



**QUESTION TIME**  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**HANSARD**

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**Thursday, 11 May 2017**

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## Questions without notice

### Light rail—high density development

**MR COE:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, I refer to statements made by a government official reported in the *Canberra Times* of 4 May 2017, which stated developers would have incentives to:

... “renew” properties along the tram line, similar to what is underway along the line that is under construction from Civic to Gungahlin.

Minister, given that high density development was required for stage 1 to be considered viable, is high density development required for stage 2 as well?

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Minister for Housing and Suburban Development or Chief Minister?

**MR BARR:** Madam Speaker, I think the question could fall across three portfolios; I will answer on behalf of the government.

Undoubtedly the stage 1 light rail project did have an element of urban transformation as part of both the public narrative and the business case in developing that project.

Stage 2 contains some elements that would fall within that context, particularly as it relates to the CBD and the West Basin precinct, and elements of the route as it progresses through the parliamentary triangle which, of course, will be under the planning control of the National Capital Authority. The commonwealth government have already indicated a willingness—I think they may have even approached the market around it—regarding the disposal of some commonwealth-owned assets within the parliamentary triangle. Clearly, in relation to the other major avenues that are under the control of the National Capital Authority, they will determine planning outcomes.

But the biggest opportunity for urban renewal undoubtedly lies in the Woden town centre itself. That will be pursued by the government. Later this month, the minister for planning is holding a roundtable that Mr Steel and Ms Cody have been working towards. We look forward to discussing the range of urban renewal opportunities that will present themselves, particularly in the Woden town centre.

**MR COE:** Chief Minister, is any open space, including ovals or community sites, being planned for development along stage 2 of the tramline, particularly south of the parliamentary zone, in Deakin, Curtin or Yarralumla?

**MR BARR:** The government has previously indicated that the long-term settlement patterns for Canberra will involve some further development in the Canberra brickworks. That project has proceeded now, so there will be development there. That will be aligned clearly with our thinking around stage 2 of light rail. The west Deakin precinct undoubtedly is an area that has been the subject of some planning

consideration. As we move around further into the Woden town centre, there are undoubtedly opportunities for urban renewal to occur within the town centre and the immediate surrounds. That is something that I think the Woden community are very strongly behind, and transport-oriented development is clearly an approach that the government supports.

**MR DOSZPOT:** Chief Minister, as part of stage 2 what incentive is the government considering to give to developers in order to accelerate development on the corridor?

**MR BARR:** I do not believe there will be a need to provide incentives. I think there is a pretty clear indication from what is happening in the stage 1 corridor that without government incentives the private sector will respond in terms of their own landholdings and we are seeing a very significant renewal of the privately owned buildings occurring along the Northbourne corridor, in the Gungahlin town centre and along other elements of the stage 1 route.

The government does have some land that sits within our land release forward program that is associated with stage 2. As I have indicated, I have no doubt that the Woden town centre and the significant opportunities that present themselves there for both the government and private sector owned urban renewal projects that will take place associated with light rail stage 2 present an exciting opportunity for urban renewal in the Woden town centre. That is something that we will discuss further with the community, beginning of course with the roundtable that Minister Gentleman is holding later this month. That discussion will continue over the coming years.

### **Bimberi Youth Justice Centre—detainees**

**MRS KIKKERT:** My question is to the Minister for Disability, Children and Youth. Minister, multiple sources have brought to my attention that young people in the territory are posting on social media sites photographs of themselves taken inside the Bimberi Youth Justice Centre. Under what circumstances is it acceptable for photographs of detainees to be taken inside Bimberi?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I am aware of one particular incident that Mrs Kikkert refers to but I am not sure how much I am able to say about that. It is one particular matter. I would describe it as an incident, actually. I am not sure I am able to say about that; so I will take the question on notice.

**MRS KIKKERT:** The minister did not answer my question. My question was: under what circumstances is it acceptable for photographs—

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mrs Kikkert, do you have a supplementary question to ask?

**MRS KIKKERT:** I do. She did not answer the question. Can you please put that on notice, if that is how it works?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I just said that I would.

**MRS KIKKERT:** Thank you. Under what circumstances might detainees have access to social media sites?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Mrs Kikkert for her supplementary question and note that I did take the first question on notice.

Young people who are in the youth justice centre at Bimberi do leave the centre from time to time for daily activities. During the time that they are out of the centre it is possible that they have access to social media. I will take the detail of the question on notice.

**MRS DUNNE:** Minister, are detainees in Bimberi allowed to have mobile phones, computer tablets or digital cameras?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Mrs Dunne for her supplementary question. My understanding is that the answer is no, but I will check that and take the question on notice and get back to you.

