



# Debates

WEEKLY HANSARD

Legislative Assembly for the ACT

**TENTH ASSEMBLY**

**24 November 2022**

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**MADAM SPEAKER** (Ms Burch) (10.00): Members:

Dhawura nguna, dhawura Ngunnawal.  
Yanggu ngalawiri, dhunimanyin Ngunnawalwari dhawurawari.  
Nginggada Dindi dhawura Ngunnaawalbun yindjumaralidjinyin.

The words I have just spoken are in the language of the traditional custodians and translate to:

This is Ngunnawal Country.  
Today we are gathering on Ngunnawal country.  
We always pay respect to Elders, female and male, and Ngunnawal country.

Members, I ask you to stand in silence and pray or reflect on our responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

### **Legislative Assembly—point of order Statement by Speaker**

**MADAM SPEAKER** (Ms Burch) (10.02): Yesterday, the Manager of Government Business raised a point of order in relation to whether it was appropriate for a member to participate in a debate and speak in favour of an amendment when that same member had previously made a ruling when occupying the chair.

It is assumed that all occupants of the chair will undertake these important roles in an impartial way. If occupants are not impartial or make an incorrect ruling, it is open to the Assembly to consider dissent from the Speaker's ruling.

I was asked whether there was an issue with a member who occupies the chair giving a ruling and participating in the debate. Given the small size of the Assembly, I see no issue with this, if they are acting in an impartial way, which is the expectation of all people in this role.

I make the observation that if a member were not able to participate in a debate that they had chaired for some portion, there may be a reluctance on the part of members to undertake the role of Deputy Speaker or Assistant Speaker here. Whilst there is a chair roster, it is not uncommon, as will happen during the course of sitting weeks, for members to rotate in and out, to accommodate their ability to participate in a debate. The most important thing is that those sitting in this chair act in an absolutely impartial way.

### **Education and Community Inclusion—Standing Committee Report 6**

**MR PETTERSSON** (Yerrabi) (10.04): I present the following report:

Education and Community Inclusion—Standing Committee—Report 6—*Inquiry into racial vilification*, dated 23 November 2022, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings.

I move:

That the report be noted.

In my role as Chair of the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion, I am pleased to speak to the report of the inquiry into racial vilification. At a private meeting on 16 November 2021, the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion resolved to conduct an inquiry. This is the sixth report from the committee.

The report comprises an evidence-based response to the surfacing of racism that has been observed since the beginning of COVID-19—racism from a small minority of Canberrans directed towards those of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Even if only instigated by a few, racial vilification has a profound impact on many in our community.

Our inquiry was informed by eight submissions and two public hearings. The committee learned that racism impacts children and young people, international students and those who are incarcerated. Racism impedes access to housing, public transport, school attendance and workforce participation. Opposition to racism needs to be swift and just. The complaint mechanisms need to be clear and well promoted.

To this end, the report makes 16 recommendations to scaffold strong community support of diversity in a Canberra culture that calls out incidents of racism. The recommendations pertain to legislation targeted at anti-racism strategies, public awareness campaigns, research, training and revision of complaints procedures.

On behalf of the committee, I thank everyone who contributed to this inquiry. I thank the other members of the committee, Mr Davis and Ms Lawder. I commend this report to the Assembly.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

## **Women's rights in Iran**

### **Ministerial statement**

**MS BERRY** (Ginninderra—Deputy Chief Minister, Minister for Early Childhood Development, Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Women) (10.06): I am speaking today to draw the Assembly's attention to the continued deadly and disproportionate use of force against protestors in Iran following the death of 22-year-old Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini, and share the experiences of Maryam.

Maryam is here in the ACT. She was born in Iran during the Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s. She was politically active as a student and, by 2006, at the age of 20, she was part of the campaign to collect one million signatures for the repeal of discriminatory laws, also known as Change for Equity.

The campaign was established in recognition of Iranian women being treated as second-class citizens by law, having no rights or support in terms of divorce, child custody and abortion. The campaign organisers and volunteers, including Maryam, wanted to show their society, politicians and lawmakers that the need and will to change discriminatory laws against women have the support of the wider community.

An example of such discrimination is the application of Tamkeen under Sharia law, which demands that a wife accept her husband's superiority and commandship as the head of the household. Under Tamkeen, women's consent to have intercourse is not sought and it is considered to be her duty to make herself available on her husband's demand. This is why the Change for Equity campaign was harshly shut down in 2009, and in their recent protests in Iran people are asking to see these laws changed and the systemic legalised violence against women ended.

As for Maryam and her activism in Iran, the topic was controversial and saw their blog blocked by authorities. This trend continues on what is known as National Internet, which heavily restrains people's access to the rest of the world wide web.

Maryam says that, from the three who ran the blog and campaigned for the Change for Equity, one was suspiciously killed in 2013 after being released from custody and the other is currently in Iran living under strict scrutiny.

Maryam's story is not a standalone event. She is amongst many Iranian women in diaspora who recall the touch of batons and tasers whenever they hear the sound of a motorbike's loud exhaust here in Canberra, as it triggers memories of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps intimidating mass protests.

The Iranian women and men's call for solidarity is open to anyone from around the world to be taken up, as it is a fight for basic human rights, because women's rights are human rights. Women should be free to protest without reprisal. All people should be able to protest without reprisal. People in Iran protesting bravely do so knowing that they may be shot, that they will be threatened with violence and that they are risking their lives.

Human rights organisations have reported hundreds—possibly many more—of people demonstrating peacefully being killed by security forces who have been filmed firing live ammunition on the streets. But there is a small glimmer of hope as the protests and abhorrent actions of the military regime capture the attention of others. There is action and support for the peaceful protesters and calls for an end to this terrible treatment.

In preparing this statement, I read that prominent Iranian actors Hengameh Ghaziani and Katayoun Riahi were arrested for removing their head scarves in protest. Ghaziani

shared this on her Instagram, alongside a photo of herself in the capital of Tehran without a headscarf:

Maybe this will be my last post. From this moment on, know that, as always, I am with the Iranian people until my last breath.

This week the Iranian soccer team playing in the World Cup silently protested by not singing their national anthem. In Australia, the foreign minister, Senator Penny Wong, tweeted:

We call on Iran to end its oppression of women and its brutal suppression of protests. To those brave Iranian women and girls and others, peacefully protesting, Australia is with you.

Acts of solidarity are happening here in the ACT, too, to show support for the people of Iran, who continue to stand up for the women and girls of their country, despite the personal risks. Here in the Assembly, members of this place are joining together to condemn this atrocious abuse of women's rights, of human rights, and lend our voices and raise our arms in solidarity with the people of Iran. We are with you.

Madam Speaker, the Assembly women MLAs caucus, hosted by you, met last week. It was agreed during that caucus that we could combine our voices in a way to lend our support on matters of importance to women here and across the world. This ministerial statement provides women members of the Legislative Assembly with the chance to do that—to unite and show tripartisan support for matters of importance to women. This will be the first of what I know will be many more opportunities to do that. I present the following paper:

Support for women in Iran—Ministerial statement, Thursday, 24 November 2022.

I move:

That the Assembly take note of the paper.

**MS LAWDER** (Brindabella) (10.12): I thank Minister Berry for making a ministerial statement on what we have all seen as the deplorable plight of women in Iran over the last few months. I think we were all shocked to read the story of Mahsa Amini, who died after being released from custody. That you can be taken away against your will and held—and who knows what happened to this young woman during the time she was held—for what you are wearing or not wearing is, I think, anathema to us here in Australia, and certainly here in Canberra. That is why it is important that we take a stand and say that we support Mahsa Amini's family and all women in Iran.

Women's rights are human rights and, if we ignore the plight of women in Iran or anywhere else, it is tacit approval of what is happening. We have heard this in many guises in many situations—perhaps most famously, in recent times, “The standard you walk past is the standard you accept.” If we do not speak up today about the plight of women in Iran, we are walking past that standard about human rights, about women's rights.

You should be able to wear what you like. You should have the right to peaceful protest. I will never stay silent about the oppression of women. That is why I am pleased that, through the women's caucus that we have in the ACT Legislative Assembly, we talked about this topic recently and agreed that we could raise it in the Assembly, to demonstrate loud and clear our support for the women of Iran. We stand with the women of Iran.

**MS VASSAROTTI** (Kurrajong) (10.14): I rise to speak briefly to express my horror regarding reports of state violence against protests in Iran that were sparked by the horrific murder of Mahsa Amini, the 22-year-old Iranian woman of Kurdish origin who died in the custody of morality police on 16 September, after her arrest for an alleged breach of Iran's strict dress code for women.

I rise to express that the ACT Greens stand in solidarity with the brave women and men, girls and boys who are expressing their fury at issues, including draconian compulsory hijab laws, security forces' brutality, and wider government repression.

We add our voices to the international movement that declares that women's rights are human rights, and that we must come together to ensure that all people have access to the right to live free from violence and harassment, be involved in community and public life, and have access to the resources to enable them to have a good life.

The bravery and solidarity that we are witnessing in Iran is admirable. This is particularly so in the context of such harsh penalties for public protest. Human Rights Watch has described the scale of the protest, particularly on issues of women's choice and police accountability, as unprecedented. We cannot ignore the gendered impacts of authoritarian rule, whether it be by the Iranian government, the Taliban, Russia or others.

These protests have been going on for more than 40 days. Extraordinary acts of state violence have not cowed people from different ethnic backgrounds, which have seen schoolchildren, uni students and others uniting together to express their anger. This is solidarity, and it is crossing cultural and socio-economic lines. These protests have been met with acts of violence and brutality, mass arrests and, reportedly, killings of hundreds of people, including girls.

Human Rights Watch contend that these protests are not just about dress codes, but about economic justice. Despite high rates of university graduation, women's unemployment rates are more than double that of their male counterparts, a troubling trend that has only widened since COVID-19. Their participation in the labour force is in the teens, and men are openly preferenced for roles when recruitment is undertaken. Access to sexual and reproductive health rights is severely limited and early marriage is actively encouraged by the state.

The ACT Greens and Australian Greens are in solidarity with the women of Iran. We will always protect the right to protest and be a loud voice against government's attempts to silence people, whether in Iran or closer to home in Tasmania. We will always fight for women's rights to choose their dress, their partner, their religion, their career and what they do with their bodies.



The denial of women's rights under the guise of cultural norms is nothing new. As a privileged woman from a westernised and rich country, it is important to recognise that women's expression of feminism is different and sits within a cultural context. It is not for us to say what their feminism looks like and it is not for us to impose our views on them.

However, women in Iran are expressing the reality that strict dress codes for women can impact on all aspects of public life and can restrict the ability for women and girls to even participate in public life. They have been joined by their husbands, their friends and their children to say that enough is enough. They have the attention of the world, who are coming together to express their solidarity.

Today, this parliament joins this global community of people committed to human rights, to kindness and inclusion, to say that we are here with you in solidarity. We echo the calls of the Australian Greens that the international community condemn ongoing abuses of freedom and human rights. Those responsible for Mahsa Amini's death must be held accountable through a criminal investigation. Those responsible for ongoing state violence and harassment must stop and be held accountable for their actions.

**MS CHEYNE** (Ginninderra—Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Business and Better Regulation, Minister for Human Rights and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (10.19): I rise today to echo the comments of colleagues across the chamber, as Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Minister for Human Rights, in solidarity with Iranian women and girls and their right to peacefully protest against the oppression of women. Women's rights are human rights.

Multiculturalism, human rights, peace and diplomacy are fundamentally important values in the ACT. I want to assure the local Iranian community that the ACT government recognises the seriousness of the situation overseas, and the anger and anguish being felt by those who have connections to Iran and its people. I also want to acknowledge that many people in the Canberra and wider Australian community are equally aghast at reports of the deadly and disproportionate use of force against protesters in Iran.

The ACT community is built on a foundation of diversity, empathy, inclusion and respect for each other, and in the context of a framework of human rights. I encourage anyone in distress and requiring help to talk through their thoughts and feelings, and to connect with organisations such as Lifeline on 13 11 14. For access to in-person support in a nonclinical environment that is safe, welcoming and supportive, the Safe Haven at Belconnen Community Health Centre is available for drop-in conversations and is free to access.

As Canberrans, regardless of our cultural backgrounds, we must continue to stand together in support of gender equality and the human rights of women, and to reaffirm our commitment, as a people, to end the senseless violence perpetrated against women and girls worldwide. I commend Minister Berry's ministerial statement to the chamber.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members, can I say that this is a good outcome from the women's caucus, to be able to come together on common understandings and common things of importance.

## **ACT Disability Health Strategy—development Ministerial statement**

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH** (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Families and Community Services and Minister for Health) (10.21): I rise today to give an update on the development of the ACT Disability Health Strategy, in response to recommendation 11 of report No 3 of the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing—Appropriation Bill 2021-2022, and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2021-2022.

In the lead-up to the 2020 election the government committed to developing and implementing a disability health strategy—something that remains a priority for me in the health portfolio. Development of the Disability Health Strategy is progressing, with the ACT Health Directorate commencing work in 2021 in collaboration with the Community Services Directorate.

Phase 1, the scoping of the Disability Health Strategy Project, was completed in December 2021 and delivered a scoping paper, “Future Directions of Disability Health in the ACT: Phase One of the ACT Disability Health Strategy Project”, and a listening report, “ACT Disability Health Strategy Roundtable: Listening Report—Phase One of the of the ACT Disability Health Strategy Project”.

Phase 2, the development of the Disability Health Strategy itself, commenced in January 2022. At its conclusion it will deliver a disability health strategy and first action plan.

Phase 3, the launch and implementation of the strategy, will commence in 2023 and will deliver a 10-year ACT disability health strategy and its first action plan in multiple mediums, including easy English, and will include planning, budget submissions and implementation of seed projects.

The Disability Health Strategy will be informed by the detailed work, consultation and engagement undertaken by the community and ACT government over the past few years. We do not want, nor do we need, to reinvent the wheel, when so much good work has gone before.

The strategy will build on this work, including the phase 1 scoping paper and listening report, national and ACT policy and research recommendations, the ACT Council of Social Service 2019 report *Imagining Better—Reflections on access, choice and control in ACT health services for people with disability* and Women's Health Matters 2022 report “*I have to ask to be included...*” to deliver, with the disability community, an ambitious strategy with a vision for a better, more accessible, more equitable health system.

To lead phase 2, the Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee was formed to ensure that we developed the strategy with rather than for the community. This committee is co-chaired by Dougie Herd, a highly regarded disability activist and former Chair of the ACT Disability Reference Group. There are 24 members of the committee, which includes community representatives who are people with lived experience of disability and/or carers of people with disability who actively applied to participate in and contribute to the development of the strategy, community disability service providers or advocacy groups, and ACT government representatives from across ACT public health services and government.

To ensure that the committee is supported to deliver this significant system reform project, the ACT government invested \$260,000 through the 2022-23 budget into the work to finalise the strategy. Since the steering committee first met on 28 April this year, it has been busy working to develop the vision and priorities for the strategy. I am pleased to report that, at its most recent meeting, on 10 November, the committee resolved the clear direction for development of the strategy, following consultation with the ACT Disability Reference Group.

As members may be aware, there is a lot of activity in this policy space. On 3 December 2021, Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031 was launched. This strategy has seven outcome areas: employment and financial security, inclusive homes and communities, safety, rights and justice, personal and community support, education and learning, health and wellbeing, and community attitudes.

In response to the national strategy, the ACT Office for Disability is developing an overarching 10-year ACT Disability Strategy. The whole-of-government ACT Disability Strategy and the Disability Health Strategy are interlinked, with both launching in 2023.

Minister Davidson, who is responsible for the Disability Strategy, and I, are working closely together to ensure alignment and avoid duplication across the development process to ultimately deliver better outcomes for Canberrans living with disability. We are both acutely aware of how much trust has been put in us by the community and how important both pieces of work are.

Also closely linked is the Canberra Health Services Disability Action and Inclusion Plan, which will be launched at the end of this month, in the lead-up to the International Day of People with Disability, or I-Day, on 3 December. As the largest provider of ACT government funded health services and the only provider of many specialist services, CHS has a key role to play in delivering a more inclusive health system. The process of developing the Disability Action and Inclusion Plan has been an important one, but it has also highlighted how much more there is to do.

