - Authorisation for extended trading
- Application for parking offence image
- Return to Work Coordinator Registration
- EPD Refund Application
- Actsmart Public Event - Post Event Report
- Notice from an Interstate Licensee of Intention to Work in the ACT
- Racing Greyhound Controller Licence Application
- Dangerous goods driver licence application form
- Application to Incorporate an Association
- Incorporated Association Change of Committee, Public Officer or Registered Office Particulars
- Fireworks Licensing Mutual Recognition Application
- Application for a Licence to Import or Export Live Fish into or out of the ACT
- Notification - Technical Amendment - Gaming Machine Replacement or Conversion
- Waterway Work Licence
- Library room booking application

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WWVP Application</li> <li>• TCCS Security Incident Report</li> <li>• Access Canberra Request for Legal Advice or Assistance</li> <li>• Workplace Visit Report - Combined</li> <li>• Notice of application or approval for disposal to landfill</li> <li>• Public Vehicle Licence Application</li> <li>• Rideshare Vehicle Licence Application</li> <li>• Notice of import of explosives</li> <li>• Late lodgement of all eLodge transactions</li> <li>• Driver Licence Examination</li> <li>• Operational licences online register: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Charitable Collections</li> <li>○ Liquor - Club</li> <li>○ Liquor - General</li> <li>○ Liquor - Off</li> <li>○ Liquor - On</li> <li>○ Liquor - Special</li> <li>○ Motor Vehicle Dealer</li> <li>○ Motor Vehicle Repairer</li> <li>○ Motor Vehicle Wholesaler</li> <li>○ Licensed Business Agents</li> <li>○ Licensed Employment Agent</li> <li>○ Licensed Real Estate Agents</li> <li>○ Licensed Stock and Station Agents</li> <li>○ Registered Salesperson - Business</li> <li>○ Registered Salesperson - Real Estate</li> <li>○ Registered Salesperson - Stock and Station</li> <li>○ Security Employee</li> <li>○ Security Master</li> <li>○ Security Temporary</li> <li>○ Security Trainer</li> <li>○ Traders</li> <li>○ Tobacco Licence</li> <li>○ Pawnbroker</li> <li>○ Second-hand Dealer</li> <li>○ X18+ Film</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Check speed camera and red light camera infringement images/video online</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oracle suppliers</li> <li>• Apprentice &amp; Young Workers Checklist</li> <li>• Gaming Machine Installation Certificate – Conversions and Replacements</li> <li>• Canberra Citizen of the Year Award Nomination</li> <li>• Waste transporter registration application</li> <br/> <li>• Affordable Housing Registration</li> <li>• Vehicle inspection station audit form</li> <li>• Liquid Fuel Emergency Petrol Station Report</li> <li>• Security Licence Application or Renewal</li> <li>• Justice of the Peace (JP) online register.</li> <li>• New digital public registers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incorporated associations</li> <li>○ Historic death Index</li> <li>○ Historic marriage Index</li> <li>○ Building and pest inspectors</li> <li>○ Building and pest inspections</li> <li>○ Occupational disciplinary register</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**Attachment B**

(5) What online services are currently under development by Access Canberra.

- Application to Search a Deed or Instrument
- Parking permit renewal
- WWVP Application for ACT Government employees
- Notification - Acquisition of Authorisations and Gaming Machines
- Liquor - Notification of DOSA
- Application for Environmental Authorisations

- Single events form bundle
- Application for design registration (or variation of design) of an item of plant
- Workplace Visit (Educational)
- MTA Section 20 notice
- Commercial Licences for Pet Shops
- Children's Education and Care Service Complaint
- Magistrates Court form (wills)
- Racing Greyhound Controller Licence Inspection
- MyWay Application for Balance Transfer Refund
- Application for authorisation of temporary traffic management plans
- Request to Temporarily Close a Public Road and Application to Use a Closed Public Road
- TCCS Security Card Application Form
- Street light payment form
- Birth Registration Statement
- Plumbing ties register.
- Enquiry to start new liquor business form
- Address validation using the Federal Government GNAF lookup.
- Fix My Street service enhancement (Stage One)
- Filming in the ACT request form
- Party Hosting form

### **Multicultural affairs—translators and interpreters (Question No 1623)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Multicultural Affairs, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

What courses other than the Advanced Diploma of Translating in Chinese, provided by the Australian Ideal College, and Diploma of Interpreting in Mandarin, provided by the Australian Ideal College, are endorsed by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters in the ACT.