### **Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—bush healing farm**

**MR MILLIGAN:** My question is to the Minister for Health. Minister, you said in question time on 10 May, in relation to the Ngunnawal bush healing farm:

We do need to work out the precise model of care and the precise nature of the service being delivered.

Minister, who will work out the model of care for the Ngunnawal bush healing farm, how long will it take for this model to be delivered and will you open the Ngunnawal bush healing farm without a model of care in place?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I thank Mr Milligan for his question. As I indicated yesterday, there was a workshop held with a number of stakeholders who have been involved in these discussions for some time. After that workshop was completed, I understand that there was agreement and participants in that workshop, as was indicated on Monday, can expect to see a communique out of that workshop before the end of this week. That included, of course, members of the Ngunnawal bush healing farm advisory council. They will continue to be involved, and there will continue to be very regular meetings over the course of the coming weeks to finalise the specific services to then put those services out to tender. As I indicated yesterday, my intention is to have the facility open as soon as possible. I regret the delays. Of course, the model of care needs to be settled, and I am advised that the discussions at the workshop on Monday went a long way to help settle—

**Mr Coe:** A point of order.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Coe, a point of order.

**Mr Coe:** Madam Speaker, on relevance, Mr Milligan's question included: how long will it take for the model to be delivered? To date, the minister has not answered that.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I heard in her answer that there was work in progress, and her ambition was to have it open as soon as possible.

**Mr Coe:** We understand work is in progress.

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I did indicate that over the coming weeks and months, there will be very regular contact with those participants in the workshop. The communicate will be sent out either later today or tomorrow. Work will continue over the coming weeks to finalise the model of care. After that, tenders will go out for services to be provided on the site.

**MR MILLIGAN:** Why has the government spent almost \$12 million dollars on developing the Ngunnawal bush healing farm without having a model of care for the facility or having determined the precise nature of the service being delivered from the start?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** Again, as I indicated yesterday, the facility has been completed. The road to open up access to the facility has not yet been completed. The model of care has been under discussion for some time with a range of stakeholders. Rehabilitation is a journey. For members of the community who have a very strong and longstanding interest in this, this facility is an outstanding investment in our Indigenous community in responding to their needs. We are working with them very closely, working through the model of care and working through the services that will be provided on the site.

As I indicated yesterday, I regret the delay and I certainly appreciate that this has been an ambition and dream of members of the Aboriginal community for some time. I remain committed to opening this facility as soon as possible and to delivering the services at the site as soon as possible.

**MRS DUNNE:** Minister, how many draft models of care have been developed over the years for the Ngunnawal bush healing farm and how much has the government paid to consultants and NGOs to develop models of care?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I will take that question on notice.

### **Roads—accident black spots**

**MS LE COUTEUR:** My question is to the Minister for Transport and City Services and it relates to the article on page 8 of today's *Canberra Times*, which reports a third fatal accident on Long Gully Road following the tragic accidents in 1998 and 2005. What work or analysis has Roads ACT completed on the condition of Long Gully Road?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I note with sadness another fatality, as Ms Le Couteur has mentioned. I am seeking advice on that and I will take the question on notice to get you a response by the end of question time.

**MS LE COUTEUR:** How is the ACT government prioritising and identifying fixing accident black spots on ACT roads?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** There are a number of ways that Roads ACT assesses our road network. Certainly there is detailed modelling behind the work that goes into assessing black spots on our roads. Of course, the number one priority for Roads ACT is making sure that our road network is safe. There are a number of different funding pools that contribute to upgrading our road network, principally, of course, within the Transport Canberra and City Services budget but also through the black spot funding provided by the federal government.

**MR COE:** Minister, has the ACT government ever submitted Long Gully Road to the commonwealth black spot committee and would you also take on notice what work has been done on that road over the past 10 or 15 years?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I will take that question on notice.

### **Economy—trade**

**MR STEEL:** My question is to the Chief Minister. What action is the government taking to encourage increased trade and exports from our region?

**MR BARR:** I thank Mr Steel for the question and his interest in supporting the growth of exports out of the ACT. Our international engagement strategy sets in place a very clear framework and rationale for how we will engage internationally in the future. It is a strong commitment to entering into a range of international relationships for the social and economic benefit of the territory and it provides clear direction and leadership for our region.

We continue to work closely with Canberra Airport and local and regional industry groups to advance a range of freight opportunities. This was certainly a very strong theme of the program we delivered in Singapore last month. Securing direct international flights has contributed significantly to the capacity of Canberra businesses to advance opportunities in international marketplaces and the ACT government will continue to invest in and enhance existing arrangements and work hard to unlock new aviation opportunities.

We take advantage of our strong relationship with Austrade. This is evidenced by the very strong interest of Australia's new high commissioner in Singapore in discussions with the Changi Airport freight centre and in meetings with the Singaporean trade minister.