In closing, I would like to reiterate the government's commitment to developing and implementing a disability health strategy to improve health outcomes for people with disability. I would also like to thank the members of the Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee and the ACT disability community for their continued support and engagement in the development of the Disability Health Strategy. I present the following paper:

Health and Community Wellbeing—Standing Committee—Report 3—Appropriation Bill 2021-2022 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2021-2022—Update on recommendation 11—Development of a Disability Health Strategy—Ministerial statement, 24 November 2022.

I move:

That the Assembly take note of the paper.

**MS DAVIDSON** (Murrumbidgee—Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services, Minister for Disability, Minister for Justice Health, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Veterans and Seniors) (10.27): As Minister for Disability, I would like to make a few remarks in support of the Minister for Health's ministerial statement on the disability health strategy. As members of this Assembly are aware, the ACT is currently in the process of developing an ACT disability strategy. In addition to the ACT disability strategy, having a specific disability health strategy led by the Minister for Health demonstrates the ACT government's commitment and priorities in supporting the disability community.

As the Minister for Health has already said, the disability health strategy aims to ensure better health and wellbeing outcomes for people with disability. I know this is something that has come through as a theme in many of the ACT disability strategy consultations. That reflects how important accessible health care is for people with disability. Health policy has traditionally viewed disability through a medical model rather than a social model. The social model of disability says that people with disability experience barriers in society, whether they be physical barriers—such as buildings not having a ramp or accessible toilets—or societal attitudes, such as assumptions about what a person can or cannot do.

This is in contrast with the medical model of disability, which takes an approach to seeing people with a disability that says people with disability are disabled by their impairments or differences. The medical model sees disability as a barrier that is inherent to the person, in contrast to the social model, which sees disability as being created by societal barriers. The disability health strategy provides an opportunity to challenge and renew the way that we understand disability and to shift to a social model of disability. I look forward to seeing how this strategy continues to be developed.

I want to thank the Disability Health Strategy Reference Group, the Health Directorate, and the Minister for Health, for driving the development of the disability health strategy in consultation with the community. The disability health strategy is of critical importance to our community, given that we know that COVID continues to impact those most at risk in the community. For people with disability, it takes an enormous amount of energy to have these kinds of challenging conversations at a time when they continue to experience existential threats from COVID, and when it often feels as if the community around them has forgotten the impact of our actions on their lives.

But it is the courage and the creativity of leaders in our disability community, and of the public service, that enables the conversation to continue. I want to acknowledge

all the work that has gone into developing the strategy to date. I know that a lot of us—from our public servants to community representatives and community members—are tired, whether it be from the direct impacts of COVID or its stressors, and increased workload, or from caring for and working with our community, and I recognise there may also be consultation fatigue.

But I also recognise that whether it be the disability health strategy, ACT disability strategy, or consultations on other policies, there are often tough and challenging conversations, and I want to thank everyone involved in the strategy for their commitment and the passion that they bring to these important conversations.

Our policies and their impacts are better for the invaluable contributions and creative ideas of all of you who are involved in this work. This is why it is important that we continue to be more inclusive and centre people with disability in all we do across government and community.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

### **ACT Health—workplace culture review—update Ministerial statement**

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH** (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Families and Community Services and Minister for Health) (10.30): I am pleased to provide the Assembly with an update on health workforce wellbeing, and the comprehensive actions the government has undertaken and continues to undertake in our ACT public health services. This statement will also update the Assembly on the resolution of 2 December 2020 regarding the junior medical officer workforce and the initiatives the government has undertaken to support our future health workforce.

COVID-19 has had an inevitable impact, and this continues to be managed by our health services every day alongside our health system transformation projects. The health workforce has been challenged with increased numbers of high-acuity patients coupled with staff shortages due to illness and quarantine requirements. This has had knock-on effects across the health workforce including fatigue, increased levels of moral distress and burnout. We can see the impact of the pandemic and historic issues prior to 2020 reflected in numerous reports and research, as all health systems grapple with the significant issues that have been burdening health workers over many years.

The US Surgeon General, for example, released an advisory this year on addressing health worker burnout as a priority for the health system and acknowledged, “During the pandemic, all of these pressures became magnified and amplified.” The 2021 medical training survey by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency was conducted from August to September 2021, and was open to all doctors in training in Australia. More than 40 per cent of respondents in the ACT indicated that COVID-19 had negatively impacted their training, which was similar to the national average.

To address these challenges in the health workforce the ACT government has targeted key areas of reform for the workplace, and we have made investments across those

core reforms to improve the experiences of our health workers. The Australian Hospital and Healthcare Association's Deeble Institute for Health Policy Research *Perspective Brief: Towards a thriving healthcare workforce* was released last month. It recommends specific evidence-based actions to support health workers through this period and into the future. Their recommendations align with what we are targeting here in the ACT, including policy development, wellbeing measures, establishing capabilities in monitoring workforce demand, co-design strategies, and establishing a clearinghouse of resources.

At the core of what we are doing is improving workplace support, safety and planning. We have implemented initiatives across the health system at the organisation level and in local areas, and we are doing this with our teams and our key stakeholders to make ACT public health services great places to work. The ACT government has placed a priority on co-designing initiatives with teams to promote wellbeing, and we have backed that commitment with an \$8.75 million investment. We are supporting our health care workers to determine what is important to them in supporting their physical and mental health and wellbeing.

The inaugural Canberra Health Services staff wellbeing symposium was convened in August 2022. The symposium canvassed topics such as clinician burnout, available support services, and how to build a mentally healthy healthcare service. As part of this initiative, wellbeing working groups were set up to develop practical initiatives that could be implemented immediately, with more than 150 staff volunteering to be involved. There was strong representation from across the interprofessional teams, including physicians involved in junior doctor training, the prevocational medical education unit and physician training office as well as junior doctor representatives.

Further staff wellbeing forums have met since August, alongside the wellbeing working groups, and 12 initiatives were presented to address organisation and system-level improvements for health workforce wellbeing. Of those 12 initiatives, voting has occurred, and three have been chosen for implementation before the end of this year. These include creation of a physical restorative wellness space, development of a formal peer support program, and access to the Mayo Clinic Well-Being Index application to closely monitor improvements.

The wellness space will provide a restorative area for self-care and reflection that is physically and deliberately separate from regular workspaces. This will encourage health workers to check in, take a break and receive support away from the pace and demands of the health service. The peer support program will offer a 24/7 access system in which trained peers can provide informal and confidential support at short notice, to any CHS team members who are experiencing difficulties in the workplace or at home.

The Mayo Clinic's mental health Well-Being Index app provides individuals and the organisation with a measurement of wellbeing. It also provides resources they can use if in stress, as well as de-identified data to pinpoint to executives any areas that need support. Initiatives and tools such as the Mayo Clinic's Well-Being Index app have been recognised as important solutions for health care organisations to implement as part of fighting burnout and promoting wellbeing for the health workforce.

The American Medical Association advocates use of these tools to ensure healthcare organisations are gathering the data needed to better understand what is occurring for their workforce as close to real time as possible. Of course, this work further complements the extensive program we have been undertaking on culture reform in ACT public health services. We know workers need action across the spectrum of their experiences at work and we have been committed to delivering that in partnership with them. Culture reform has resulted in significant policy development and workplace changes to support our workforce to embed a positive culture that further supports their wellbeing.

Numerous constructive initiatives and programs to support staff have been implemented and continue to be embedded across our health services, including the Workplace Resolution and Support Service for CHS and ACT Health Directorate staff established in April 2020; the implementation of the refreshed Respect, Equity and Diversity Contact Officer or REDCO network in CHS and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce; the piloting, in CHS, of the Strengthening a Culture of Respect and Engagement or SCORE civility program to support values-aligned behaviours to improve workplace culture; and the launch of the My Calvary app to transform the way staff engage, work and connect as one team; the establishment of the health leadership development training program for both clinical and non-clinical roles that has already trained more than 250 leaders across our services; and Green Buddies, a new program to support the wellbeing of nursing and midwifery staff in the Women, Youth and Children division at CHS, developed by clinical staff to support the wellbeing of their colleagues.

We have also focused on improving workloads across our health services to bring greater job satisfaction and support wellbeing. In the 2022-23 ACT budget we are delivering on our commitment to bring in an additional 400 health professionals—the most significant investment the ACT government has ever made to hire more doctors, more nurses, more midwives, and more allied health professionals. We are focused on workforce stability through the implementation of whole-of-government policy and modern work practices to increase secure work, recruit to address known leave patterns and decrease reliance on overtime and premium labour. In the 2022-23 budget we have invested almost \$2.5 million in the implementation and integration of a modern rostering system at CHS to continue building the supporting functions needed to enhance our workplaces.

As part of addressing specific areas of need, a number of initiatives have been progressed to support the junior medical officer—JMO—workforce. This includes broader work to support the entire medical workforce, but also recognises the needs of JMOs as they transition into the workforce at our public health services. The JMO Blue Buddies program is being developed—a formal colleague-to-colleague support program. CHS is also growing the team of prevocational medical education officers who focus on improving pastoral care, welfare, teaching, research and simulation to ensure adequate support is available to the JMO workforce.

Access to additional external supports is being facilitated through the Employee Assistance Program, liaising with community general practitioners to provide welfare appointments, and ensuring staff are aware of the support lines they can call.

Communications and engagement are a focus for keeping our staff up to date and to facilitate networks and groups for staff, and these include WhatsApp groups and regular wellbeing emails.

There has also been a significant focus on restructuring workloads and making model-of-care changes. For example, as part of the ongoing work to reduce JMO workloads this is considering partnered pharmacist medication charting; increased phlebotomy services; and increased training of registered nurses. Both Canberra Hospital and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce have received facility accreditation of the intern training programs through to 2025 and 2026 respectively. This accreditation is conducted by the Canberra Region Medical Education Council, a ministerial management council that provides expertise on education, training and welfare for junior medical doctors.

CHS has continued to implement a range of initiatives to support the medical workforce and more specifically the junior medical workforce. There has been a focus on understanding, at the organisational level, the additional staff that are required within our health workforce to ensure relief structures are in place to support the health workforce to take a break and to take their leave. This has commenced, particularly for the junior medical workforce, with the number of basic physician trainees in the relief pool increased by three full-time equivalent staff to support access to leave. This has had a significant impact, with over 80 per cent of physician trainees at Canberra Hospital reporting no difficulties accessing annual or study leave when surveyed in August 2022.

Workplace safety has been a core reform the ACT government has continued to address across the ACT public health system, and we have continued to invest in strengthening those reforms. Through the internationally renowned Speaking Up for Safety program we have introduced the organisation-wide safety code to equip our health workforce with the tools to speak up about any safety concerns. This has been implemented across both CHS and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce, and the evidence shows that a continued message that it is okay to speak up does empower the health workforce to ask questions and raise concerns. We know that these programs are resulting in significant improvement among junior doctors in the ACT knowing how to raise concerns about bullying, harassment and discrimination in the 2021 medical training survey.

The next stage of this work is the implementation of the Promoting Professional Accountability program, which is the next phase of the Speaking Up for Safety initiative to continue to address culture improvement. As part of ongoing work to improve the safety of our workplaces, a number of initiatives have been progressed, including comprehensive work health and safety programs across our organisations and the occupational violence strategy developed by CHS and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce.

Making sure our staff are physically and mentally safe is of paramount importance, and these programs seek to effectively address psychosocial hazards. In the 2022-23 ACT budget we have invested more than \$7.2 million to embed a positive safety culture in the ACT public health system, which triples our investment in the Nurses and Midwives: Towards a Safer Culture strategy—the TASC strategy—and expands



our response to occupational violence in our health services. The TASC First Step strategy aimed to support the fundamental rights of nurses and midwives working in ACT public health services to be safe and protected from harm in their workplace. By the nature of the actions progressed we saw a strong campaign to embed a positive safety culture for all health workers.

In collaboration with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation, the ACT government has progressed 22 priority actions, with specific work undertaken to address key issues for nurses and midwives in the workplace, such as occupational violence, work practices in our health services and other areas of workplace safety. The TASC Next Step will build on the success and foundations of the First Step to embed a positive safety culture. This will support a further priority focus on psychosocial wellbeing, expand the roll-out of safe wards, enhance safety culture initiatives, and continue the community communications campaign to be kind and respectful.

A comprehensive clinical supervision program has also been progressively rolled out across our health services to facilitate development of reflective practice, and grow the professional skills of staff within their workplace. Next steps in this work include the development of the clinical supervision framework for ACT nurses and midwives, and further facilitation of an education program, which has already trained 119 clinical supervisors to date.

A number of clinicians across all areas of Canberra Hospital, including the prevocational education unit, physician training unit, obstetrics, and emergency departments, have been supported by CHS to attend the physician wellbeing director course—a virtual six-week educational series which equips leaders with the knowledge and tools to catalyse changes at the local level. Those attending have direct responsibility for junior doctor training, and the changes they implement will be targeted toward junior doctor wellbeing.

Initiatives have also been implemented as part of individual training programs—for example, the introduction of a weekly “lunch and learning” program for basic physician trainees. This provides trainees with a chance to take a regular break, liaise with colleagues and connect with physician training staff on a weekly basis, and has been positively received by trainees.

We have been listening to staff who have been telling our health services they want good access to professional development and better support for completing their training programs. Training programs are continuing to improve and are tailored to the needs of staff. For JMO staff this includes a refreshed simulation program and dedicated welfare education. Improved orientation processes and supports have been implemented. For example, international medical graduates have been provided dedicated orientation and support to assist them to become familiar with the CHS work environment.

There has also been an improvement in the guidance and training for staff who may be supervising staff or supporting them in distressing situations. This month the ACT government also delivered on our commitment to provide a world-class digital health record for all ACT public health services. It has been a major change process, and we

know that staff have worked incredibly hard through training and go-live, but we are also already seeing the rewards of implementing a world-class system that will improve their experience of work. Already the Digital Health Record team have been able to see time saved and errors reduced across multiple areas. These include medication prescribing and administration, pathology draws, and information being provided by consumers ahead of appointments to assist with their care.

Across the system, across organisations and within professions, we are making our health system safer and more responsive to the needs of the health workforce each day. Through the 2022-23 ACT budget, we are continuing to build on health workforce planning activities through a nearly \$6 million investment that will take a territory-wide health system approach. This will ensure we are aligning current workforce planning with national initiatives underway and take a broader view of the health sector to strengthen what we need now and in the future. In addition, we made a specific investment in maternity workforce planning to ensure we are sharply focused on maternity workforce sustainability into the future.

The ACT Health Workforce Strategy is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation with further co-design workshops, and will provide a vision and direction for developing both appropriate and adequate capacity and capability of the health workforce. The strategy includes all workforces to acknowledge the deep connections and needs among inter-professional teams. Working collaboratively with our industrial colleagues we are progressing new models of working to support our health professional teams and to provide a first step in a career pathway in our public health services.

We know career pathways are important parts of recruiting and retaining all staff in our health services. Research has shown undergraduate student models are highly effective and will provide additional support in our services, working as part of the healthcare team under supervision. This will not be a replacement for more experienced staff, but staff will have a supplementary role in the clinical environment, gaining valuable experience on top of their formal clinical placements. Through this work we can support our next generation of health professionals to stay in the ACT.

To ensure culture and engagement continues to improve, the government is also recruiting a clinical psychologist in our prevocational education and training team, who will provide dedicated psychological support to our JMO workforce, and assist to develop policies and procedures to support the JMO welfare and training program, and provide teaching on psychological techniques, particularly around debrief and critical incidents, including stress inoculation and self-care. We are commencing benchmarking of our welfare program against other hospitals to ensure we are providing a best-practice support program for JMOs, and streamlining JMO discharge processes and task lists via the implementation of the Digital Health Record.

In conclusion, there is no quick fix to these issues, but we have been and are seeing positive results. We are working with our incredible health workforce and taking a multi-pronged approach to addressing both past and current issues in the health system. Our workforce is the foundation of the health system, and we will continue to prioritise working with them to make ACT public health services great places to work.

I present the following paper:

Health Workforce Wellbeing Update—Government response to resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020—Update—Ministerial statement, 24 November 2022.

I move:

That the Assembly take note of the paper.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

### **COVID-19 pandemic—economic and social recovery—update Ministerial statement**

**MS DAVIDSON** (Murrumbidgee—Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services, Minister for Disability, Minister for Justice Health, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Veterans and Seniors) (10.49): I am pleased today to share the new ACT COVID-19 Social Recovery Plan 2022-23 with the Assembly.