**Ms Stephen-Smith:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters' (NAATI) website provides a list of endorsed qualifications to become an accredited interpreter or translator, which can be found at: [www.naati.com.au/other-information/endorsed-qualification-institutions/current-naati-endorsed-quals/](http://www.naati.com.au/other-information/endorsed-qualification-institutions/current-naati-endorsed-quals/)

### **Domestic and family violence—CALD community (Question No 1624)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety, upon notice, on 3 August 2018 (*redirected to the Attorney-General*):

- (1) Who were the attending key stakeholders at the workshop on 13 July 2018, that the ACT Courts and Tribunal sub-unit in JACS held to improve accessibility for family violence matters for the culturally and linguistically diverse community.
- (2) What were the (a) recommendations, (b) concerns and (c) other feedback, brought forward by stakeholders during the workshop to improving access to family violence matters for the ACT Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community.
- (3) What resulting action plans will be implemented by the ACT Government in response to stakeholder feedback.

**Mr Ramsay:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The ACT Chief Magistrate hosted a half day workshop on Friday 13 July 2018 to engage and consult with the ACT culturally and linguistically diverse community (CALD) to identify practical measures to assist the CALD community when seeking protection from family violence.

Approximately 45 persons participated in the workshop representing key community organisations, legal services, agencies, representatives of the ACT Multicultural Advisory Council and the wider CALD community.

- (2) The workshop facilitator is preparing a report for the Chief Magistrate that will summarise the key issues and recommendations.
- (3) I understand the Chief Magistrate will consider the report once it is available, to identify what measures might be implemented.

As this was a judicial event it is not appropriate for me to comment further on the event or the proposed response by the Chief Magistrate.

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### **Community Services Directorate—multicultural affairs (Question No 1625)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Community Services and Social Inclusion, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) What dates each year for the past two years has the Community Services Directorate (CSD) met with the following members and representatives of the multicultural community for the purposes of undertaking consultation or gathering feedback, (a) Multicultural Advisory Council, (b) Youth Advisory Council, (c) National Multicultural Festival stakeholders, (d) Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre Tenants Forum, (e) Chinese community representatives; (f) Muslim community leaders, (g) Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian Sub-Committee and (h) ACT Health Multicultural Reference Group.
- (2) What feedback was given to the CSD by the following groups to improve services and programs to the ACT Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community, (a) Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian Sub-Committee and (b) ACT Health Multicultural Reference Group.

**Ms Stephen-Smith:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

(1) What dates each year for the past two years has the Community Services Directorate (CSD) met with the following members and representatives of the multicultural community for the purposes of undertaking consultation or gathering feedback:

**a. Multicultural Advisory Council (MAC);**

MAC held its first meeting on 7 December 2017.

MAC has met three times in 2018 (1 February 2018, 10 April 2018, 19 June 2018) and has three additional meetings scheduled for 2018 in August, October and December.

**b. Youth Advisory Council (YAC);**

YAC met nine times in 2017 on 7 February, 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 18 July, 1 August, 5 September, 10 October and 21 November.

YAC has met six times in 2018 on 13 February, 3 April, 3 May, 3 July, 12 June, and 7 August and has three additional meetings scheduled for 2018 in September, October and November.

**c. National Multicultural Festival stakeholders;**

The Community Services Directorate met with stakeholders during these periods:

1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 – total of 41 meetings

1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 – total of 50 meetings

1 July 2018 to 8 August 2018 a total of two meetings

The stakeholders comprise:

- Contractors (provide services during the National Multicultural Festival);
- Key ACT Government Services;
- Community Organisations;
- Showcase Coordinators;
- City Centre residents and operators; and
- Diplomatic Missions.

**d. Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre Tenants Forum;**

Two Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre Tenants Forum meetings have been held in 2018 (30 April and 28 June).

**e. Chinese community representatives;**

One meeting was held in 2017 (13 December) and two meetings have been held in 2018 on 22 March and 5 July.

**f. Muslim community leaders;**

Meetings are held with the Muslim community leaders in the lead up to Ramadan celebrations.