We are also engaging with Singapore Airlines and a number of international freight companies to take full advantage of the unique opportunities provided by Canberra Airport for the air freight market.

**MR STEEL:** Minister, what support is the government providing directly to local businesses to increase their trade capability?

**MR BARR:** The export journey starts in Canberra through local business development programs, and the government, in partnership with the Canberra Business Chamber, delivers the highly regarded Chief Minister's export awards program. This annual business development program provides exporters with the opportunity to tell their great export success stories. A Canberra firm iSimulate went on to win an Australian export award through this program.

We also have the trade connect program which provides matched funding to businesses engaged with and growing their international markets. In the 2015-16 fiscal year, trade connect approved 59 applications from ACT businesses with approximately \$278,000 in committed funding. With matched private sector investment, this has resulted in a minimum of \$576,000 invested in international market activity by Canberra SMEs.

Some examples of the success of the trade connect program include automed, an agriculture business that has developed an animal vaccination technology with contracts now in the US and discussions with New Zealand, China and South Korea; the Cogito Group, a cyber security business now selling its technology to a number of New Zealand government departments; and the ACT government has partnered with the ANU for the past four years to run an international business competition and scholarship program.

I announced in my recent state of the territory address that the government was partnering with the Canberra Business Chamber to deliver a range of new business services, including mentoring and workshops for exporting businesses to increase their capability.

**MR PETTERSSON:** Chief Minister, how is the government helping to grow our local Canberra businesses in overseas markets?

**MR BARR:** Through the Commissioner for International Engagement and our partner organisations we are developing and delivering our missions to a range of international markets, delivering missions under the team Canberra model. It provides an excellent platform for promoting local businesses and industries. The government continues to invest in the CBR brand, which provides a consistent, cohesive and creative approach to marketing the ACT nationally and internationally as a city welcoming investment, a connected community and, as we all know, a great place to live, a great place to work and a great place to visit.

The brand has been a strong platform for communication on recent international missions, including the programs delivered as part of our engagement with our sister city Wellington, and in Singapore, including at our recent investor showcase. The Commissioner for International Engagement is, of course, our city's international CBR brand ambassador. The commissioner's activities raise the profile of our city to highlight our city's key capabilities and work with the business community to strengthen our place in international markets.

We have also established strong working relationships with key peak business associations, as I outlined in my speech on the Singapore trade mission this morning. As well as including businesses from strategic markets such as Wellington under our team Canberra banner, we have been developing a range of business-to-business connections across the Tasman.

It is very pleasing to see the increase in output in our international engagement since the commissioner has come on board. I can say that he is certainly enjoying a much more productive working live working positively for the city of Canberra rather than being part of the opposition rabble.

### **Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—bush healing farm**

**MRS DUNNE:** My question is to the Minister for Health. On 26 July 2016, minister, the ACT Health Directorate sent a letter to Winnunga Nimmityjah offering funding of \$75,000 to establish an alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation service at the Ngunnawal bush healing farm, including development of a model of care as outlined in an attachment to the letter titled "Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm Alcohol and Other Drug Residential Rehabilitation Service—Model of Care". Minister, did Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service accept that offer of funding?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** Yes, I believe they did.

**MRS DUNNE:** Minister, who authorised the letter of offer made to Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health Service on 28 July 2016?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I will take that question on notice.

**MR MILLIGAN:** Minister, who decided that the bush healing farm was not going to be an alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation facility, and when was that decision made?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** No-one has made that decision. As I indicated, rehabilitation is a journey. What I said yesterday was that the Ngunnawal bush healing farm will not be a detoxification facility. The precise definition of what "rehabilitation" means is something that we are working through in the model of care.

**Planning—community facility zoning**

**MS LAWDER:** My question is to the Minister for Planning and Land Management in relation to the public housing developments announced on 15 March this year. Minister, documents obtained through FOI requests refer to a Community Services Directorate and Public Housing Renewal Taskforce meeting of 23 April 2015. I quote: “potential exists for development of portions of existing sites in established areas designated ‘Community Facility’. A number of these sites have overlays excluding supportive housing and no site allows general residential use ... The use of Community Facility Zoned land would require the Environment and Planning Directorate to support a Territory Plan Variation.”

Minister, given that the Public Housing Renewal Taskforce knew that they could not put public housing on community facility zoned land without amendment of the Territory Plan, what consultation did you or your office or directorate undertake prior to making the changes to the Territory Plan?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank Ms Lawder for her question. It is, of course, an important question, and I did highlight yesterday all of the consultation and all of the work that went through in regard to the technical amendment that was made to include community housing and social housing in the Territory Plan.

The work began, as I mentioned, way back in 2003. There were adjustments to the Territory Plan through technical amendments in regard to technical amendments that actually change administrative parts of the Territory Plan and also those that are subjective in regard to including social housing and clarify that social housing was always a part of the opportunity for CFZ zones. That has been a continuing consultation process with the community since those very early days.