When my colleague Mr Braddock told me, a little over a year ago, that he wanted to move a motion relating to social recovery from COVID, one of his concerns was the difficulty of this kind of complex work, which requires true partnership between government and community. And it is difficult; I acknowledged that when we had that conversation. And then I said, “Hold my beer,” because I know that nothing worth doing is ever easy and that all of the best things we do as a society are done when government and community come together and work creatively, courageously and collaboratively.

The plan is an important resource which acknowledges the continuing social impacts of COVID-19 across our community, while highlighting existing ACT government-funded initiatives and programs underway, as well as those funded through the 2022-23 ACT budget. As Canberrans, we have each been individually impacted by COVID-19 to varying degrees over the course of the past three years.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been more than 200,000 COVID-19 positive cases in the ACT, with significant social and economic impacts. We continue to see new COVID-19 variants emerge, and we continue to see transmission, but we are in a different place today than we were in early-2020 in terms of our understanding of how to best protect those most at risk from the health impacts of this virus and the medical responses available, and in how to manage the economic and social impacts.

As the pandemic continues, we continue to invest in projects and programs to support our economic and social recovery, and we continue to provide health support that is targeted to those most at risk from this virus. I spoke about some of these measures to protect and support those most at risk from COVID in an executive motion in the August sitting week, and that work continues.

Canberra is a kind and interconnected community, and we look after each other when things are difficult. The ACT social recovery plan highlights a number of initiatives

and responsive supports already in place across a span of arenas, including building resilience through physical and mental health services; providing access to services and targeted supports for people experiencing vulnerabilities; supporting community cohesion and resilience; and providing economic support.

This new plan builds on the work of the ACT Recovery Plan 2021-22, to ensure continued and holistic recovery supports are readily available for all Canberrans. Now is the time to focus on our recovery efforts and on how we can continue to live in a world in which COVID remains, while building and maintaining our social and economic life. Recovery is an important stage of any emergency event, providing essential support for individuals and organisations to rebuild and reconnect with their community. It can also open opportunities for the economy to prosper.

Best practice recovery begins at the same time as an emergency event occurs. When COVID-19 was declared a public health emergency in the ACT in March 2020, government responded promptly by investing in a range of support programs. We have continued this commitment, and as we move forward in adapting to living with COVID-19 well into the future, our focus is on investment in initiatives which encourage Canberrans to be active participants in our community while also ensuring access to support services.

The ACT COVID-19 social recovery plan has been developed with input gathered from initiatives led by directorates across the ACT public service, including programs currently underway and those planned for the future. It reflects the wide range of responsive and tailored services available across the territory to ensure all aspects of social and economic life are supported as we emerge from COVID-19.

COVID has seen members of our community come together to support each other in many forms, from connecting with neighbours and those in our local communities to supporting local businesses. We have formed stronger bonds with fellow Canberrans over what has been a challenging period. Our focus remains on recovery. We are mindful that these challenges are not gone and that there is more work to be done.

As we continue to adapt to living with COVID-19, the 2022-23 budget has a significant focus on the investment needed to deliver services for all Canberrans now and into the future. It also invests funding for the development of a social recovery framework, which the ACT COVID-19 Social Recovery Plan 2022-23 sits under, to better understand priorities for individuals, the community sector and the broader community for social recovery following a disaster. This is important, as recovery is a process over the short, medium and long term. As we embark on developing the social recovery framework, we will use the lessons learned from the pandemic, and broader challenges faced over recent years, alongside the strong partnerships held with community partners, local businesses and industry.

Aligned with existing national frameworks and contemporary practices and principles of social recovery, the framework will guide and underpin social recovery planning and preparedness work in the ACT. The prolonged event, and the impacts of COVID-19 in the ACT and on a broader national and global level, will likely mean social and economic recovery will be longer term and will continue to require joint government and community collaborative efforts well into the future. Through the plan, these

recovery efforts are acknowledged and committed to, to ensure that we foster a stronger, sustainable and equitable community.

On a final note, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the community and our community partners for supporting the COVID-19 response and recovery in our city. The foundation of social recovery is that it must be community led and government supported. Our community sector organisations are often the first people we turn to during the most difficult times in our lives, and we would not have made it through the past few years of environmental, economic and health crises without them.

There is still a long way to go, as we continue to live through, and with, the impacts of COVID-19. I know every member of this Assembly is grateful and truly values the way members of our community came together in support of each other during the height of the pandemic. Together, we made it through one of the most difficult periods in the territory's history, and together we will grow stronger into the future.

Hope is like the sun: if you only believe it when you see it, you will never make it through the night. Our innovative and passionate community sector, our committed and highly-skilled public service, and our kind and caring Canberra community renew my hope every day. On that note, I commend to this Assembly the ACT COVID-19 Social Recovery Plan 2022-23.

I present the following papers:

ACT COVID-19 Social Recovery Plan 2022-2023, dated November 2022.

Covid-19 Pandemic—Social and Economic Recovery—Government response to resolution of the Assembly on 7 October 2021—Ministerial statement, 24 November 2022.

I move:

That the Assembly take note of the ministerial statement.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

## **Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2)**

**Mr Rattenbury**, pursuant to notice, presented the bill, its explanatory statement and a Human Rights Act compatibility statement.

Title read by Clerk.

**MR RATTENBURY** (Kurrajong-Attorney-General, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Gaming and Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction) (10.56): I move:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

I am pleased to present the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2)—the JACS bill—to the Assembly. This bill makes amendments to

nine pieces of justice-related legislation and includes an important amendment to the Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act relating to the giving of evidence by a witness in the courtroom during sexual, violent or family violence proceedings. All amendments contained in the bill are being made to improve the administration and operation of territory laws.

This bill amends the Justices of the Peace Act to allow a justice of the peace who has volunteered for 10 or more years to apply to the Commissioner for Fair Trading for authorisation to use the title of “JP (retired)”.

JPs play an important role in the ACT community by carrying out various legislative functions, such as administering oaths or affidavits, witnessing statutory declarations and taking affirmations. If a JP can no longer meet the significant responsibilities of their appointment, they may choose to relinquish their office.

However, for many, the “JP” title holds personal significance. Rightfully, it instils a sense of pride and accomplishment. By authorising the use of the JP (retired) title, we grant JPs who are ending their service with appropriate and enduring recognition of the time they have generously dedicated to our community.

While retired JPs will not be able to exercise the functions of a JP under the act, if they are authorised to use the JP (retired) title, they must continue to be of good character. This requirement will support the continued integrity of the Justice of the Peace Office. This amendment brings the ACT into line with New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria, which have also introduced the retirement title for JPs. This amendment, while minor and uncontroversial, is meaningful. It ensures that retiring justices of the peace are acknowledged for the valuable role they play in the ACT community.

This bill also makes amendments to the Land Titles Act and regulation relating to the documents used to verify an individual’s identity in certain land titles transactions. The bill rectifies a legislative inconsistency between the regulation and the rules, which allow some identity documents to be accepted at one stage of a land titles transaction but not accepted at another stage. For example, presently the rules allow an expired passport to be used to verify identity, but the regulation requires the passport to be current. This inconsistency impacts on the efficient completion of land titles transactions.

To reduce the potential for conflict, the bill amends the act to provide that the Registrar-General must accept any identity document which has been verified according to the rules. The rules reflect the commonwealth’s National Identity Proofing Guidelines and are considered best practice.

While these provisions may limit the right to privacy in section 12 of the Human Rights Act, I consider the limitation to be reasonable and proportionate, because the amendments reduce the number of times a person’s identity needs to be verified and therefore reduces the impact on the right to privacy.

Establishing confidence in a person’s identity is critical to delivering a range of government services. These amendments will help to support the effective operation of certain land transactions in the ACT.

This bill also amends the Guardianship and Management of Property Act and the Powers of Attorney Act to remove an impediment to clinical trials being considered low-risk research. Under the legislation, a health attorney, who is usually a family member, can be appointed for a protected person to consent to that person participating in low-risk research. The current definition of low-risk research does not include activities that are part of a clinical trial. “Clinical trial” refers to a research method and is not an indicator of the level of risk associated with the research.

Excluding clinical trials from being considered by a health attorney has meant that ACT Health has not been able to participate in a range of low-risk research, particularly in an emergency care setting, such as the ICU. This has significant implications for the ICU, which has been unable to re-establish its research portfolio, and has resulted in patients, clinicians and researchers in the ACT missing out on valuable research opportunities.

While these provisions engage the right to not to be subject to medical experimentation without free consent, the right is not limited by these provisions as they provide for substituted consent with the following safeguards.

Firstly, the clinical trial must be only for: (a) a therapeutic good, such as a drug or device, that is included on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods; and (b) a healthcare procedure, process or technique supported by a substantial number of practitioners in the relevant field of health care.

Secondly, the research must pose no foreseeable risk of harm to the person, other than any harm usually associated with the person’s condition and does not change the treatment appropriate for the person’s condition.

Thirdly, a health professional may only ask a health attorney to consent to a person participating in low-risk research if they believe on reasonable grounds that the person is likely to benefit from participating. This research must be approved by an ethics committee.

And, finally, the health professional must provide the health attorney with access to an independent doctor where the research involves a clinical trial. The independent doctor is to be made available to the decision-maker to answer any questions and provide unbiased information about the risks of participating in the trial.

These amendments aim to reinstate the original intent of the legislation and allow for low-risk research to be undertaken, including in critical care settings, with appropriate safeguards to ensure that the amendment is consistent with the rights of people with impaired decision-making capacity.

This bill also amends the Security Industry Act to extend the period of time for which a security licence can be suspended and to confirm that the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal, or ACAT, is empowered to further suspend a licence. Under the act, if the Commissioner for Fair Trading intends to apply, or has applied, to the ACAT for an occupational disciplinary order for a security industry licensee, the

commissioner may immediately place a temporary suspension on a security licence if it is in the public interest.

The suspension automatically lifts after 30 days unless an ACAT order has come into effect or the tribunal has already decided not to make the order. This means a security industry professional who was suspended because the commissioner held the belief that they posed a safety risk can return to work after 30 days because their occupational disciplinary matter has not been considered.

To reduce this public safety risk, the bill extends the suspension period from 30 days to 60 days to provide enough time for the ACAT to grant interim or final orders for an occupational disciplinary matter. The amendment also explicitly confirms that the ACAT is empowered to further suspend a licence.

It is worth noting that the legislation has certain safeguards in place to reduce the risk of the commissioner suspending a licence for a period that ACAT would not have deemed appropriate. For example, under the act, decisions by the commissioner are reviewable by the ACAT. Additionally, the ACAT can make an interim order if it is satisfied that, if an order was not made, the party applying for the order would be disadvantaged or suffer harm.

While these provisions may engage and limit the right to work, in the Human Rights Act, I consider the amendment to be the least restrictive approach to achieving the public safety objective and note that it is balanced by protections for licensees subject to a suspension.

This JACS bill amends section 69 of the Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1991, which relates to the giving of evidence in sexual, violent and family violence proceedings. This amendment rectifies an anomaly in the act, which the Director of Public Prosecutions has drawn to the attention of the government as a systemic concern after being identified in four matters.

Currently, where a witness provides evidence via an audio-visual link, or AVL, their evidence is recorded and is admissible as the witness's evidence in a related proceeding, such as a retrial. However, a witness who provides evidence in a courtroom cannot have a recording of their evidence admitted in a related proceeding.

The current provisions of the act are included in legislation in recognition of how difficult it can be for people to recount in detail, and be questioned about, matters that have caused them great distress. Being able to provide evidence remotely reduces unnecessary contact between a witness and an accused person, and recording the evidence means they will not have to repeat that experience unnecessarily.

Importantly, the provisions do not diminish the rights of the accused person to cross-examine the witness—a fundamental right in any fair justice system. The recording of any evidence would include the cross-examination at the time. The provisions also importantly allow for all or part of the recording to be excluded and for further questions to be asked where it is necessary and appropriate to do so. All of the important safeguarding elements of the present legislation will continue to apply to recordings affected by this amendment.



The amendment seeks to remove the structural cost to witnesses who choose to give evidence in a courtroom under section 68 (3)(a) by extending the same protections as are afforded to witnesses who testify via AVL. This change will ensure that all vulnerable witnesses in these proceedings now have the right to have their recorded evidence admissible in subsequent related proceedings, limiting the potentially traumatic experience of having to give the evidence again. The measure is intended to ensure that witnesses, particularly vulnerable witnesses, which may include children, in sexual, violent or family violence matters are not unnecessarily re-traumatised in a subsequent proceeding by needing to give evidence again. In this respect, the amendments engage and promote the right to liberty and security of persons and the protection of the family and children.

While the amendment may engage and limit the rights in criminal proceedings, the right to a fair trial and the right to privacy, the amendment has been drafted to include a range of important safeguards to parties to the proceedings. For example:

- The new section 69 (2A) provides that, unless the court orders otherwise, evidence given in the courtroom must be recorded only if the witness consents. Consent is vital to ensuring the autonomy and respect afforded to the witness is maintained to the greatest extent possible.
- The use of the recording in a related proceeding will not be mandatory but a decision to be made by the relevant party.
- The court in the related hearing will have discretion to refuse to admit any part of the recording in evidence.
- A party to a proceeding may apply for an order that the witness attend the hearing to give further evidence.
- Finally, an accused who objects to the tendering, in a related proceeding, of a witness's recorded evidence given in the courtroom in the first trial—where that trial occurred before the commencement of the proposed amendments—may make one or more applications relating to the potential impact of the amendments on their trial.

This amendment is worthy of particular mention as it has the potential to significantly improve the experience of vulnerable witnesses in our justice system, an objective this government seeks to promote wherever possible.

Finally, this bill amends the Liquor Act to provide that the member of the Liquor Advisory Board representing the Australian Federal Police is an ex-officio appointment to the board on an ongoing basis. This means that this member does not need to be appointed by the minister each term. The amendment also clarifies that this position will be held by a police officer nominated in writing by the Chief Police Officer. The amendment should provide a small cost saving by reducing the administrative burden currently associated with appointing an AFP member to the board.

I am pleased to say that this bill being introduced today is a human rights compliant bill, as outlined in the explanatory statement, and one which improves the operation and effective administration of the laws in the territory. On that basis, I commend the bill to the Assembly.

Debate (on motion by **Ms Lee**) adjourned to the next sitting.

### **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee Reference**

**MS LEE** (Kurrajong—Leader of the Opposition) (11.10): I seek leave to move a motion standing in my name that has just been circulated.

Leave not granted.

**Mr Rattenbury**: Can I just seek clarification and possibly assist, Mr Deputy Speaker? We do not have the motion, so we do not know what Ms Lee is referring to at this point.

### **Standing orders—suspension**

Motion (by **Ms Lee**) agreed to, with the concurrence of an absolute majority:

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Ms Lee from moving a motion to refer a bill to a standing committee.

### **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee Reference**

**MS LEE** (Kurrajong—Leader of the Opposition) (11.12): I move:

That this Assembly calls on the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety to conduct an inquiry into the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2), and report back to the Assembly by the final sitting day in March 2023.

This motion is a very, very simple motion. It calls on the Assembly Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety to conduct an inquiry into the bill that the Attorney-General has just introduced, the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2), and report back to the Assembly by the final sitting day in March 2023.

While the bill that the Attorney-General has just introduced is a miscellaneous bill, there is a significant concern about the bill insofar as it seeks to amend the Evidence Act. That proposal is a significant piece of law reform that warrants thorough inquiry, analysis, submissions and public hearings to enable the community to thoroughly understand the implications of those proposed changes to the Evidence Act. There is no doubt that this proposed change has been the subject of media

already and there is no doubt that there are various and very serious concerns arising out of that. That is why I seek the suspension of standing orders to bring the motion on for debate.

There is no doubt that there is a lot of public interest in that proposed change to the Evidence Act and, whilst I acknowledge that this bill will automatically be referred to the JACS Committee under the standing orders for review, there of course is no guarantee that the inquiry will take place.