**g. Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian (RASH) Coordination Committee**

RASH met five times in 2017 (22 March, 17 May, 12 July, 13 September and 22 November).

RASH met three times this year, on 13 March, 15 May and 14 August and has one additional meeting scheduled for 2018 (November).

**h. ACT Health Multicultural Reference Group.**

These meetings are convened by ACT Health. CSD has attended two meetings in 2018, on 8 March and 2 August. Future meetings are scheduled for October and December 2018.

(2) What feedback was given to the CSD by the following groups to improve services and programs to the ACT Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community:

a. The RASH Coordination Committee provides a conduit to share information and provide invaluable policy advice to government on concerns that asylum seekers and refugees may be experiencing.

RASH Members suggested the review of the ACT Services Access Card to ensure the card continues to meet the needs of refugee and asylum seekers living in our community.

The review will consider the governance and management of the card and concessions and services provided to card holders, including identifying additional services the card could include to meet emerging needs of card holders.

b. The ACT Health Multicultural Reference Group did not provide feedback to CSD to improve services and programs. Feedback and advice is provided to ACT Health aimed at improving ACT Health services and programs for the culturally and linguistically diverse community.

**Sport—community participation  
(Question No 1627)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Sport and Recreation, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

(1) On what date was the Inclusive Participation Funding Program (IPFP) established for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) people.

(2) For each year since the establishment of the IPFP (a) which recipients received funding for projects relating to CALD participation (b) what were the nature of the projects and (c) how much funding was granted to each of these recipients.

(3) Were there any IPFP funding applications relating to CALD participation that were rejected; if so, how many were rejected and what were the reasons for the application rejection.

**Ms Berry:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

1. The Inclusive Participation Funding Program was established in 2012 with its primary objective to increase participation opportunities in sport and recreation for identified target populations including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) people, older adults and people with a disability. The first round of applications opened on 5 March 2012 and closed on 10 April 2012.

2. See **Attachment A** for further details.

3. There have been 39 applications rejected since the program started in 2012. Please See **Attachment B** for further details.

*(Copies of the attachments are available at the Chamber Support Office).*

### **Emergency services—communications (Question No 1628)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

What is the name of the service that can be contacted immediately by Emergency Services Agency Communication Centre staff and frontline crews who have difficulty communicating due to a language barrier and by what means are the translating services delivered.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA) Communication Centre staff and frontline crews have 24/7 access to the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) if they are having difficulty communicating with a caller or recipient of the service due to a language barrier.

ESA personnel can contact TIS, identify themselves, and advise TIS of the language they think is required for the purpose of the call. A conference call is then conducted between the caller, the ESA personnel, and an interpreter.

Further information on the TIS is publicly available at <https://www.tisnational.gov.au/en/About-TIS-National>.

### **Government—visa applications (Question No 1629)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Chief Minister, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How many 190 Skilled—Nominated visas was the ACT allowed to support in (a) 2017-2018, (b) 2016-2017, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2014-2015 and (e) 2013-2014.
- (2) How many applications for 190 Skilled—Nominated visas were submitted to the ACT Government in (a) 2017-2018, (b) 2016-2017, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2014-2015 and (e) 2013-2014.
- (3) How many applications for 190 Skilled—Nominated visas were successful in attracting territory nomination from the ACT Government in (a) 2017-2018, (b) 2016-2017, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2014-2015 and (e) 2013-2014.
- (4) In the event that not all allotted 190 Skilled—Nominated visas were supported by the ACT Government in any given year, were any of these visas able to be rolled over to the following year or years; if so, how many were rolled over in each of the following years (a) 2017-2018, (b) 2016-2017, (c) 2015-2016, (d) 2014-2015 and (e) 2013-2014.

- (5) On which date in each of the following years were applications for 190 Skilled—  
Nominated visas closed by the ACT Government in (a) 2017-2018, (b) 2016-2017, (c)  
2015-2016, (d) 2014-2015 and (e) 2013-2014.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

(1)

The ACT is allocated a set number of places by the Department of Home Affairs in each financial year.

Financial Year	Places allocated by Home Affairs
2017/18	*900
2016/17	750
2015/16	750
2014/15	550
2013/14	850

\*the financial year allocation from the Department of Home Affairs for 2017/18 was 750. The ACT was granted an increase of 50 places to the baseline allocation during the year. The ACT was also granted a temporary increase of 100 places. The final allocation of places in 2017-18 was 900.