**MS LAWDER:** Minister, why didn't the government consult the community in relation to what the community sees as substantial changes to the Territory Plan to include social housing in the definition of supportive housing?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I do not agree with the premise of Ms Lawder's question. There was consultation. In fact there were submissions made on the technical amendment in that open period in December 2015. Of course the task force discussed the interpretation of supportive housing with the then environment and planning directorate during the second half of 2015 and 2016.

The outcome of these discussions, on the advice provided, was that it was agreed there was no need for a Territory Plan variation as public housing already met the requirements of supportive housing as listed in the Territory Plan as long as the developments were, as I said yesterday, adaptable dwellings, residential accommodation for persons in need of support and that the support was managed by a territory approved organisation, and the development was not a retirement village or student accommodation.

**MS LE COUTEUR:** Minister, you said there were two submissions. Who were they made by? I guess they were organisations, and possibly not individuals.

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I do not have with me the detail of the authors of the submissions, but I am happy to come back to the Assembly with that.

### **Public housing—Chapman**

**MR HANSON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, in June last year the Public Housing Renewal Taskforce received advice from ACT Fire & Rescue stating that Chapman block 1 section 45 was considered “bushfire prone land” and that developments that place vulnerable occupants at high risk are not generally supported. Minister, why have you ignored this advice and decided to place vulnerable residents in this highly exposed location, as was demonstrated by the devastating bushfires in 2003?

**MS BERRY:** The advice has not been ignored. The requirements for the dwellings that would be built on those sites would ensure that they would meet the requirements to be in a bushfire abatement zone area and that public housing tenants who would live in those dwellings would be carefully identified to ensure that the sites and the dwellings best met their needs and that they would be suitable for living in those areas.

**MR HANSON:** Who provided the advice to you, what was the advice that has allowed you to decide to proceed with public housing on the Chapman site, and will you provide that advice to the Assembly?

**MS BERRY:** I will take all of those questions on notice. As to whether or not I can provide all of that advice to the Assembly, I will seek advice on that as well.

**MR PARTON:** Minister, can you tell the Assembly: did you ever get clearance or support from the ESA for the proposed development in Chapman?

**MS BERRY:** I think I will just take that on notice to be sure. But in response to the question that Mr Hanson asked about whether or not that site would be suitable, there would be a requirement for a development on that site to ensure that it met the requirements to be built in an area prone to bushfires.

### **Roads—projects**

**MR PETTERSSON:** My question is to the Minister for Transport and City Services. Can the Minister update the Assembly on how the government is delivering on its commitment to duplicate and improve safety on Gundaroo Drive?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I thank Mr Pettersson very much for his question. I will be delighted to update the Assembly on the government’s commitments to upgrade Gundaroo Drive. As many members know, the construction of stage 1 of the

Gundaroo Drive duplication between Mirrabai and Gungahlin drives is progressing well. Work has already started on the construction of a new bridge for the duplicated carriageway near Gungahlin Drive. This includes very extensive work to widen the existing bridge to cater for the additional lanes heading south. A new noise wall is almost complete along the western side of the carriageway to mitigate the change in noise levels from the widened section of Gundaroo Drive, and traffic will be moved on to the new carriageway towards the middle of this year, to allow works to focus on upgrading the existing road and intersections of Mirrabai Drive and Ginn and Nari streets.

Today, with Mr Pettersson and Ms Orr, I was very pleased to announce funding of \$30 million over three years for the construction of the remaining 2.6 kilometre duplication of Gundaroo Drive between Gungahlin Drive and the Barton Highway. This stage 2 duplication is a project that many in the Gungahlin community have been asking for. ACT Labor committed to it in the last election, and I am very pleased that we can deliver on this commitment in next month's budget.

An additional 2.6 kilometres of Gundaroo Drive will be duplicated to a dual carriageway, extending the duplication works currently underway between Gungahlin and Mirrabai drives. The upgrade will include on-road cycle lanes and modifications to the roundabouts at Abena Avenue, Nudurr Drive and Burrowa Street. Gundaroo Drive currently carries up to 23,000 vehicles per day, and this upgrade will increase capacity on the road and help relieve congestion, particularly during peak periods. Design and approvals have already been completed, which is great news for the residents of Gungahlin, as this will allow construction to commence in early 2018.

I was also very pleased to announce an additional \$2.8 million for the replacement of the roundabout at the Gundaroo Drive and Mirrabai Drive intersection with traffic lights. This will improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, particularly those seeking to access Yerrabi ponds. (*Time expired.*)

**MR PETTERSSON:** Minister, what other work is the government doing on future road upgrades to ensure we keep people moving across our growing city?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** As we know, in the federal budget handed down just this week the ACT was largely forgotten in terms of infrastructure spending. The Leader of the Opposition has given his very best efforts to claim that the ACT was a winner in the budget but the simple fact is that all we were given in new infrastructure spending was \$3 million for design and feasibility for a road going out of the territory.