My motion calls for the Assembly to support—for every member in this chamber to support—a proper and warranted thorough review and inquiry of this bill, especially insofar as the proposal to change the Evidence Act. This is a necessary step to ensure transparency, accountability and openness that, when a proposal is brought that will result in significant law reform, it is not done by way of how we normally treat miscellaneous JACS bills like this. It is supremely important and it warranted the suspension of standing orders so that we can debate this motion.

Debate (on motion by **Mr Braddock**) adjourned to a later hour.

## **Public Accounts—Standing Committee Reporting date—amendment**

**MRS KIKKERT** (Ginninderra) (11.15): I move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts will commence an inquiry into the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022 after the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 has tabled its report and the Committee shall present its report on the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022 three months after the tabling of the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 report.

This motion seeks to amend the reporting date for the Standing Committee on Public Accounts inquiry into the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022. In accordance with the Assembly Resolution Establishment General Purpose Standing Committees, the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022 was referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on 21 October 2022. The committee considers the bill to be a significant piece of legislation and, for this reason, at its private meeting on 2 November 2022, the committee resolved to undertake an inquiry into the bill.

Two members of the committee declared at the committee's meeting on 2 November 2022 that they may have a possible conflict of interest in relation to this bill. Mr Braddock advised that he had been a member of the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023 and Mr Pettersson is a member of the Select Committee on Privileges 2022. The committee considered this matter for the members involved and notes that the interests are not pecuniary, as set out in standing order 224, and the committee members are complying with clause 12 of Continuing Resolution 5, Code of Conduct for Members in Relation to Managing any Conflict of Interest.

To manage these interests, the committee also resolved to commence the inquiry into the bill after the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 has tabled its report and if the select committee is dissolved. The Select Committee on Estimates 2022 to 2023 was dissolved on 31 October 2022. The committee can revisit these matters once the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 has tabled its report.

The Resolution of Establishment for Standing Committees states that all bills presented to the Assembly stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report within two months from the presentation of the bill. The reference of the bill under this resolution means the reporting date for this bill is 20 December 2022.

As the inquiry into the Work Health and Safety Amendment Bill 2022 will not commence until the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 has tabled its report, currently due on the last sitting day in December, my motion asks for the reporting date to be extended. The committee is seeking an extension of the reporting date to three months after the Select Committee on Privileges 2022 has tabled its report, consistent with bills that have been tabled in the last sitting period of the year. I commend my motion to the Assembly.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

### **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee Reporting date—amendment**

**MR CAIN** (Ginninderra) (11.19): I move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety shall present its report on the Integrity Commission Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2) within two months following when the Government review of the *Integrity Commission Act 2018* becomes available.

In accordance with the Assembly Resolution Establishing General Purpose Standing Committees, the Integrity Commission Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2) was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety on 20 October 2022. At a private meeting on 27 October 2022, the committee resolved to undertake an inquiry into the bill. The committee called for public submissions on 7 November 2022.

The resolution of establishment for standing committees states that all bills presented to the Assembly stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report within two months from the presentation of the bill. The reference of the bill under this resolution means the reporting date for this bill is 20 December 2022.

However, the committee notes that, under section 303 of the Integrity Commission Act 2018, a review of the operation of the act is pending. The committee considers that the outcomes of this review should be taken into account when inquiring into the Integrity Commission Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2).

My motion, therefore, asks for the reporting date on this bill to be extended to allow sufficient time to conduct the inquiry and report on the findings, noting the government review that is pending. The committee now asks that the reporting date be extended to two months after the government review is available.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

## **Standing orders—suspension**

Motion (by **Mr Cain**) agreed to, with the concurrence of an absolute majority:

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent notice No 3, Assembly Business, being called on and debated forthwith.

## **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee Reporting date—amendment**

**MR CAIN** (Ginninderra) (11.21): I move:

That, notwithstanding the provisions of the resolution of the Assembly of 2 December 2020, as amended, that established general purpose standing committees, the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety shall present its report on the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 and the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 [No 2] by 7 February 2023.

In accordance with the Assembly Resolution Establishing General Purpose Standing Committees, the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 and the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2) were referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety on 21 September 2022 and 23 September 2022 respectively.

At a private meeting on 29 September, the committee resolved to undertake an inquiry into both bills, and the committee called for public submissions on 30 September. The resolution of establishment for standing committees states that all bills presented to the Assembly stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report within two months from the presentation of the bill.

The reference of the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 and the Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2) under this resolution means that the reporting dates for these bills is 21 November 2022. This date was subsequently extended to 1 December 2022.

My motion asks for the reporting date on both these bills to be extended to allow sufficient time to conduct the report on the findings of these two important bills. The committee, therefore, asks that the reporting date be extended to 7 February 2023.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

## **Executive business—precedence**

*Ordered that executive business be called on.*

## **Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2022**

Debate resumed from 4 May 2022, on motion by **Ms Stephen-Smith**:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

**MS CASTLEY** (Yerrabi) (11.24): I rise today to support the amendments put forward by the health minister. This bill amends legislation to increase the ability of compliance testing in the ACT for smoking products and, in particular, nicotine vaping. The Canberra Liberals support the measures proposed by the health minister and share the concerns about nicotine vaping and its effect on young Canberrans.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States have found that the use of e-cigarettes is unsafe for kids, teens and young adults. Nicotine is an addictive substance and can have a significant impact on adolescent and young adult brain development. It has also been reported that e-cigarettes can contain other harmful substances that may be unknown to the purchaser.

The health directorate has also told me that vapes have been found in the ACT that have nicotine, despite claiming to be nicotine free. For these reasons, I support the increase of compliance testing to protect our children and young adults. This bill extends commonwealth therapeutic goods laws to apply to sole traders, as well as cooperation to make sure that all businesses can be assessed for compliance.

In addition, the bill removes “tobacco products” and substitutes the definition with “smoking products”, to ensure that businesses who sell nicotine vapes can be compliance tested, as well as to prevent the sale of vapes through vending machines. This bill also allows the community pharmacists who sell vapes to consumers who use it as a smoking cessation device to obtain smoking products from a wholesaler who holds an ACT tobacco licence.

I recognise that the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety, in examining the explanatory statement, raised concerns about human rights and how they may be limited. The first concern is regarding the use of undercover minors for compliance testing. The second concern raised is about the presumption of innocence for community pharmacists, as they will have the burden of proof to prove that they are able to sell smoking products as medicine. I am satisfied that the explanations provided by the minister are reasonable and proportionate.

Finally, this bill makes technical amendments to allow compatibility between the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1997 and the Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1978. This bill’s main purpose is to improve the compliance capabilities of enforcers to crack down on the illegal sale of nicotine vaping, to improve the health

of our children and young adults. This bill also makes some technical changes for other stakeholders, but the Canberra Liberals are satisfied that these changes are not significant. Thank you.

**MS CHEYNE** (Ginninderra—Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Business and Better Regulation, Minister for Human Rights and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (11.27): I want to rise briefly to speak about some particular elements of this amendment bill and also in support of the government amendments being tabled today, which Minister Stephen-Smith advised she would be bringing on when this bill was introduced some time ago.

Members would be aware that transplantation and donation is a responsibility of states and territories, but there is a large amount of consistency between the acts of each. That has been a very deliberate position taken by states and territories. However, since Western Australia received legal advice some 18 months ago about the operation of their transplantation and donation act, this has regrettably called into doubt the ability of anyone other than the family of a loved one who has donated their organs or tissue to be able to discuss this generous, life-changing and life-saving act, even if that family has provided consent.

This has been particularly problematic for DonateLife, here and in other jurisdictions, which of course plays such a vital role in supporting families but also in how we acknowledge and remember families' loved ones and their gifts. Being unable to acknowledge those loved ones and those gifts—including at, but of course not limited to, services of remembrance—can exacerbate a family's grief. It has also placed limitations on DonateLife's ability to share those stories more broadly, to raise awareness of the extraordinary value of organ and tissue donation to the community at large. Again, this is incredibly problematic at any time but especially while donation rates remain low, as they do across Australia, and the ACT is no outlier in that.

I acknowledge that there is, very pleasingly, work underway to further harmonise legislation nationally. I thank the federal Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care for that work. I do believe and hope that this may address this incredibly regrettable anomaly. I also think there is an understanding across jurisdictions, and certainly from the ACT government, that the work to harmonise legislation is going to take time. I support and endorse Minister Stephen-Smith's view, and indeed the government's view, that addressing this is too important to wait. That is certainly what donor families have stressed to us as well.

I thank Minister Stephen-Smith, her office and the team at ACT Health for their work in progressing this important amendment, which will allow the sharing of information about the donor and their donation by DonateLife ACT, with the consent of the family. I also acknowledge the chair of Donor Families Australia, Bruce McDowell, who has been an unwavering advocate for organ donation, tissue donation and, most importantly, families' rights, and who brought this to our attention some time ago.

I also want to acknowledge that the bill before us today provides clarity regarding allowing the lawful release of organ or tissue donation information when a request is received from a bereaved family for the acknowledgement of that person's donation. Members may be aware that the ACT is the first jurisdiction in the country which

allows for organ and tissue donation to be acknowledged on a loved one's death certificate and/or in a letter from the Chief Minister. South Australia, very pleasingly, has introduced a bill for the same in recent weeks. Applying for this acknowledgement is a very simple process, enabled through Access Canberra, and one which includes providing a donor confirmation letter from DonateLife ACT. Providing this absolute clarity that this release is lawful is a welcome amendment and I thank those who have recognised this and progressed this. I commend this bill and I commend the government amendments to the Assembly. Thank you.

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH** (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Families and Community Services and Minister for Health) (11.32), in reply: I am pleased that the Assembly is today debating this bill. In some ways a very simple and in other ways a very important piece of legislation. On 4 May, I presented the Health Legislation Amendment Bill to the Assembly, which seeks to amend the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008, the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 2007 and the Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1978.

The amendments included in the bill, as others have said, are the first step in the review of the ACT's legislation on the regulation of e-cigarettes. The review stemmed from a motion on e-cigarettes that was unanimously agreed to by this Assembly on 3 August 2021. That motion, brought forward by Dr Paterson, called on the government to review relevant ACT legislation to ensure that current arrangements are helping to minimise the harm caused by e-cigarettes and vaping across our community, particularly with respect to young people.

As the Minister for Health, I am committed to protecting the health and safety of the ACT community. To support appropriate public health protection, it is essential that the legislation keep pace with the evidence and with emerging issues. As highlighted by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, there has been a significant increase in the use of nicotine e-cigarettes and other nicotine vaping products by young people, not only nationally but across the world.

The 2022 National Health and Medical Research Council CEO statement on electronic cigarettes provides public health advice on the safety and impact of e-cigarettes based on a review of the current evidence. The key takeaways from the statement are that e-cigarettes can be harmful; people who have never smoked may be more likely to take up tobacco smoking if they use e-cigarettes; there are no health benefits associated with using e-cigarettes for people who do not currently smoke; and e-cigarettes are not proven to be a safe and effective smoking cessation aid.

There is a lot that we still do not know about e-cigarettes and vaping. More time is needed for comprehensive research into the safety, quality and efficacy of e-cigarette products. While this research is being conducted, it is paramount that we, as decision-makers, do not neglect the potential harms caused by these products. We must continue with our progress to reduce conventional cigarette smoking, as well as e-cigarette vaping. With this in mind, the bill seeks to expand the available regulatory options for dealing with e-cigarettes in the ACT.

This is, as I said, a first step but an important one that I intend to build on to ensure that the harms caused by e-cigarettes are minimised as rapidly and as effectively as



possible. I will continue to work with my health minister colleagues across the country, as well, to accelerate national action in this space. I do want to commend Minister Butler—and indeed the former minister, Minister Hunt, for his commitment, which was not supported widely in his party room or through the National Party. But Minister Butler, I am sure, will be able to undertake effective reform, as previous Labor governments have done, on tobacco.

The bill also addresses an issue of national consistency with respect to the regulation of medicines and poisons. The bill amends the Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act to extend the application of commonwealth therapeutic goods laws in the ACT. The change will enable the Therapeutic Goods Administration to take action against sole traders operating wholly within the ACT in relation to matters arising under the Commonwealth Therapeutic Goods Act.

This change aligns with the Council of Australian Governments' commitment to adopt a nationally consistent approach for the management of medicines, poisons and therapeutic goods. Within the scope of this change is the regulation of nicotine-containing e-cigarettes, as well as other poisons. As such, the bill increases the available regulatory resources and agencies for dealing with nicotine containing e-cigarettes.

While the changes to the legislation are small and technical in nature, the bill also introduces important measures to ensure that the legislation in the territory continues to support efforts to reduce smoking rates in our community.

The bill will also help DonateLife ACT to provide the best care and support to bereaved families and loved ones who have provided the generous gift of donation, as Ms Cheyne has been talking about. The bill amends the Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1978. Currently, the act does not clearly permit officers to release information about organ or tissue donors.

The bill, as presented, enables the lawful release of this information when a request is received from a bereaved family for acknowledgement of a person's donation for the purposes of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act. Such an acknowledgement can provide solace to bereaved family members as they are able to have their loved one's gift officially and publicly acknowledged.

In presenting the bill I foreshadowed that the government would move an amendment to the bill that seeks to ensure that, with appropriate consent, DonateLife ACT staff are able to share the stories of bereaved families at commemorative events such as the DonateLife service of remembrance and thanksgiving and other commemorative occasions without contravening the privacy and protections under the Transplantation and Anatomy Act.

I will speak to those amendments during the detail stage of the debate. However, I would like to acknowledge Minister Cheyne for her continued support and advocacy for those in the community who are touched by organ donation. I also want to thank members of the community and the staff of DonateLife ACT who have advocated for the need for these amendments. While the amendments to the Transplantation and Anatomy Act are a further step in the right direction, we acknowledge that the

ultimate step is harmonisation of jurisdictional human tissue laws to allow for consistency in practices throughout Australia.

Finally, I would like to thank the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety for their comments on the Health Legislation Amendment Bill as part of their *Scrutiny Report 16* of 19 May. The committee sought further information on a number of matters relating to the bill. These matters have been addressed through a revised explanatory statement and I table that revised statement. I also want to thank the scrutiny committee for their consideration of the amendment which I will move in the detail stage. I apologise to other Assembly members; I understand the amendment was sent to the scrutiny committee but was not circulated to all members until this week. I apologise for that, but employees of the scrutiny committee did not identify any issues with it.

Subject to the passage of the bill, the ACT Health Directorate will work with stakeholders to ensure that they are aware of their obligations in each area and to outline the key changes that have been made. The ACT Health Directorate will also update any guidance material on their website to ensure that stakeholders have access to timely and accurate advice. I therefore welcome and encourage the support of the Assembly in passing this bill. I commend it to the Assembly and thank everyone who has spoken today, for their support.

**MR DAVIS** (Brindabella) (11.40), by leave: I would like to thank the minister and the Health Directorate for these proposed amendments, which increase the capacity for the government to enforce existing restrictions on the sale of e-cigarettes and vaping products, particularly to young people. While vapes were initially advertised as a healthier alternative to smoking, the reality is that e-cigarettes pose far more issues to public health than the issues that they allegedly seek to solve.

In August last year, the Assembly called on the government to review legislation that governs the purchase and possession of liquid nicotine and to increase education campaigns targeting young people, with a view to decreasing the uptake of liquid nicotine. While nicotine vapes are now unable to be legally purchased without a prescription from a medical practitioner, vapes continue to be sold on the black market and circulate prolifically among vulnerable young people in the ACT.

While smoking rates amongst young people have been falling consistently for decades now, vaping has been a method for tobacco companies to continue to sell nicotine and market themselves to new demographics. Nationally, vaping rates have increased among young people in recent years. According to the Alcohol and Drug Foundation of Australia, around 14 per cent of 12- to 17-year-olds have tried vaping. Almost half—48 per cent—of students who vaped had never smoked tobacco before trying an e-cigarette. Around a quarter of those students who had used e-cigarettes before ever smoking reported later trying tobacco cigarettes.

In recent years legislation and regulation such as that that we are debating today has attempted to curtail the intake of vaping by eliminating the supply of vapes. The commonwealth government has rescheduled nicotine liquid and banned its import for personal use. It would be remiss of me not to note that we in this Assembly know quite well now that with the criminalisation of substance use black markets proliferate

and the mere banning of a substances does not make it disappear. It would be naive of us to think that simply banning a product removes the desire to use it. I suspect that, amongst the populations we most seek to target with this legislation, the banning of vapes has only made them more illicit and therefore more enticing.