(2)

The number of applications submitted to the ACT Government in each financial year is as follows:

Financial Year	Applications Received
2017/18	1331
2016/17	929
2015/16	639
2014/15	644
2013/14	1026

(3)

The number of applications supported by the ACT and confirmed with the Department of Home Affairs in each financial year is as follows:

Financial Year	Nominations Granted & confirmed with Home Affairs
2017/18	*900
2016/17	750
2015/16	545
2014/15	550
2013/14	850

\*the financial year allocation from the Department of Home Affairs for 2017/18 was 750. The ACT was granted an increase of 50 places to the baseline allocation during the year. The ACT was also granted a temporary increase of 100 places.

(4)

The ACT is allocated a set number of places by the Department of Home Affairs each financial year. Once that allocation is met, it cannot be exceeded. The allocation is reset at the start of the next financial year. Any unused portion of the previous year is not able to be rolled over.

(a) – (e) No

- (5)
- (a) 29/06/2018 – closed to Canberra residents nominating occupations listed as ‘closed’ on the ACT occupation list and all overseas applicants. This restriction is still in effect as at the start of the 2018/19 financial year.  
23/08/2017 – closed to overseas applicants without close demonstrated ties
  - (b) 13/09/2016 –closed to overseas applicants
  - (c) 18/03/2016 –closed to overseas applicants
  - (d) 03/04/2015 –closed to overseas applicants
  - (e) 26/05/2014 –closed to Canberra residents  
25/03/2014 –closed to overseas applicants

### **Minister for Health and Wellbeing—meetings (Question No 1631)**

**Mrs Dunne** asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) Does the Acting Minister for Health and Wellbeing’s response to question on notice 1553, on the subject of note-taking in meetings in which the Minister participated represent the Minister’s position; if not, what is the Minister’s answer to any questions on which the Minister holds a different position.
- (2) Why were no records or notes kept during the Minister’s meetings with the Minister for Mental Health to discuss the proposed restructure of ACT Health.
- (3) Why were no records or notes kept during the Minister’s meeting/s with the Chief Minister between January and March 2018 to discuss the proposed restructure of ACT Health.
- (4) Why were no records or notes kept during the Minister’s meeting/s with the Head of Service to discuss the proposed restructure of ACT Health.
- (5) Why were no records or notes kept during the Minister’s meetings with the former Director-General of ACT Health to discuss the proposed restructure of ACT Health.
- (6) Is the Minister’s office in full compliance with relevant legislation such as the Territories Record Act 2002 in relation to record keeping.
- (7) Has the Minister kept records of the “very regular formal meetings” the Minister has had with the Minister for Mental Health, and to which the Minister referred to in the Minister’s evidence to the Select Committee on Estimates 2018-2019 (ref Hansard, 21 June 2018, p499-500).
- (8) How does a “formal meeting” differ from other meetings, such as informal meetings.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) There are no formal requirements for notes at meetings between Ministers.

- (3) There are no formal requirements for notes at meetings between Ministers.
  - (4) Notes are not taken at every meeting.
  - (5) Notes are not taken at every meeting.
  - (6) Yes.
  - (7) It depends on the meeting. Notes are not taken at every meeting.
  - (8) Formal meetings are more formal than informal meetings.
- 

**Municipal services—local shops maintenance  
(Question No 1633)**

**Ms Lee** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 3 August 2018:

- (1) How is regular maintenance for local shops determined/ planned/ scheduled for (a) Belconnen, (b) Gungahlin, (c) Inner North, (d) Inner South, (e) Molonglo Valley, (f) Weston Creek, (g) Woden Valley and (h) Tuggeranong.
- (2) How are maintenance requests for local shops lodged.
- (3) How are they prioritised for attention.
- (4) What is the budget for maintenance of local shopping centres for (a) 2016-2017, (b) 2017-2018 and (c) 2018-2019.
- (5) What works are covered in the annual maintenance program in respect of local shops.
- (6) What items are not included as part of Transport Canberra and City Services maintenance.
- (7) How many local shops have working public toilets and what are their opening hours; if not 24/7.
- (8) Is there an upgrade schedule for public toilets at shopping centres; if so, what toilets are due for upgrade this financial year.
- (9) How many local shops do not have public toilets.
- (10) What funding has been set aside for installation of public toilets at local shops in this financial year.