The ACT is now the only government in this town that is supporting infrastructure spending in the nation's capital. The roads package announced today has \$43 million in investment for construction, design and feasibility work for roads right across the city. This is on top of the work that we are already doing on Horse Park Drive, Gundaroo Drive, the Cotter Road and Ashley Drive.

A \$1.2 million upgrade to the intersection of the Federal Highway and Well Station Drive which was announced in the roads package will support safe access to the new

Canberra park resort tourist facility and events held at Exhibition Park. Upgrades to roads in the Canberra brickworks precinct include the design and construction of a new access road and upgrades to the Dudley Street and Novar Street intersection in Yarralumla.

In addition, the government has allocated funding to progress three priority feasibility studies. As a government, we are funding the design and feasibility work now to cater for our growing city. These include the Molonglo east-west arterial road feasibility study to investigate the alignment for the east-west arterial road at Molonglo from John Gorton Drive to the Tuggeranong Parkway, including a bridge crossing of the Molonglo River, an interchange at the parkway and a trunk cycle path.

The William Hovell Drive feasibility study will focus on transport network improvements for west Belconnen and Molonglo, including an assessment for upgrading William Hovell Drive between Drake Brockman Drive and Coulter Drive and the Bindubi Street extension road feasibility study for the extension of Bindubi Street from William Hovell Drive to John Gorton Drive. This road will service the eastern area of Molonglo and will contribute to completing the arterial road network in Molonglo.

These improvements are being planned to manage the growth of the population across our region over the coming years.

**MS CODY:** Minister, how many kilometres of local roads has the government resurfaced this year, and is the government continuing to invest in this critical infrastructure?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** The ACT government manages the construction, operation and maintenance of our roads and associated infrastructure, including bridges, community paths, driveways, street signs, line markings, traffic signals, street lighting and, of course, stormwater.

In 2015-16, Transport Canberra and City Services undertook the following maintenance activities on our roads: 15,827 kilometres of road were swept; 20,346 square metres of concrete and asphalt path segments were replaced on footpath maintenance; 67,677 square metres of asphalt patching and 3,323 pothole repairs were undertaken on our roads; and 1,014,421 square metres of road were resurfaced in 2015-16.

The ACT government is continually investigating and trialling new surface treatments with a hope to be able to use new products in the resurfacing program. Trials are currently underway on several different treatment solutions. If these trials are successful, they will be included in the resurfacing program in future years. A total of 1,079,454 square metres of road have been resurfaced to date in the 2016-17 financial year.

We have one of the best road networks in the world and the government is committed to keeping it that way.

**Taxation—clubs**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Regulatory Services. Minister, your government has committed to providing a \$10,000 grant and a 50 per cent rebate on gaming tax on small and medium clubs. Why is the Woden Tradies club—part of one of the largest and most profitable poker machine operating groups in the territory—getting a \$330,000 tax break out of this?

**MR RAMSAY:** I thank the member for his question.

*Mr Coe interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Coe, allow the minister to respond.

**MR RAMSAY:** Certainly the government is committed to ensuring the ongoing viability of clubs and, as we were talking about earlier today, acknowledges the importance of enabling clubs to be able to diversify their business away from gaming machines. The government has announced that it will be implementing a range of measures to assist small and medium clubs, and those clubs are those which have less than \$4 million of gross gaming machine revenue. That will mean they will be able to reinvest that in their organisation to be able to diversify their business. It is a matter of us working closely and positively with those clubs to enable them to diversify and work positively into the future.

**MR PARTON:** Minister, why isn't revenue from the Tradies club group's total revenue taken as a whole when applying that \$4 million threshold?

**MR RAMSAY:** The way that the process is working depends on the way that the clubs—

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MR RAMSAY:** The way the clubs are affiliated, their legal structure. It is simply a matter of working within that.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Supplementary question, Mr Wall.

**MR WALL:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Minister—

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Wall, please resume your seat. Mr Coe and Mr Hanson, can you refrain from your own internal jolliness among yourselves and from interjections. Mr Wall.

**MR WALL:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Minister, how will your government monitor that these tax breaks are actually being used to help clubs to diversify their incomes away from poker machines?

**MR RAMSAY:** Thank you, Mr Wall. The government is working through at the moment the way in which the supporting clubs package—

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MR WALL:** will be providing financial assistance, easing the regulatory administrative burden, providing administrative assistance and recognising the social contributions—

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson, please allow one question to be answered without us hearing your voice. Minister for Regulatory Services.