While restricting the sale and use of vapes is important to limit their uptake and the associated transition to cigarette smoking, our policy response cannot end there. Stronger and smarter deterrents are needed to try and discourage the use of vapes and to equip schools, parents and carers with the skills to be able to effectively intervene appropriately to limit their use and help young people with any resulting addictions to nicotine.

Like the use of other substances, the use of vapes is highly likely to be associated with other issues for young people. We need more detailed work that speaks to the motivations and social dynamics of vaping and useful harm reduction measures. This legislation is an important step in the right direction, but this should be done in collaboration with other policy and program responses.

Bill agreed to in principle.

### **Detail stage**

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH** (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Families and Community Services and Minister for Health) (11.43): I move amendment No 1 circulated in my name and table a supplementary explanatory statement to the amendment [*see schedule 1 at page 3861*].

I move amendments to part 4 of the bill, which would amend the Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1978. Clause 11 replaces existing section 49(4)(c) of the Transplantation and Anatomy Act. Currently, section 49(4)(c) provides that identifying information about a person or a deceased person may be disclosed “with the consent of the person to whom the information relates”. The proposed amendment expands the list of people who may provide consent to disclose such identifying information.

The government amendments will allow DonateLife ACT, with consent, to share the stories of individuals and their loved ones at occasions such as the annual DonateLife ACT service of remembrance and thanksgiving, and other commemorative occasions. This will allow for the wonderful organ donation to be acknowledged and celebrated. The amendments will also allow DonateLife ACT to help raise awareness of organ donation through other activities where individual stories of loved ones are shared with consent. The community will benefit from the public discussion of organ experiences. This will encourage families to have these important conversations and inspire people to register to be an organ donor and, we hope, increase organ donations in the territory.

I acknowledge the frustration of families caused by the technical legal barriers across Australia’s human tissue laws. These technicalities have limited the ability of families

to share their stories publicly since coming to attention some short time ago. I also acknowledge the advocacy efforts of these families to highlight the importance of addressing these barriers, and I acknowledge those who are in the chamber with us today, including Nadia from DonateLife. The ACT is the first jurisdiction to make this amendment and I am proud that we are able to help DonateLife ACT continue to provide the best support and care for bereaved families and loved ones.

While the amendments will allow for families to have their loved ones' gift publicly acknowledged, maintaining the confidentiality of donors and recipients is also of the utmost importance. DonateLife ACT will continue to ensure that sensitive information between bereaved families and transplant recipients is not disclosed.

I hope the bill's amendments will serve as a blueprint for other jurisdictions to consider and potentially change the legislation and allow bereaved families to share their stories and recognise their generous gift and encourage other people in our community to have these very important conversations. I commend my amendment to the Assembly.

Amendment agreed to.

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

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

## **Australian Capital Territory—fossil emblem**

**MR BARR** (Kurrajong—Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Climate Action, Minister for Economic Development and Minister for Tourism) (11.47): I move:

That this Assembly adopt the *Batocara mitchelli* as the fossil emblem for the ACT.

This is a straightforward motion and calls on the Assembly to adopt *Batocara mitchelli* as the ACT's fossil emblem. This trilobite is an extinct marine arthropod. It is more than 430 million years old, and it lived at a time when the ACT region was under water. Canberra obviously looks very different now. Today *Batocara mitchelli* is one of the ACT's most common fossils.

Members may recall that back in 2020 our community was invited to vote for one of five proposed fossil emblems, with the winner, *Batocara mitchelli*, achieving the most votes. This is not the only time that this fossil has garnered attention in recent Canberra history. An almost complete specimen was discovered during the construction of the John Gorton Building. Usually, I am advised, only fragments of this type of fossil are found.

Earlier this year the adoption of the community-chosen fossil emblem was referred to the Assembly's Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity. The committee has recommended that the territory adopt *Batocara mitchelli* as our fossil emblem.

Fossil emblems are a relatively new idea. They are said to embody the concept of deep time and evolutionary transition, signifying the importance of understanding our natural history. They have been adopted across Australia in recent years, including in Western Australia, New South Wales, South Australia and, most recently, Victoria. A fossil emblem will complement our existing faunal, floral and mammal emblems and will provide a connection to the natural geological history of the Australian Capital Territory.

I acknowledge the support of Geoscience Australia, the Australian Marine Sciences Association and the Geological Society of Australia in inspiring the ACT to select and propose a fossil emblem. With that, I propose that the Assembly agree to this motion this morning.

**MS LAWDER** (Brindabella) (11.50): I thank Mr Barr for bringing forth this motion today on the adoption of a fossil emblem for the ACT. I am very supportive of this motion and excited to see *Batocara mitchelli* adopted as the fossil emblem for the ACT. To determine the new fossil emblem a choice of five fossils went to a public vote, with 1,135 people casting a vote for their favourite fossil. With 30 per cent of the votes, *Batocara mitchelli* was the clear frontrunner. *Batocara mitchelli* originates from the group of marine arthropods, similar to scorpions and crabs, but became extinct about 250 million years ago. It is an iconic fossil of our region, and we welcome its adoption as the fossil emblem of the ACT.

**MS VASSAROTTI** (Kurrajong—Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage, Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services and Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction) (11.50): I too would like to offer my support for the adoption of the trilobite *Batocara mitchelli* as a fossil emblem of the ACT. I want to express my gratitude to the organisations mentioned by the Chief Minister who worked so diligently to identify and propose a fossil emblem for the Assembly's consideration.

We have already heard about how the public voting system was conducted and the fact that in October 2020 Mr Gentleman announced the winner as the trilobite *Batocara mitchelli*. The winning specimen was found during the construction process of the John Gorton Building in Parkes. It is the most common trilobite in the ACT.

We have heard that trilobites are one of the most popular fossil groups in our region's fossil record. They are an extinct group of arthropods which is the same group as spiders, scorpions, insects and crustaceans. The specimen is currently on display in the public library of Geoscience Australia.

Our fossil emblem serves as a connection to the natural history of the ACT and the region. As noted, it joins our suite of emblems, including our mammal emblem, the southern brush-tailed rock-wallaby; our faunal emblem, the gang-gang cockatoo; and our floral emblem, the royal bluebell.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

**Sitting suspended from 11.52 am to 2.00 pm.**

## Questions without notice

### Whitlam—land release

**MS LEE:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, registrations for the latest land ballot at Whitlam, for 193 blocks, closed on Monday. How many people registered for the ballot?

**MS BERRY:** I will take that question on notice. It was in the thousands, although less than the number that applied for ballots during the peak, when housing prices went up around the country. I think it was about half that number, but still quite high for the ACT.

It should be remembered that, before COVID we had, for the first time in a decade, around 600 houses for sale over the counter, which had never happened before. Within two weeks, as COVID was impacting the country, those blocks sold. We still have a housing crisis, with respect to purchases, across the country. However, it looks like that is starting to soften a little bit, because the number in the ballots for Whitlam was about half—and other housing blocks for sale. I think that things are starting to change, and there are adjustments starting to happen in the housing market. I will take the detail of that question on notice and get the exact number for Ms Lee.

**MS LEE:** Minister, are you aware that the average price for the blocks of land on offer in this ballot is almost \$770,000—\$1,600 a square metre? Is this what your government considers affordable for most Canberrans?

**MS BERRY:** This is happening across the whole country right now. There have been a number of adjustments made across the country that have contributed to the price of housing and blocks of land going up. That is not something that the ACT has been immune from. However, we are continuing to make sure that we provide land in our Indicative Land Release Program, and that it is developed within two per cent of the targets that the ACT government sets, which is a significant success—

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ignore the interjections. They should not be interjecting, number one, but try not to respond to them.

**MS BERRY:** It was the ironical comments that were catching my attention, Madam Speaker, but you are right. I do need to try and ignore the interjections when they occur. Yes, there are obviously issues around the country that are causing prices of land and housing to go up. However, as we have seen, and has been reported, that is starting to soften and there is starting to be a change, having regard to the cost of housing and the number of people who are purchasing housing as well.

Of course, there is more that we need to do, and that is why we have signed up to the Housing Accord with the federal Labor Albanese government. For the first time we have been able to have a plan with a federal government that is committed to taking action in this space. We will work very closely with them and our colleagues across

the country to ensure that we can provide opportunities for all people to get into homes, particularly those on lower incomes.

**MR CAIN:** Minister, what do you say to the thousands of Canberrans who have missed out on a block of land in similar ballots over the last two years?

**MS BERRY:** As I said the ACT government meets, within two per cent, the delivery of its targets in the Indicative Land Release Program. We have talked at length about the reasons why targets have not been able to be met, because of reasons like COVID and ACAT. There are very reasonable reasons why we have not been able to completely meet the target within a few hundred blocks of land. It is a bit much for the Canberra Liberals who, let us not forget, the last time they were in government, sold off a thousand public housing properties. The federal Labor government has committed to build—

*Members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members, enough.

**MS BERRY:** The federal Labor Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, and his government have committed to building one million new public housing homes across the country over the next five years.

**Mr Parton:** Do you believe that?

**MS BERRY:** I believe it more than I did the federal Liberal government, who did diddly squat, Mr Parton.

### **Housing—affordability**

**MS LEE:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, commonwealth Treasurer Jim Chalmers and Minister for Housing Julie Collins addressed the link between housing supply and affordability in a recent joint media release on the National Housing Accord. One of the actions they identify to address supply and affordability is:

States and territories to expedite zoning, planning and land release for social and affordable housing ...

Minister, do you disagree with the federal Treasurer, Mr Chalmers? Is he wrong about land supply, given that you have consistently said that your government's land release program has nothing to do with the unaffordability of housing in the ACT?

**MS BERRY:** No; that is incorrect, Ms Lee.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Barr, you are responding?

**MR BARR:** Yes. I will take this question, as the National Housing Accord covers multiple portfolios that I am signatory to for the territory, in relation to engagement with the commonwealth. It is a matter that has been considered by the national cabinet

and by the Council on Federal Financial Relations, as well as the housing ministers' council. The assertion in Ms Lee's question, in the long preamble, as the Deputy Chief Minister has identified, is incorrect.

**Ms Lee:** It was a quote from Jim Chalmers.

**MR BARR:** No, your assertion about what the Deputy Chief Minister is alleged to have said—

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members!

**MR BARR:** is not the case. On the substance of the question, there are a combination of factors that impact on house prices and land prices. On interest rates, as we have seen, the cost of borrowing is the single largest factor that has impacted. As interest rates rise we are seeing demand fall. An increase in supply will also assist—

**Ms Lee:** Point of order, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Minister, resume your seat.

**Ms Lee:** While it is very interesting to get a lecture from Mr Barr, as always, the question is specifically about a reference to land supply. I ask the minister to be relevant.

**MR BARR:** That was exactly the point I was making when I was interrupted by the Leader of the Opposition. Supply is indeed part of the equation.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members!

**MR BARR:** That is why the government has increased the forward land supply program, both infill and greenfield, in order to meet the ACT's record levels of population growth. *(Time expired.)*

**MS LEE:** Minister, how do housing affordability policies like build-to-rent address Canberrans' very high demand for detached housing?

**MR BARR:** Build-to-rent can come in many different forms. The housing market is a continuum. It is not a series of isolated sub-markets. There is an impact across the entire spectrum of the housing market when there is an injection of additional supply at different levels. The government has been very clear in relation to the balance of new land release.

The opposition position that they took to the last election and the election before was undeliverable, environmental vandalism and would not have improved affordability, because the costs of development in the areas that the opposition were seeking to pursue—



**Mr Parton:** A point of order on relevance, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Minister, resume your seat.

**Mr Parton:** The question was very specifically about how BTR addresses Canberrans' very high demand for detached housing. It was not about opposition policies.

**Mr Hanson:** On the point of order: the minister, by going back to debates at the last election, is clearly debating rather than answering the question.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Thank you. The minister was also responding to housing supply, which goes to housing affordability. Minister.

**MR BARR:** The key point is that an injection of additional housing supply across the spectrum, both greenfield and infill, both rental and housing for purchase, is all part of the supply side solution, but the supply side solution is not an answer in and of itself. There are other factors. Again, if the opposition wish to put forward an alternative policy proposition they are free to do so.

**Mr Parton:** Oh, we will!

**MR BARR:** I am sure you will, but it has to be deliverable, Mr Parton. You will also need to deal with the question of those who are already in the market and the risk of negative equity. *(Time expired.)*

**MR CAIN:** Minister, when will you acknowledge the effect of housing supply on affordability and take action to meet Canberrans' demand for detached housing?

**MR BARR:** For the benefit of Mr Cain, who obviously wasn't listening and has paid no attention to the debate—not just today but in fact over the last several years—there are a number of factors that impact on the affordability of housing. There is the interaction of supply and demand. That is basic economics. The cost of finance is a factor. During a period of record low interest rates and record low inflation there was an asset price bubble. That is deliberately being addressed by the Reserve Bank of Australia.

What we are seeing is that the increase in house prices, the rapid increase that was experienced during COVID and during the period of record low interest rates, is now moderating and indeed falling as interest rates have increased.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**Ms Lawder:** Point of order, Madam Speaker.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Minister, resume your seat.

**Ms Lawder:** Standing order 118(b) says the answer to the question “shall not debate the subject”, and 118(a) says “shall be concise and directly relevant”. The question

was around the effect of housing supply on affordability and when will you take action to meet Canberrans' demand for detached housing. Mr Barr has not addressed the topic of the question in terms of demand for detached housing.

**Mr Rattenbury:** On the point of order, Madam Speaker, I also note that the standing orders indicate that there should be no interjections when members are speaking.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The standing orders also make reference to how questions are put forward. They are not to include irony or other commentary and should have a single focus. The question was on affordability and the issue of supply. The minister has articulated the range of supply issues and the impacts of other things on affordability. Your time has expired, Minister.

### **Southern Memorial Park—update**

**MR DAVIS:** My question is to Minister Steel. Minister, two weeks ago I hosted a Tuggeranong town hall—an opportunity for my constituents to hear from my Greens ministerial colleagues about the work the government is doing. One of the questions raised frequently by my constituents was a proposal for a south-side cemetery. A site was chosen for the cemetery 10 years ago, and last year the government released a listening report on the Southern Memorial Park. Could you please provide an update on where this work is up to and when the community can expect an announcement on the next steps of this project?

**MR STEEL:** I thank the member for his question, and for his interest in cemeteries in the ACT. The ACT government is progressing with the development of Southern Memorial Park, which is the new cemetery which will serve the south side of Canberra over the coming decades. The revised Southern Memorial Park masterplan was released in 2021, and preliminary plans for stage 1 construction were released for public comment in mid-2021. The consultation outcomes show that the revised SMP masterplan is supported by the community, and the preliminary plans for stage 1 construction were amended to include the opportunity for natural burials as well as more traditional burials. The tender for the SMP stage 1 detailed design was awarded in late March 2022. Site investigations, traffic studies, and other preliminary work necessary for detailed design, is now in progress.

**MR DAVIS:** Minister, the listening report, you said, had significant support for natural burial methods at the south-side cemetery. Can you please describe the considerations government is making to the environmental impact of the memorial?

**MR STEEL:** I thank the member for his question. As many people, particularly on the south-side, would know, this is an area which has some environmental significance. Initiatives will need to be worked through as the masterplan is developed. They are certainly being considered very deeply as we work on the masterplan for the site, and the staged implementation and construction of the new Southern Memorial Park. We know that there are areas of grassy box-gum woodland habitat that are part of the park footprint that we will need to consider.

We want to make sure that the new cemetery is designed in a way that fits in well with the beautiful natural landscape. That is why I think natural burials will play an

important role in keeping that natural amenity in the new park, and also making sure that the community has access to other types of burial. There will be potential cremation services there, as well, in different areas of the park.

We are looking forward to stage 1 progressing, which will put in place the basic amenities required, including road assess, water and other utilities to the site, as well as establishing the first spaces for the burial plots.

**MR BRADDOCK:** What options are currently available to Canberrans to minimise the environmental impacts of death and the funeral industry?

**MR STEEL:** We consulted with the community as part of a review of cemeteries and crematoria in the ACT a couple of years ago, where we put forward the range of different technological advances in that industry for discussion. Within the community there was strong support for natural burial. That is not the most popular type of burial, but it is certainly one that we are keen to have more of in the ACT. There were a range of other technologies discussed, like alkaline hydrolysis and other low-emissions forms of burials. Most Canberrans and their families choose cremation—around 70 per cent—and that does not have a significant impact on the environment. It certainly does not require us to establish large cemetery areas for those people to be rested.