**Ms Fitzharris:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Regular cleaning activities occur in public areas of all local shopping centres in Canberra with service levels dictated by usage levels. The city and other high usage areas such as group centres are attended daily while local suburban shops are attended at least twice a week, depending on size and usage. Public toilets at these locations are cleaned daily.

- (2) Maintenance requests for local shops are lodged through Access Canberra or the Fix My Street portal.
  - (3) Cleaning is generally carried out on a programmed cycle, however requests for service or maintenance are prioritised with public safety being the most important factor. Reports relating to the presence of offensive graffiti are also treated as a high priority and offensive graffiti is generally removed within 24 hours.
  - (4) The actual spend for maintenance and cleaning of shopping centres was:
    - a. 2016-17 –\$2,765,849.
    - b. 2017-18 - \$2,507,933.
    - c. The budget allocated for 2018-19 is \$2,878,740.
  - (5) Works include litter picking, cleaning of surfaces, pruning of bushes, lifting of trees, servicing of bins, daily cleaning of toilets, pressure cleaning of paving as required, removal of graffiti from Government assets, repairs to damaged furniture including seating, minor horticultural maintenance of garden beds and removal of leaves during autumn.
  - (6) TCCS does not remove graffiti from private property and private assets and does not carry out maintenance on private assets including outside areas that are the responsibility of private building owners or leaseholders.
  - (7) Twelve shopping centres have public toilets within 20 metres. The opening hours are dependent on the toilet location but are generally opened between 6:30am and 8:30am and closed after 8.30 pm in winter and 10.30 pm in summer. Many shopping centres or businesses provide toilets to their customers within their premises.
  - (8) There are no programs for upgrading public toilets this financial year, although the toilet at Kambah Village shopping centre will be relocated as part of an upgrade that will commence later this financial year.
  - (9) There are 54 shopping centres that do not have ACT Government managed public toilets. Many of these shops may have their own, centre or business-managed toilets which are not serviced by the ACT Government.
  - (10) No specific funding has been allocated in 2018-19 for installing public toilets at local shops.
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**Land—tax**  
**(Question No 1638)**

**Ms Le Couteur** asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 17 August 2018:

What is the situation with respect to land tax if not all the property is occupied by the owner; in particular is land tax charged (a) on blocks with multiple dwellings such as granny flats; if so, how is the amount of land tax determined and (b) if a single dwelling on a block is occupied by a person or persons other than the owner(s); if so, (i) how is the amount of land tax determined, (ii) is the relationship of the owner to the occupier a relevant factor, (iii) is the amount of rent, if any, paid relevant, and (iv) is the size of the space used by the non owner relevant; if not, (i) has there been a time in the past when

land tax was charged on parts of a house that were rented out and (ii) when did this change and how was the amount of land tax payable determined.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (a) Land tax is chargeable in respect of a parcel of land if one of the dwellings on a block with multiple dwellings is rented. The amount of land tax payable is in proportion to the rented floor area, determined in accordance with formula described in the *Land Tax Act 2004*, section 15.
- (b) Land tax is chargeable in respect of a single dwelling on a block that is occupied by a person or persons other than the owners of the property.
  - (i) Land tax is determined using the standard formula of multiplying the Average Unimproved Value of the parcel by the relevant Percentage Rate, plus a Fixed Charge.
  - (ii) No.
  - (iii) The amount of rent may be relevant. A parcel of land is land tax exempt if it is occupied by a person who does not pay rent, or is liable only to pay the rates, repairs, maintenance and insurance in relation to the parcel.
  - (iv) No. Land tax is generally not charged if part of a house is rented to a boarder or lodger who shares common areas with the owner e.g. laundry, kitchen, bathroom. In this situation, the house will be treated as the owner's principal place of residence and will be exempt from land tax. However, if a part of a house is its own separate dwelling e.g. a granny flat or self-contained section with own kitchen and bathroom, land tax will be payable on that part of the house that is rented, as per the answer in (a).

Save for the exceptions in (iii) and (iv) there has not been a time in the past when land tax was not charged in the situations described in (a) and (b).

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