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

*Mr Coe interjecting—*

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson and Mr Coe, you are about to be warned. I take that as not being a good reflection on what I have just said to you.

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MR RAMSAY:** We are, indeed, developing a—

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson, you are warned. You are now warned, Mr Hanson. Minister for Regulatory Services.

**MR RAMSAY:** We are developing a range of ways and we will be working with the clubs to ensure that the way that the assistance is received in the small benefits package and the overall assistance we are providing are used for the very purposes for which they are designed.

### **ACT Health—data integrity**

**MR DOSZPOT:** My question is to the Minister for Health. Minister, I refer to the Auditor-General's report No 3 on computer information systems, which found that ACT Health was using 10 systems that used unsupported operating systems, including the SHIP, or the sexual health electronic clinical record system. Were the sexual health electronic clinical records of any Canberrans compromised as a result of ACT Health using an unsupported operating system?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** Of course I am aware of the Auditor-General's findings in that report. It has certainly not been brought to my attention that that was the case. I would expect that if that were the case it would have immediately been brought to my attention. I will take the question on notice.

**MR DOSZPOT:** Minister, how long were sexual health electronic clinical records in an insecure state?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I do not accept the premise of the question. I will take it on notice.

**MRS DUNNE:** Minister, can you assure the Assembly that there was no unauthorised or inappropriate access to the sexual health records of Canberrans?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** As I indicated in my previous answer, it has certainly not been brought to my attention that that was the case at all. But again, I will take the question on notice.

### **Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—government policy**

**MS CODY:** My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. Minister, will the ACT government be supporting the celebration of culture by Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in the ACT for the 50th anniversary of the 1967 referendum and the 25th anniversary of the Mabo decision?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Ms Cody for her question and for her commitment to reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Earlier today I was pleased to announce that the ACT government will provide \$21,000 each to two local organisations to support cultural and family-oriented events marking the 50th anniversary of the 1967 referendum and the 25th anniversary of the High Court's Mabo decision. These events will take place during Reconciliation Week, which marks these anniversaries and is bookmarked at either end by these dates.

Canberrans reflected on the significance of the 1967 referendum throughout the recent 2017 heritage festival, which I know many members of this place participated in, and 27 May 2017 will mark 50 years to the day since almost 91 per cent of Australians voted yes to right the wrongs of the past and enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be counted in the census. The Canberra and District NAIDOC Aboriginal Corporation will hold a community day on 27 May at the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre at Yarramundi Reach to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1967 referendum.

In 1992, the High Court of Australia handed down its historic decision declaring terra nullius as fiction and legally recognising the native title rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. On 3 June, the ACT Torres Strait Islander Corporation will welcome all Canberrans to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Mabo decision.

It is important to continue protecting and promoting the rich cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT with the broader community by acknowledging these important milestones. I encourage all members of the Assembly to participate in Reconciliation Week activities.

**MS CODY:** Minister, what else is the ACT government doing to celebrate the culture of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in the ACT, support new leaders and champion opportunities for them to develop new skills?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Ms Cody for her supplementary question. The ACT government is committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to achieve equitable life outcomes and opportunities, to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and to develop new leaders in these communities.

One way we are doing this is through the ACT's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander grants program. This program provides funding to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the ACT to undertake activities that will celebrate and strengthen their culture and enhance their leadership skills to equip them to better lead and engage on behalf of their communities and organisations.

Last month I announced 33 grants worth more than \$90,000 to support initiatives for Canberra's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community across cultural, leadership and scholarship grants. Successful programs and activities in the cultural grants field included the Tjillari Aboriginal Justice Corporation's project titled "Strong Culture, Strong Families", Belconnen Art Centre's celebration of NAIDOC by the Lake, a community awareness project related to growing and using bush foods, and the publication of new book on Torres Strait Islanders in the ACT. I was pleased to share an interview with the author of that book on ABC Radio Canberra recently.

These grants aim to celebrate the cultures of Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders in the ACT by developing innovative projects that contribute to sustainable communities and promote cultural diversity. It is important, though, not only to continue protecting and promoting the rich cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT but also to empower new leaders and champion opportunities to develop skills and increase employment prospects.

**MS CHEYNE:** Minister, can you give the Assembly further information on the kinds of projects that the government has funded to support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership training and development opportunities?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Ms Cheyne for her supplementary question. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander grants program that I was speaking about aims to celebrate the cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It also focuses on building strong families and realising our shared vision for excellent outcomes. The leadership grants provide an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander people in the ACT to undertake learning activities to enhance their leadership skills and abilities to better equip them, as I said, to lead and engage on behalf of their communities and organisations.