### **Public housing—waiting list**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services. Minister, there has been a steady increase in waiting times for both allocation and transfers in the ACT. You went to the election over two years ago promising a home for all, and the needle has not been moved—indeed, it has been moved in the wrong direction! Minister, has your policy position and has your performance as minister failed the thousands of people on the waitlist?

**MS VASSAROTTI:** Thank you to the Member for the question. As you point out, the ACT Greens did go to the election talking about the essential importance of a decent home for all. That is something we remain really committed to. I am really pleased to be working with the Minister for Housing in terms of responding to how we provide a decent home for all across the spectrum including providing support for people experiencing homelessness and for those who require support through the social housing program.

It is a really difficult scenario we are living in. As we have talked about in this chamber many times, the impacts of COVID were really significant in putting housing stress on a range of households including households that had not really experienced this in the past and the impact is continuing and long-lasting.

There is a range of work we have been doing to respond to the issues and provide support for people including the Growing and Renewing Public Housing program that sits with Minister Berry. This has again, as Minister Berry noted in her statement to the Assembly earlier this week, been dealing with a range of issues and constraints

including issues around building supplies. It does not only impact the government but also the sector more broadly. We remain committed. We continue to work to reach our goals.

**MR PARTON:** What supports are provided to applicants waiting years to be placed into social or public housing?

**MS VASSAROTTI:** Thank you to the Member for the question. There is a range of supports that are in place. For people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness we have our specialist homelessness services. They are providing incredible supports to people who are in need. This is an area where we have been working with the sector. As I mentioned in this Assembly recently, we have committed more than \$12 million over the last two years to provide additional support including emergency accommodation, community mental health support, flexible funding to provide additional work and specific work around rough sleepers. In addition OneLink provides a range of support for people that are unable to access housing right at this point. The housing team and the allocations team work with people sitting on the waiting list to identify if needs have changed and to identify homes we might be able to place them in. This is an ongoing process. It is a process that can be frustrating. I think we are all concerned about the long waitlist for people that are in need but everyone within the system is working hard to provide the supports for people. The reshaping of the homelessness services system is something we are doing in partnership with the sector.

**MS LEE:** Minister, when will you end homelessness as you have promised

**MS VASSAROTTI:** Again we have been talking extensively about our vision for homelessness in the ACT. This is a vision that is shared across the community and as I have noted before, I think is shared within this chamber. We want homelessness to be rare, we want it to be brief and non-recurring. This is something that will take time. This is something that we are not going to solve within six months or two years of a term of a government. But it is something we are absolutely committed to working with our community partners and others to achieve. That is why we have invested more than \$12 million in the services—

**Mr Parton:** Madam Speaker, on a point of order on relevance. The question was very clear as to when will the promise of ending homelessness be delivered. Some timelines have been offered as to when it will not be fixed but the question asks when it will actually be delivered.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Parton, I know you want a direct answer to that question. I cannot instruct the minister how to answer but she is on topic around the provision and the efforts to address homelessness in the ACT.

**MS VASSAROTTI:** I would love there to be a specific timeframe but there is not a timeframe so I am not going to get out here and make a commitment about a specific timeframe as the Member is asking for. What I am trying to explain is the significant and deep work we are doing with sector partners in terms of designing a system where

we reach the vision. This is not something that is a tick-a-box answer. This is something that talks to real and significant complexity, the complexity of peoples' lives that are in this situation. We will continue to work every day to address this issue.

### **Public housing—investment**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. I refer the minister to reports in the media on 11 November this year that there will be no significant increases in public housing stocks for another two years. The latest figures show that there are 3,100 people on the waiting list. Construction time frames have blown out from 12 months to 18 months.

Minister, you have been talking the big talk in public housing for a decade; but in terms of increasing numbers of dwellings, you have not achieved anything, despite us being in an unprecedented housing affordability crisis. Why are there fewer public housing dwellings today than there were a decade ago?

**MS BERRY:** I thank Mr Parton for the question. I will ask him to recognise that public housing has changed significantly across many decades across the country and now includes affordable housing in the community housing space.

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson! Give it a break!

**MS BERRY:** So, whilst public housing provides homes for those people who are most in need, there are other affordable housing providers in the community housing space, and those numbers have increased. For public housing on its own, however, we still maintain, in the ACT, second to the Northern Territory, the highest per capita in the country. It is our intention to continue to build more public housing in the ACT, to build better public housing that meets the needs of people within our community and to build public housing all across the city where people want to live.

**MR PARTON:** Minister, when the set of public housing complexes were sold off as part of the asset recycling scheme, why did you allow the profits to go to light rail, as they clearly did?

**MR BARR:** The asset recycling initiative was managed by the treasurers. Mr Parton—I think he knows better than this! He would understand that the structure of the asset recycling scheme was that the 15 per cent bonus is not the profits, as you have alluded to in that question. It is entirely misleading. The federal government's 15 per cent bonus had to go into an agreed new asset, and that agreed new asset was light rail. The agreement required that there be no diminution over time of housing—noting that the sale of those properties would require the redevelopment of new housing. The agreement was very clear and signed by the Liberal Party.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** If you stopped interjecting and paid attention, you would be getting the answer.

**MR BARR:** To be very clear, the asset recycling agreement required a commitment in relation to housing and a commitment in relation to a new asset. Both were achieved and were signed off by a federal Liberal Treasurer.

**Mr Parton:** Did they hold a gun to your head! Did they!

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Parton! You are warned.

**MR BARR:** To be clear: I refer Mr Parton to the document signed by Joe Hockey and me that outlines the arrangements for that asset recycling initiative. It is crystal clear.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Can members be mindful of their language when they have the call, on their feet, and also in interjections.

**MS CASTLEY:** Minister, why is it that we are getting rid of properties quicker than we can provide them, resulting in a growing waiting list?

**MS BERRY:** I remind Ms Castley and the Canberra Liberals that they protested against the renewal program and the replacement of properties. That is one of the reasons, under the last renewal program, housing replacement did take a bit longer, because the Canberra Liberals protested. They stood out the front and stopped them from being built. What they need to do is have a look in the mirror and see who actually delayed this program, and then take a hard look at themselves.

In this new program, we are doing exactly the same. We are replacing old, unsuitable homes with more suitable, more sustainable, more affordable homes to put public housing tenants in all across the city, where people want to live. Because just like the rest of us, public housing tenants want to live all across the city—in the city, in the south of Tuggeranong and in the west of Belconnen. That is what we will continue to do. As a Labor government, supported by the Greens political party, we will continue to grow our public housing and make sure that it meets the needs of our public housing tenants.

### **Government—FuelCheck app**

**DR PATERSON:** My question is to the Minister for Business and Better Regulation. Minister, what does the introduction of the FuelCheck app for ACT service stations mean for consumers?

**MS CHEYNE:** I thank Dr Paterson for the question. Minister Rattenbury and I were very pleased to announce on 4 November that the FuelCheck app has been expanded into the ACT. Using the FuelCheck app, drivers across Canberra are able to see prices in real time displayed as the price per litre without any discounts or special offers.

For many households across Canberra, petrol or diesel is one of the most significant regular expenses in their household budget. The introduction of the FuelCheck app to the ACT gives power to Canberrans to make educated and informed decisions about where and when they fill up, to ensure they are not spending more on fuel than they have to. By increasing price transparency, FuelCheck enables Canberrans to quickly

and easily have greater access to market information, boosting drivers' power as consumers.

The scheme's extension to the ACT is part of a six-month pilot, during which time we will be reviewing including EV charging stations in the app to keep it relevant in the changing climate and up to date with community needs, as more Canberrans transition to zero-emission vehicles. Their addition to the app will make locating charging stations easier and help to ease range anxiety.

**DR PATERSON:** Minister, what benefits are there for service stations to participate and display their pricing in the FuelCheck app?

**MS CHEYNE:** This is a great opportunity for our small and independent ACT operators to take advantage of free price advertising and to bring awareness of their location to a larger audience. The FuelCheck app provides a level playing field for all service stations, regardless of their network size, to show consumer's their pricing. By opting into the scheme and providing their pricing information, a service station will have their location and pricing information displayed on the app in real time, allowing them to attract customers they may otherwise not have.

I think the fact that more than 98 per cent of service stations in the ACT have already chosen to participate indicates that local service stations understand the benefit to their businesses.

**MR COCKS:** Minister, why did the government drag their heels for so long, when the Canberra Liberals have been calling for this for years?

**MS CHEYNE:** I thank Mr Cocks for the question. Well, actually, there has been no dragging of the feet from the ACT government. To say that the Canberra Liberals have been calling for this for years is a furphy. This was a recommendation from the report of the Select Committee into Fuel Pricing, which I chaired, together with Mr Wall and with Mr Parton. This was a unanimous recommendation which the ACT government agreed to consider but worked through this with the New South Wales government. As has been debated just a few months ago, when Mr Cocks and Mr Cain were present, we did discuss exactly what had happened here, in that there had been some initial engagement with the New South Wales government but initially there had been an outline of costs which, to the ACT government, appeared prohibitive.

But, since then, thanks to the very positive engagement that officials have had and that the Chief Minister has also had with the New South Wales government, we now have the app expanded into the ACT for free. That, I think, is a great outcome. I think the New South Wales government eventually realised that this would provide an extraordinary benefit for the many New South Wales customers who travel through and into the ACT each day—all 40,000 of them.

So I thank Mr Cocks for the opportunity to explain all of the effort that the ACT government has undertaken to achieve an excellent outcome for ACT consumers at no cost.

## **Housing ACT—maintenance**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, I refer to an article in the *Canberra Times* on 13 November this year on the poor state of ACT housing, citing an incident that I referred to you where a tenant had a mice infestation in their house for two years. I refer specifically to quotes from Mr Zach Smith, the secretary of the ACT CFMEU. Mr Smith said:

Our union now regularly hears from workers at the bottom of the subcontracting pyramid about the shoddy practices that are rife in social housing maintenance ...

Mr Smith added:

... there's not much point in building new homes if the ACT government can't guarantee they'll be maintained to a basic standard.

Minister, why are shoddy practices rife in social housing maintenance in the ACT, as suggested by Mr Smith?

**MS BERRY:** I thank Mr Parton for the question. Of course, we work very closely with the CFMEU, with respect to issues that they raise on behalf of their members. I understand, from reading that article, that they have raised some concerns with regard to contractors within housing maintenance services. I would remind the Canberra Liberals that we have invested \$140 million over the last two years in maintenance programs in our public housing, which is an extraordinary amount of funding to make sure that these public housing properties meet the needs of our tenants. Those maintenance programs include things like painting, carpet repairs and replacement, and kitchen and toilet replacements. There are a range of upgrades and refreshes of public housing to ensure that they meet the needs of our tenants.

If complaints are brought to my attention with regard to incidences that suggest that subcontractors who are providing work under the maintenance contract are not doing that work according to our requirements, we will follow that up. But I have not had a representation to my office on that at this point. Of course, we will listen to the CFMEU, if they raise those complaints, and ensure that we can address them.

**MR PARTON:** Minister, as housing minister, why is it that you cannot guarantee that Housing ACT properties will be maintained to a basic standard?

**MS BERRY:** \$140 million has been invested over the last two years.

**MR COCKS:** Minister, are you considering bringing ACT housing maintenance back in-house and dispensing with an external contractor?

**MS BERRY:** If that were something that we were considering, it would not be something that we would announce here on the chamber floor.

*Mr Hanson interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson, you are warned.



**Housing ACT—maintenance**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, table 22 in the CSD annual report, on page 107, shows the total number of complaints made in the last year and breaks it down by category, which is very helpful. Minister, why have the maintenance complaints not decreased, when you have previously stated that the increases in 2020-22 were due to fires and COVID?

**MS BERRY:** I always encourage public housing tenants, if they are experiencing difficulties in their homes with regard to maintenance issues, to contact Housing ACT or the maintenance provider to ensure that their homes are maintained to the level that is required by the ACT government. I am not concerned about the complaints. I do know that the \$140 million made a significant difference in addressing the issues that had been raised by public housing tenants and in making sure that their homes were fit for purpose and that they could live in clean homes and live a good life.

**MR PARTON:** What are you doing to ensure that this figure does not keep increasing?

**MS BERRY:** We are continuing to manage it and we are ensuring that home maintenance is being provided in our public housing dwellings.

**DR PATERSON:** Minister, how does Housing ACT manage housing maintenance complaints?

**Mr Parton:** They come to me and then they go to her.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members! It is question time, not comedy hour.

**MS BERRY:** I thank Dr Paterson for her question. Of course people are going to come to members of the Assembly with complaints or issues that they want to raise. I would expect nothing less in this place—that people would go to members of the opposition to raise issues around public housing or any other issues. That is the job of members of the Legislative Assembly: to listen to constituents and to address the issues that they might raise.

If it is a public housing tenant, we encourage them to get in touch with Housing ACT to address those maintenance concerns—or directly with my office. I am very happy to take complaints myself. I would encourage that as well. It would save time if they came directly to me, rather than to Mr Parton. Then he would not feel the need to raise in the paper or in the media urgent issues that need addressing straightaway. They could be addressed straightaway with me. Mr Parton does represent his constituency very well and does correspond with my office.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members!

**MS BERRY:** I provide responses to Mr Parton so that he can ensure that his constituents feel that they are being represented by him. Our maintenance program continues, and we do ensure that public housing tenants are getting the support that they need in our public housing properties. We will continue to do that.

### **Housing ACT—complaints**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Homelessness and Housing Services. We continue to receive feedback from constituents unable to reach an officer within Housing ACT for days and sometimes weeks on end, including when they are using complaints line. Minister, are you able to confirm the policy for answering phones—the expected wait times and times for returning voicemails, even if that has to be done on notice.

**MS VASSAROTTI:** I thank the member for the question. In terms of the specifics of a policy on times for returning phone calls, I will take that on notice in terms of the particular performance standards that have been put in place. Certainly the work of the gateway is a way that we are really trying to provide great service for our public housing tenancy. There is a lot of contact that comes from 11,500 tenancies, and more than 22,000 individuals that are in households.

The team works very hard to respond to all issues as they come up. If people are having challenges, we encourage them to let my office know, and we can identify any particular issues that are happening. Certainly the aim is to provide a really responsive service. Sometimes there is a need to get some information, and that sometimes takes time to get back to people, but I will take the detail of the question on notice.

**MR PARTON:** How many Housing ACT staff are still regularly working remotely, and not answering the main phone lines?

**MS VASSAROTTI:** I thank the member for the question. Again, I will need to take that question on notice. There are a range of circumstances where people are able to negotiate flexible work arrangements. That is something that has occurred across the ACT public service. Certainly Housing ACT staff are in place, but when we put in place flexible work arrangements, including working remotely, we did ensure that systems are in place to enable people to do their core roles.

Contact with our tenants and prospective tenants is a really important element of that. We continue to maintain the shopfront in Belconnen. We were able to maintain the service throughout some of the most difficult times of COVID—that continues—and put in a range of requirements for the workplace. I will see what information I can get in terms of the specifics of remote working if we have that information.

**MS LAWDER:** Minister, when will you start treating Housing ACT residents with the respect they deserve, including allocating enough staff to answer the phone complaints line?

**MS VASSAROTTI:** I thank the member for the question, although I think that that is quite an upsetting question. I reject the premise of the question in terms of Housing ACT staff, who are working very hard to provide a great level of service. This is a work team that has been doing significant work in terms of improving their work and business processes to make sure that their level of service is even more responsive.

I think that it is quite distressing to hear members of this chamber talk about public servants who are working hard, and who have worked hard in very difficult circumstances, particularly over the last two years—

**Mr Hanson:** I have a point of order with respect to relevance. That was an outrageous assertion from the minister. It is about the resources allocated to staff. To try to characterise that is out of order.

**MADAM SPEAKER:** The member will resume his seat. Members!

You have another minute to go to the question, Ms Vassarotti, if you wish.