From this recent funding round, we will assist members of that community, including Ms Kerry Reed-Gilbert to produce a second edition of *A pocketful of leadership in the ACT*, and to support a local leader to attend the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education. The round also included scholarship grants funding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who reside in the ACT to undertake study and training that will further develop their skills and qualifications, to help them increase their employment prospects.

There were a large number of things supported in this round. They include support for doctoral research for a project called boarding school business—the experiences of Aboriginal girls attending boarding schools—and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans to undertake such educational activities as a bachelor of public health, bachelor of primary education, a practitioners certification in mediation, the AICD company directors course, and a bachelor of science in psychology.

These grants support a diversity of education and training activities. I am particularly pleased to see some of these activities in the allied health field, where it is particularly important for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to have greater representation.

### **Sport—infrastructure**

**MS CHEYNE:** My question is to the Minister for Sport and Recreation. Minister, can you update the Assembly on the recently completed rowing facility at Grevillea Park?

**MS BERRY:** I thank Ms Cheyne for the question. Members who ride or walk around the lake might have seen a growing rowing facility at Grevillea Park. I had the chance to open the building on Friday, 28 April 2017 and it was really great to see how local rowers have already embraced their new facility. In addition to Capital Lakes Rowing Club making their home at the facility, the ACT branch of the Broulee surf lifesaving club and Scouts ACT will be based at this new facility.

The construction of this new building again demonstrates the ACT government's commitment to increase access to sporting infrastructure across the city. I know that it will provide more opportunities for Canberrans to be more active and ultimately healthier through their participation in organised sport.

Built at a cost of \$1.4 million, with a footprint of around 750 square metres, this new facility is significantly larger than their previous home, which was at Kingston foreshore. In addition to the increased storage space that has been made available for boats and other equipment, the venue has changing rooms and a multipurpose room which can be used for other training or gatherings. In designing the facility, the Land Development Agency worked closely with the National Capital Authority, Active Canberra, lake user groups and other local stakeholders and members of the community.

As well as the rowing shed construction, car parking has been significantly increased, from 22 to 109, with a finished product which is sympathetic to the area and complements the lake environment.

**MS CHEYNE:** Minister, how did the project come about and what has been the response from local rowers?

**MS BERRY:** The response from the local rowing community to the territory's investment in new rowing facilities has been very positive. From the feedback that I have received to date it is already regarded as the best rowing facility in the ACT and it will create a great opportunity for the Capital Lakes Rowing Club to grow their membership base.

As I mentioned, Capital Lakes Rowing Club's previous home was located at Kingston foreshore which, as members know, has seen some significant change over the past few years. Given the lake frontage and its location, it was identified as an area that was appropriate for development and was sold in 2016.

At that time the government worked with the club to identify a new site to relocate the club and committed to build a new facility. Grevillea Park was selected as the preferred location by Capital Lakes Rowing Club and was assessed as suitable for lake-based recreational facilities in the strategic review of recreational facilities around Lake Burley Griffin which was undertaken and released in 2010.

In May 2014 a master plan was prepared to develop Grevillea Park as a recreational hub, and community consultation was undertaken. For the project to be successful and supported, it was important that we were able to provide maximum access to the lake and that low-scale design could be developed that was sympathetic to the surrounds. I want to thank and congratulate everybody who has contributed along the way to such a great outcome.

**MS ORR:** Minister, how does the project contribute to the government's program of investment in sports infrastructure?

**MS BERRY:** I thank Ms Orr for the supplementary question. With a significantly improved facility that has delivered increased boat storage capacity, Capital Lakes Rowing Club will now be looking at expanding a number of their programs, in particular, their para-rowing program, which seeks to get more athletes with a disability into rowing. Further to this, the club plans to conduct rowing programs in partnership with a number of ACT government schools to increase junior participation rates in the sport.

The construction of this new facility at Grevillea Park also means that organisations using the rowing shed will continue to activate the East Basin of Lake Burley Griffin. This part of the lake is not as heavily used as other areas, so we should see an increase in activity in this area—albeit from 4.30 in the morning—due to the additional capacity of the clubs to delivery water-based recreation.

With the facility catering for a number of organisations, the territory has ensured that it is getting the most effective use out of the available land around the lake and meeting the needs of the various user groups. Given the limited supply of suitable land, this was an important consideration when designing the facility.

More broadly, the project contributes to an ongoing program of investment by the ACT government in key local sporting infrastructure. Earlier this year we saw new national data confirming that the ACT is the most active jurisdiction in Australia. The government sees our role as making sure that people are encouraged to participate in all different sports, regardless of age, ability, gender or background. The new rowing facility will make an important contribution towards that goal.

### **Canberra Hospital—security system**

**MS LEE:** My question is to the Minister for Health. Minister, how long did it take for the security system at the Canberra Hospital to be fully restored after the fire of 5 April 2017?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I am not sure what Ms Lee means by the security system at the hospital. Certainly, power was restored to the Canberra Hospital at 2 o'clock on the following morning. I will take the specifics of the question on notice.

**MS LEE:** Minister, were staff at any time during or following the fire unable to access pharmaceuticals in clinical areas because they required swipe cards to access the cupboards?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** Not that I am aware of. I will take the question on notice.

**MRS DUNNE:** Minister, when taking that on notice, if the answer is yes, how long were patients delayed in getting access to necessary pharmaceuticals?

**MS FITZHARRIS:** I am not sure if that was the case, but I will take the question on notice.

### **Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate—employee assistance program**

**MR WALL:** My question is to the Chief Minister. Chief Minister, the employee assistance program provides employees with confidential, professional counselling on work-related and personal issues. Chief Minister, why did the number of staff in your directorate who accessed the employee assistance scheme triple, from 164 in 2014-15 to 493 in 2015-16, while the number of staff in your directorate increased by only four per cent?

**MR BARR:** I will seek some advice from the Head of Service. I understand there would have been some administrative changes that may have increased the size of the directorate; I would have thought in advance of four per cent. I will check the exact timing of the dates that Mr Wall has referred to and respond on notice.

**MR WALL:** Chief Minister, are you concerned that in 2015-16 one-fifth of the staff in your directorate felt the need to access the employee assistance scheme?

**MR BARR:** It would depend on the nature of their access to the scheme and exactly the issues that they sought to raise. I will take some advice on that and respond if necessary.

**MS LEE:** Chief Minister, what are you doing to honour your duty of care to the people working in your directorate?

**MR BARR:** Without lecturing the opposition member on who the employer is in this matter, I do not employ the public servants. The Head of Service has responsibility for these matters under the Public Sector Management Act. But in relation to the personal values that I bring to my job, I think they are on display every day and the leadership I have provided this territory is on display every day, and was endorsed by the people of Canberra at the election last year.

### **ACT Policing—CCTV**

**MS ORR:** My question is to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Can the minister please give the Assembly an update on the ACT government's CCTV network and how it contributes to public safety?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank Ms Orr for her interest in this area of public safety. The public safety CCTV system installed in 2001 is an ACT government-owned network of interconnected CCTV systems located at various public venues and open spaces.

CCTV systems serve two primary purposes: as a crime prevention measure and as a tool to detect and identify offenders. The ACT government system is managed by the security and emergency management branch of the Justice and Community Safety Directorate. The public safety CCTV network has cameras located at Canberra city, GIO Stadium, Manuka Oval, EPIC, Manuka shopping precinct, Kingston shopping precinct and the Jolimont bus station.

The CCTV systems at most of Canberra's public bus stations—Belconnen, Woden, Tuggeranong—are managed by Transport Canberra and City Services and are also connected to the system. CCTV footage is recorded by these systems 24 hours a day. The footage is retained for 30 days, as required by the Territory Records Act 2002, after which it is destroyed unless required for investigative purposes.

ACT Policing have dedicated staff that monitor the public safety CCTV system on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The purpose of the monitoring is to enhance public safety by identifying antisocial or criminal activity early and dispatching police resources in a timely manner. ACT Policing may also use the system at any other time to assist with incident management and response.

**MS ORR:** Can the minister please advise what innovations have been implemented to improve the functioning of the CCTV network?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank Ms Orr for her supplementary. Improvements to the public safety CCTV system now permit live and recorded footage to be viewed on enabled PCs at any location where there is ACT government ICT network access. This was used to great benefit during the National Multicultural Festival this year.

A range of new CCTV cameras is currently being installed as well. Following a trial, new high definition multi-lens cameras will be installed at various locations in the city, Manuka and Kingston. These new cameras will provide enhanced fields of view, resolution and clarity in low-light conditions.

A strategic operations plan for the public safety CCTV system is being developed to ensure the network remains current and addresses future community safety needs. The plan is expected to be available by June 2017. JACS is also investigating and seeking to trial the use of Canberra's wi-fi network or commercial 4G networks to route the CCTV information. If successful, this could provide the option for the ACT government to deploy CCTV that could be installed quickly in crime and antisocial hotspots or at community events. The ACT government works collaboratively with ACT Policing and other directorates and follows a risk-based approach when planning system expansions or improvements.

**MR STEEL:** Minister, can you please update the Assembly on how these important installations are being maintained?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank the member for the question. In the ACT budget for 2016-17 the government invested \$376,000 to enhance public safety and law enforcement by undertaking remediation and minor upgrades to the system. This remediation and enhancement includes the upgrade of CCTV cameras, servers and cabling. The remediation and upgrade project is progressing well and works are scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2017.

**Mr Barr:** I ask that all further questions be placed on the notice paper.