**MS VASSAROTTI:** I think I have probably answered.

### **Health—birth centres**

**MS CLAY:** My question is to the Minister for Health. Minister, the birth centre just had its 30th birthday a couple of weeks ago. I was so privileged to attend and it was great to see that you were there too. One of the things we heard was that midwife-led continuity of maternity care births at the birth centre are cheaper than hospital births, especially when comparing like for like, when we are comparing low risk vaginal birth with low risk vaginal birth in both centres. Can you tell me the average cost to government for a planned birth centre birth compared to a public birth in the delivery suites at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children or Calvary Public Hospital Bruce?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I thank Ms Clay for the question. I cannot provide exactly that information. It is important to recognise that the birth centre is not in itself a model of care but it is a place of birth. So women booked under any model of care can birth in the birth centre if they meet the eligibility criteria. The birth centre is a fantastic setting and it was great to be there at the 30th anniversary of the birth centre. Of course it is not in the same place that it was before. Thirty years ago when the birth centre was opened in 1992 by then Minister for Health, Wayne Berry, it was an important ACT Labor achievement. It was ACT Labor that defended its place in the birthing options for ACT women against the criticism then. But now it is very well established.

What I can say in relation to costs is that clearly minor complexity births are cheaper than intermediate complexity births in terms of being around just over \$4,400 for a minor complexity birth to \$6,700 for an intermediate complexity birth. It is not possible with the data we have at this point in time to break that down between birth centre and birth suite because in fact we may be seeing the same level of complexity

across the two. What we really want to be looking at is costs across the whole of pregnancy, birth and post-birth care and that will be so variable between different women. What I can also say is there was a population-based study from New South Wales published in 2021 by Scarf et al that calculated the overall costs of a place of birth. I have run out of time. I can give you some more information in the supplementary. *(Time expired.)*

**MS CLAY:** Minister, what plans does the government have to expand midwife led continuity of care so that 100 per cent of Canberra women can access this?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** I will come to that specific question. Just to finish the point around the Scarf et al study, it calculated the overall costs of a place of birth from Australian Refined Diagnosis Related Group, so AR-DRGs, of almost 500,000 women between 2000 and 2012. This revealed the overall costs of a birth centre birth was just under \$5,000 versus just over \$5,400 or almost \$5,500 for a hospital birth. So overall, on that large population-based study the information is accurate around the cost of birth centre births. One of the other things that was indicated is at that national level is that there are not that many of these birth centre options. The ACT has this capability and is continuing to expand continuity of care.

Continuity of care by a known midwife provides support during the antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum periods. The model is supported by a multi-disciplinary team to ensure a woman or pregnant person's care needs are met. The ACT provides whole-of-duration maternity period continuity in 38.1 per cent of pregnancies, which is the third highest in the country and above the national average of 31 per cent. Our Maternity in Focus strategy commits us to having more than 50 per cent of women and pregnant people having access to this model of care by 2028.

**MR DAVIS:** Minister, do we know how much money the ACT government would stand to save long term if midwife-led continuity of care was available to all Canberra mothers?

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** It is important to recognise that mothers-to-be, parents-to-be and pregnant people need to have the option of choice that will suit them, including GP shared care, if that is what makes sense for them. We are committed to expanding the continuity of care models. Those become more expensive as the pregnancy is more complex. So when you start talking about all the pregnant people have access to continuing of care, you are going to start seeing an increase in cost in that continuity model because you are going to start expanding that to more complex pregnancies. It will not be an apples-to-apples comparison with the pregnant people who currently access continuity versus all pregnancies. But it is important, having said that, that we continue to expand access to continuity models to people who have more complex pregnancies. That is exactly what the CatCH program does, formerly called the Continuity of Care (All Risk) program. It is suitable for all women and pregnant people including those complex and high risk pregnancies wanting care from a known primary midwife. It is a very important model of care in our system and, as part of the expansion of continuity, we would certainly like to see that expanded as well, in addition to our commitment to expand home birth.

**Turner—build-to-rent development**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. The question relates to the first build-to-rent site in Turner. Minister, how long will the successful bidder have to start construction on the site, and will that be contractually enforced?

**MR BARR:** This site is part of the build-to-rent prospectus that I have released. I would anticipate that the usual commence and complete requirements would be in place for this development. I will double-check that, and if that is not the case, I will come back and advise the Assembly.

**MR PARTON:** Will rising interest rates impact the viability of this and, potentially, other BTR projects?

**MR BARR:** I will interpret Mr Parton's question to assume a significant movement in interest rates, as opposed to, say, 25 basis points or 50 basis points. I do not think small adjustments, at this point, are going to make a major difference; but it is clear that some of the institutional investors that the commonwealth and the states and territories will be working with are looking for a rate of return of between six and 11 per cent for these particular projects. That has been the clear position the super funds, for example, have put on the table. To the extent that, for example, a doubling in interest rates could impact, it would also depend on the nature of alternative investments; the mandate of the particular institutional investor in terms of, for example, social and ethical investment; and, in this instance, the source of capital, which would not be, in the case of a super fund, being borrowed from a commercial bank, for example. There would perhaps be a more fixed capital cost, as opposed to a variable one, in relation to these sorts of investments. Ultimately, they are financial decisions that institutional investors will need to make based on long-term certainty—that is the whole point of the model.

**MS LEE:** Treasurer, when do you expect construction to start and be completed at the Turner site?

**MR BARR:** It is, obviously, subject to a current process. Once we have seen the submissions that come back from the market, we will be in a better position to advise on those outcomes. This one is not the only build-to-rent project that has been proposed. Indeed, some are underway. The build-to-rent product is a spectrum product. I think there is a misunderstanding that—

**Ms Lee:** No, I specifically said “at the Turner site”.

**MR BARR:** Yes, but I am making a broader observation about build-to-rent. There are already build-to-rent projects that have either commenced construction or that have been proposed. There will be build-to-rent projects that will be built on land that the ACT government has put forward for that specific purpose. There will be build-to-rent projects undertaken entirely by the private sector on land that is privately owned, and there may well be a mixture of public and private partnership in relation to this new housing type.

One thing I am certain of—given there has already been a commitment by a major super fund of over \$200 million, ahead of tomorrow's forum that I will attending, representing the states and territories with federal Treasurer Jim Chalmers—is that the ball is rolling here, and we are going to see a very significant level of investment in this new type of housing.

### **Housing ACT—maintenance**

**MR PARTON:** My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, you are well aware of the number of complaints both that Housing ACT receive and that the Canberra Liberals receive which we refer to your office. The constant stream of maintenance pleas for help, including for mould, vermin infestations, maggots, ceilings collapsing, leaking bathrooms et cetera is mind boggling. Minister, why do maintenance complaints plague Housing ACT? Has funding been shifted to other projects?

**MS BERRY:** No. I would refer the member to my previous answers. There has been \$140 million over two years invested into maintenance programs in our public housing.

**MR PARTON:** Minister, has that funding that you have referred to actually gone towards repairing the immediate needs of Housing ACT tenants or has it primarily gone to growth and renewal upgrades?

**MS BERRY:** No; it has gone directly to maintenance in our public housing properties. I have explained in detail where that public housing funding goes, and the kind of maintenance that occurs in our public housing properties includes kitchens, toilets, bathrooms, carpet repairs, painting, and gutter repairs, and is funded through that \$140 million.

**MR CAIN:** Minister, to what degree was funding the tram the real reason for the so-called growth and renewal program?

**MS BERRY:** I refer Mr Cain to the answers that the Chief Minister provided on that public housing growth and renewal program.

### **Municipal services—streetlighting**

**MR BRADDOCK:** My question is to the minister for city services. Minister, given the importance of adequate lighting, particularly on issues like women's safety and active travel, does the ACT government have a strategic approach to streetlighting infill? How does this prioritise issues such as lighting for active travel corridors or women's safety?

**MR STEEL:** We have been consulting with the community over recent years, particularly through the better suburbs program, in developing a community statement about the importance of a range of different city services, including streetlights. We heard that streetlights are important to maintaining public and traffic safety. We have also heard that through resident consultation that we have been doing on our draft

active travel plan, and work that we have been doing with the Women's Centre for Health Matters. I refer to their work in looking at women's safety, particularly as it relates to public transport.

We have 80,000 streetlights across Canberra, and we have been progressively upgrading those streetlights through a contract with Electrix. Those have been providing new, more modern streetlights, which means we can make sure, through smart technology, that, when a streetlight goes out, we are aware of it and we can get onto it more quickly.

The government is also progressively upgrading streetlighting as part of other community infrastructure projects and improvements to our parks and open spaces. For example, we have upgraded streetlighting as part of the Yerrabi Pond upgrades that we have been undertaking around the foreshore there. There are the upcoming Tuggeranong foreshore upgrades and Mawson placemaking improvements. I refer also to the new Mawson park and ride off Beasley Street, near Farrer, and various road infrastructure projects. We also have the streetlight infill program, which has been an ongoing program, and we have provided supplementary funding for that through recent programs, including having a focus on providing further lighting in public transport stops which do not have currently have streetlighting near them, in areas like Mitchell.

**MR BRADDOCK:** Has the government undertaken a dark spot study to identify where lighting is not up to standard?

**MR STEEL:** The government is aware of where there are not currently streetlights in Canberra. Not every street in Canberra was originally built with streetlights. We see that in some of our heritage, garden city suburbs, particularly directly around the city in places like Ainslie and Reid. We have been progressively using our programs to put in place streetlighting in those locations, and make sure that we also take into account the heritage nature of those suburbs.

We are certainly interested in hearing from the community if they have a location where they would like to see streetlighting put in as part of the streetlight infill program. That is assessed against a range of factors, including assessing it against the ACT government's sustainable transport policy, to look at where those streetlights are, in relation to active travel. There is an environmental weighting assessed around the impact on trees, light pollution, energy consumption and flora and fauna. There is also a community weighting that is assessed as part of that, around security, public safety and road safety.

We are happy to get those requests through, to see where we can put in streetlighting that is likely to provide the most benefit for the community.

**MS CLAY:** Minister, has the government looked at its audit of footpaths and shared paths against the streetlights to see whether these are impacting on night-time active travel?

**MR STEEL:** I am happy to take that question on notice.

**Work health and safety—young workers**

**MR PETTERSSON:** My question is to the Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety. Minister, what is the government doing to ensure that young workers are protected at work?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank Mr Pettersson for his question and his interest in the safety of workers across the ACT. The government take the safety of every member of our community seriously. We are especially concerned about the safety of our young people in their workplaces. Young people are one of the most at-risk groups when it comes to safety in the workplace. They make up a disproportionately high number of workers compensation claims in the territory, often for physical injuries.

In order to respond to the risk, WorkSafe ACT launched the Young Workers Strategy in November 2021. This strategy sets out the steps that our work safety regulator is taking to educate young people on their rights and responsibilities in the workplace and to ensure that they have access to resources and information if something does go wrong at work.

In the first two years of the strategy WorkSafe ACT are targeting young workers in priority industries such as construction, accommodation and food services, retail trade, and health care and social services. Part of the strategy has been the launch of the young workers portal, which was launched in the final week of Safe Work Month, in October this year. This portal is a one-stop shop for young people, their parents and their employers who want to know more about keeping young people safe at work.

**MR PETTERSSON:** Minister, why is it important to focus on young workers?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** As I mentioned, young workers are among the most at-risk demographics when it comes to workplace exploitation and risk. This is because young workers are often in insecure work arrangements. They do not understand their rights at work and do not know what to do when they are exposed to risky workplace practices. When our kids are employed in hospitality, they are often employed casually. I am sure every member in this place has heard stories of young people speaking up their workplace, only to find that they are not being listened to or rostered on for shifts anymore. This should not be occurring.

Young people will make up a large proportion of the future workforce, and a culture of unsafe workplace practices and a lack of understanding around workplace rights means that the working conditions of the future will only get worse. It is important for the futures of our young people, the workforce and the economy to ensure that young workers have the ability and resources to protect themselves at work.

We should be encouraging young workers, and this is why the young workers portal is such a valuable resource. It provides young workers and their parents with information on their rights in the workplace and how to get help if they are being put in unsafe situations.



Another important resource is our union movement. They stand up for the rights of workers and have long fought to protect workers. We need to be supporting the work of unions, because by doing that we can help young workers as well.

**DR PATERSON:** Minister, what support is in place for young workers?

**MR GENTLEMAN:** I thank Dr Paterson for the question. If members are hearing from young people about concerns that they have in their workplace or if they are hearing specific stories about bad practices in a workplace, I strongly encourage those people to reach out to WorkSafe. WorkSafe have a young workers inspector, whose main role is assisting young people in these situations, providing advice on work health and safety, helping to provide practical solutions and offering guidance on how you can submit a confidential incident report, if needed. There is also more information about this on the young workers portal.

I would also suggest that, among the 25 members of this place, many of us have connections to businesses here and around Canberra. Most businesses are doing the right thing by their employees, but it is always important to encourage those business owners and industry groups to make sure that their workplaces and industries are safe, that their training is up to standard and that their employees are protected when coming to work.

There is also the Young Workers Advice Service, run by UnionsACT. This is a free advice service on issues such as wages, pay slips, health and safety, and employment conditions. The YWIS also actively runs rights at work and work experience sessions in schools to help educate students on their rights as they enter the workforce. As always, we should encourage young people to join their relevant union and to raise any concerns about their workplace with that union.

**Mr Barr:** Further questions can be placed on the notice paper. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

### **Supplementary answers to questions without notice**

#### **Minister for Health—questions on notice**

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** Yesterday, Ms Castley asked me a question about a freedom of information request that she had received back from the Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services, and she asked me a question in relation to the way my office has managed responses to questions on notice. I did say that I would come back to the Assembly and Ms Castley with some further information in relation to that. Having looked into it, I can advise the Assembly that my initial understanding that Ms Castley had probably misrepresented the situation was accurate. In fact, she had misrepresented the situation.

In relation to this particular response to the question on notice, my staff member provided two pieces of feedback to the directorates. One piece of feedback related to asking for some additional information, for a break down in information, so that the answer was more accurate and was providing the information Ms Castley had asked for—ward-by-ward information, which was not provided in the original draft answer.

The answer that I provided did a break down, ward by ward, as Ms Castley had requested.

In a separate question on notice, Ms Castley had asked for:

... (iv) how many staff are scheduled for each ward including job title and classification for (A) morning, (B) afternoon and (C) night shift ...

Canberra Health Services had provided an example of a staffing roster template that was completed by a nursing manager and had gone on to say, “A complete list of all staff rostered for morning, afternoon and night shift for each ward at CHS”—leaving Calvary to one side for the moment—“has not been provided due to the resources required to complete this request.” My office changed the words slightly to say “... it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources,” which is the standard wording.

**Ms Castley:** But you didn’t send us anything!

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** It is the exact same thing—just the standard wording we use when we respond to questions on notice.

*Opposition members interjecting—*

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Members!

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH:** My office also said, “This is a very inconsistent way to answer this question. It should either be as per below, as Calvary has provided, or just use the standard words ‘that it is an unreasonable diversion of resources’. Do not provide an example template which does not actually answer the question, it is very confusing and does not really mean anything to anybody.”

All of this work, Madam Speaker, was done on this in my office to ensure that we were actually answering the question that was asked to the best of the ability of the agencies. All of this work for this response took 26 hours and 50 minutes to complete at an approximate cost of \$2,741.61! I do not think anybody could complain that we were not trying.

## **Housing ACT—complaints**

**MS VASSAROTTI:** In one of the questions that I took on notice there was a discussion about average call centre wait times. I would like to note that a new Cisco phone system went live for the client engagement team on 28 April 2022, so information is much more accurate from this point of time. The average wait time from May 2022 to August 2022 was three minutes and 13 seconds.

## **Papers**

**Madam Speaker** presented the following papers:

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II—Motion of condolence—Response from the Official Secretary to the Governor-General, dated 7 November 2022.

Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017, pursuant to subsection 30(2)—Report of a Review of a Correctional Centre by the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services—Healthy Prison Review of the Alexander Maconochie Centre 2022, dated 23 November 2022.

**Mr Gentleman** presented the following papers:

ACT Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List: Process and Outcome Evaluation Final Report—Government response, dated November 2022.

Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act, pursuant to section 13—Annual Reports—2021-2022—Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate—Corrigendum, dated November 2022.

Carbon Footprint Calculator for ACT Business—Assembly Resolution of 22 March 2022—Government response, dated November 2022.

Freedom of Information Act, pursuant to section 39—Copy of notice provided to the Ombudsman—Community Services Directorate—Freedom of Information request—Decision not made in time (FOI-CYF-22/42), dated 1 November 2022.

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—Report 9—*Inquiry into Community Corrections*—Government response, dated November 2022.

Planning and Development Act 2007, pursuant to subsection 242(2)—Statement of Leases Granted—1 July to 30 September 2022, dated November 2022.

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—Report 6—*Inquiry into the Financial Management Amendment Bill 2021 (No 2)*—Government responses—

Interim, dated 24 June 2022.

Update, dated 11 November 2022.

### **Justice—alcohol and other drugs sentencing list**

**MR GENTLEMAN** (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety, Minister for Planning and Land Management and Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (3.11): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

ACT Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List: Process and Outcome Evaluation Final Report—Government response.

**MR RATTENBURY** (Kurrajong—Attorney-General, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Gaming and Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction) (3.12): I am pleased to present to the Legislative Assembly the government response to the Australian National University's *ACT Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List: Process and Outcome Evaluation Final Report*. In line with the government's commitment in the parliamentary agreement for the Ninth Legislative Assembly, the Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List, or DASL, was established in 2019. DASL allows the ACT Supreme

Court to make drug and alcohol treatment orders, or DATOs, that fully suspend a sentence of imprisonment where certain conditions are met.

In 2019, the government commissioned an independent evaluation of DASL by criminologists from the Australian National University Centre for Social Research and Methods, and their report was publicly released on 9 August 2022. The findings of the report were positive and included recognition that DASL is diverting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from custody in the first instance: resulting in marked improvement of drug use scores; contributing to improved social integration acts under areas such as mental health, employment and relationships; and reducing reoffending. The report also found that up to \$14 million has been saved due to avoided prison time.

As of 13 September 2022 there have been a total of 110 people referred to DASL, with 64 people entered into a DATO, 10 graduations, 14 completions without graduation, 21 cancellations and 29 DATOs that are currently in effect. Although new referrals were paused earlier this year due to DASL reaching its capacity limit, as participants have completed their orders, the ACT Courts and Tribunal have been able to accept a small number of further referrals.

There is a strong relationship between harm caused by drug and alcohol use and social disadvantage, and evidence shows that engagement with the criminal justice system can compound that disadvantage. The stigma associated with criminalising drug use can result in barriers to key social outcomes such as access to health care, employment and housing. Harm reduction approaches acknowledge that addiction to drugs and alcohol is a health issue and evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment programs are a critical component to reducing harm associated with substance abuse.

DASL is an essential program to help divert vulnerable Canberrans from the criminal justice system into treatment services. The findings in the report show that DASL is achieving that aim. The report involved three elements: firstly, a review of international best practice principles and procedures for the creation and implementation of a successful drug court; secondly, a process evaluation of the fidelity to best practice standards during the implementation of DASL; and thirdly, an outcome evaluation.

The report presents the findings of both the process evaluation and the outcome evaluation, with recommendations for each. The report made 24 recommendations in the process evaluation, which related to: pathways into DASL, the collaboration and cooperation between stakeholders, DASL in practice, preliminary outcomes, and analysis of case law and legislation. The ACT Courts and Tribunal and other stakeholders responded to these recommendations in May 2022, indicating what steps had already been taken towards implementation, and these are set out in the report.

The outcome evaluation made an additional 15 recommendations, which relate to supporting participants with additional needs, program fidelity and quality, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation. The recommendations provide valuable suggestions about how DASL can be improved to better include and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; people with disability, including mental

illness; women; and members of the LGBTIQ+ community. The recommendations also provide suggestions for legislative amendments to improve the operation of DASL, as well as suggestions for better integration and data collection.

The government response addresses each of these recommendations and agrees to six, agrees in principle to seven, and notes two recommendations. The government response reflects on how the recommendations support existing ACT government commitments, such as the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028, the Capital of Equality Strategy, the ACT Drug Strategy Action Plan 2018-2021 and the Disability Justice Strategy 2019-2029: a strategy to address unequal access to justice in the ACT. Where recommendations are agreed to in principle or noted, this is to reflect that implementing the recommendations may be subject to additional factors such as resourcing and judicial discretion.

It is clear that DASL is an effective program that demonstrates how innovative and holistic approaches can have a positive impact on people who engage with the criminal justice system by promoting social integration, reducing harm caused by drug and alcohol use, and reducing recidivism.

I would like to thank the Australian National University for such a comprehensive analysis of DASL, and I look forward to keeping the Assembly updated on the progress of this successful program.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

### **Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—report 9—government response**

**MR GENTLEMAN** (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety, Minister for Planning and Land Management and Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (3.17): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee—Report 9—*Inquiry into Community Corrections*—Government response.

Debate (on motion by **Mr Braddock**) adjourned to the next sitting.

### **Lake Tuggeranong—water quality**

**MR DAVIS** (Brindabella) (3.18): I move:

That this Assembly:

(1) notes:

- (a) Lake Tuggeranong is often rendered unsafe for swimming and other primary contact due to algal blooms. Between 2007 and 2017, the lake was closed for an average of 93 days per year;
- (b) the Tuggeranong community has been calling for better, safer lake amenity since Lake Tuggeranong was first established in 1987;

- (c) phosphorus from grass clippings and leaves entering ACT waterways is a substantial contributor to the blue-green algae population in Lake Tuggeranong;
  - (d) according to work undertaken by the University of Canberra, sediment in Lake Tuggeranong released 111 kilograms and 113 kilograms of phosphorus in the 2017-18 and 2018-19 seasons respectively;
  - (e) modelling from the University of Canberra suggests that approximately 80-100 kilograms of phosphorus is sufficient to maintain current algal bloom outbreak conditions in Lake Tuggeranong;
  - (f) the *State of the Lakes and Waterways in the ACT* report, prepared by the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment in May 2022, identified a range of impacts on the lake's water quality, including nutrients, sediment, animal faeces, litter, urban development and organic waste from across the catchment area;
  - (g) the importance of ensuring that the grass clippings from household and government mowing do not enter the storm water system and the lake, preventing any possible contribution to water quality problems; and
  - (h) after substantial rainfall over the past few months, Transport Canberra and City Services staff have been working around the clock to keep ACT public spaces mowed;
- (2) further notes:
- (a) the ACT Greens made a \$30 million election commitment to invest in the ACT's healthy waterways;
  - (b) ACT Labor made an election commitment to continue delivery of a ten-year plan for Lake Tuggeranong and to improve urban lakes and waterways;
  - (c) the ACT Government has undertaken a comprehensive series of reforms to address blue-green algae and water quality in Lake Tuggeranong and other catchments. Initiatives completed in the \$6.5 million Stage 1 of the ACT Government's Healthy Waterways package included:
    - (i) 19 water quality assets, including wetlands, rain gardens and waterway restoration; and
    - (ii) two research projects exploring the link between pollution in stormwater and Lake Tuggeranong, and the occurrence of algal blooms in the lake;
  - (d) Stage 2 of the ACT Government's Healthy Waterways program included an additional \$14 million through to June 2023, and has committed to:
    - (i) 11 new water quality assets across Tuggeranong and Belconnen;
    - (ii) an expansion of the Leaf Collective;
    - (iii) collaboration with public and private landowners to reduce fertiliser use in catchment areas;
    - (iv) extension of the University of Canberra's research in the Lake Tuggeranong Catchment; and
    - (v) support for the development of new modelling and reporting tools;
  - (e) in November 2021, the ACT Legislative Assembly resolved to continually update and modify standard operating procedures to minimise grass clippings from entering stormwater drains and waterways; and

- (f) the ACT Government is currently developing an Urban Open Space Management Plan which will explore opportunities for better mowing practices, care of urban open space and implementing rewilding initiatives; and
- (3) calls on the ACT Government to:
  - (a) consider and explore options to improve the collection of grass clippings from its mowing program to protect ACT waterways. These options could include:
    - (i) trialling a dedicated street sweeping program in line with the most intensive mowing and leaf litter seasons;
    - (ii) training for ACT Government mowing technicians; and
    - (iii) trialling a post-mowing program to collect grass clippings and other organic matter for proper composting;
  - (b) consult on the Urban Open Space Management Plan through YourSay, and publish the plan upon completion; and
  - (c) report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in September 2023, in line with the commencement of the 2023-24 mowing program.

I rise today to speak to my motion calling on the ACT government to improve the collection of grass clippings and leaf litter as a result of our mowing program to protect ACT's waterways. This motion arises out of concerns raised by many of my constituents in Tuggeranong who are rightly worried about organic litter flowing into Lake Tuggeranong and causing issues with the overproduction of phosphorus resulting in blue-green algal blooms. The government has invested time and money into educating the community about the impact of organic matter on water quality and yet it seems like these messages are inconsistently applied to our own procedures during heavy mowing seasons such as this.

This is not the first time I have risen in this place to talk about Lake Tuggeranong and I trust it certainly will not be the last. The sheer volume of correspondence I am sure all members for Brindabella receive regarding the crown jewel of Tuggeranong never disappoints or surprises. Last year I conducted a survey of our constituents on the foreshore redevelopment and produced a report that I presented to the minister in which my constituents advocated strongly for increased investments to prevent the growth of blue-green algae in our lake. The significant uptake of this survey and the government's own consultation process is demonstrative of the interest and care our community have in the health of the lake and their desire to see it developed into a loveable and safe community asset.

Madam Speaker, Lake Tuggeranong is a community fixture. It is the nexus of so many dedicated community groups—including the Lake Tuggeranong and Catchment Carers, the Tuggeranong Community Council, the Southern ACT Catchment Group, the Tuggeranong Sea Scouts and the Tuggeranong Rowing Club, just to name a few—all of whom care for and enjoy the beauty of Lake Tuggeranong all year round. A special mention to Ms Lawder and Mr Parton, who have managed to get up earlier than me on the weekend and participate in a Tuggeranong parkrun. But I promise it is on my list and I cannot wait to get down and give it a crack. The lake and surrounds are home to our library, the Hyperdome—never South.Point, Madam Speaker, and

I want that on the *Hansard*!—sports facilities, community spaces and a college. It is a place where people gather with parks and barbecue areas, playgrounds and skate parks, all the amenities you would hope for in an outdoor hub for community activity.

For us Tuggeranonites, pride in our lake goes hand in hand with its unfortunate—and I believe preventable—reputation of the notorious blue-green algae. Algal blooms have kept our lake closed from recreational swimming for nearly 100 days each year. In 2019, the *ACT state of the environment* report assessed the recreational water quality of our lakes and rivers across Canberra as poor. Even by these standards, Lake Tuggeranong was one of the worst affected, with our lake closed for the majority of the recreational swimming season.

I do not think we are resting on our laurels by any means. During the last ACT election I was proud to run with my ACT Greens colleagues on a platform where we made an ambitious commitment to invest \$30 million into the ACT Healthy Waterways Program. Over the past two years my colleague Mr Rattenbury, as the Minister for Water, has secured a total of \$20.5 million of that funding the Greens committed to, to improve our waterways.

As much as I pride myself on consistently agitating to make sure Tuggeranong is not forgotten about, I think the ACT Healthy Waterways Package has poured a lot of TLC into Tuggeranong. So far we have seen 19 new water quality assets, eight of which were in Tuggeranong. This is completed by a research program in partnership with the University of Canberra which has given us some really important specialised and update information about the lake. The floating wetlands, which were installed early in the term, provided some respite to the lake as well as joy for those of us who like to walk around it and point out our shiny new water quality assets.

By the middle of 2023, we will add an additional 11 new water assets, expand the activities of the Leaf Collective, extend the University of Canberra's research contract into the Lake Tuggeranong catchment and more. The Healthy Waterways Package is a testament to how the Greens and government go above and beyond to secure outcomes for our community and our environment. I will continue to work closely with Minister Rattenbury on this investment.

I also thank my colleague Ms Lawder for her care and concern for the lake too, demonstrated almost exactly a year ago, through her resolution passed on Thursday 25 November, calling on the government to provide better amenities around the lake. I was very pleased to support this resolution. I spoke on similar matters to do with the lake health and organic matter at that time too.

So far in this term of government, the government has committed to a \$4.75 million investment to improve the Lake Tuggeranong foreshore precinct. The upgrade process engaged our community to make sure our money was going to the right paths, places to sit, picnic areas and play equipment—very welcome investment indeed. But, as I mentioned earlier, my office also did our due diligence with our community consultation. After conducting a survey on Lake Tuggeranong and receiving more than 420 responses, we presented this listening report to the Ministers for Water and Transport Canberra and City Services respectively and we fought to make sure that this feedback was taken on board.



Most recently I have been thrilled to further this campaign for better amenity about the lake by sponsoring my constituents petition to redevelop Tuggeranong's 25-year-old skate park. I would encourage anyone interested to jump on to the e-petitions website and add their signature; 620 and growing, Madam Speaker!

But let me get back to the weeds. Lake Tuggeranong was originally designed to be a catchment. In that regard, it is great at gathering sediment. As my motion states, during the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 periods sediment in Lake Tuggeranong released more than 110 kilograms of phosphorus each time. Modelling shows you only need 80 to 100 kilograms to maintain algal blooms, which we have comfortably exceeded each year.

I was surprised to learn that the public and water scientists seem to have very different ideas of what the biggest risks to the lake are. Reading the *State of the lakes and waterways in the ACT* report released by the Commissioner for Sustainability and Environment, I learnt that the community considers litter to be the biggest problem to water quality, followed closely by blue green algal blooms and pest fish species, like the mammoth carp we find. However these water scientists are telling us that the single biggest concern is actually organic matter from leaves and grass clippings. The sediment that settles in Lake Tuggeranong then provides the perfect storm, nutrients for the blue-green algal blooms and in spite of our best efforts, they have become synonymous with our lake.

We already have measures in place to start to combat the sheer volume of leaves and organic matter ending up in the lake. In fact my colleague the Minister for Water was able to secure funding for the Leaf Collective that I mentioned earlier. The Leaf Collective are brilliant. They are a community-minded and community-run organisation working with Canberrans to help keep up to 200,000 litres of leaves out of our waterways. They are encouraging all of us, telling us about how we in the community can adopt a tree or a drain to keep clean and providing us with the tools and information we need to act on the issue.

But my concern is that it risks being hypocritical—or at least being perceived as hypocritical—when people in the community see the government helping the community make better choices for themselves that they do not necessarily see the government making. We need to acknowledge the effect that our widespread government mowing program has on our waterways. Then we have to try and mitigate that effect, given all the hard work that we are doing in this space and the money that we are spending.

It is really important for me at this point to clarify that the last thing I want to do is to diminish or dismiss the incredible work of frontline TCCS staff, who have been working around the clock over recent months to keep our nature strips and footpaths clear of grass. Any member in this place has been reminded of our dual responsibility as a city councillor and as a state MP in the state of our grasses at the moment. I would hate to do an all-word search for mowing in my inbox. It would probably come up with most of the emails I have received. About a year ago in this chamber Minister Steel was kind enough to give us the figures. We have 73 mowers and between them they have managed to mow a whopping 72,000 hectares of public space in the last two seasons. That averages to 68 hectares per mower, per month. I think we

should do everything in our power to support these hardworking frontline workers. Not only are they keeping our paths, verges and intersections safe but they are also keeping them appealing and good to look at.

Part of our responsibility to our mowing crew is to resource them properly so they can properly dispose of grass clippings and they can carry out their great work without worrying that the clippings might be jeopardising the health of our local waterways. We are not asking our mowing team to do more with less. I would like to see them doing more with more. I understand the government has finite resources and we are not expecting the impossible. As my motion suggests, I have suggested several different possible solutions to support the collection of grass clipping and the safe disposal away from our waterways.

Among these, a street-sweeping program dedicated to removing grass and leaf matter from suburbs near the catchment area could go a long way towards reducing organic waste in our waterways. I understand the government does have an ambitious street-sweeping program. But Greenway, for example, gets this four times a year, while Oxley, one suburb over, gets it just twice. That does not seem like enough to me, especially when some suburbs are getting swept six to eight times a year and they do not face directly onto a major water catchment.

Another thing—and I thank my colleague Ms Clay for suggesting this in the Assembly three months ago—might be investigating training for our mowers to empower them to collect grass clippings as they go. We need to make sure the mowing workload is manageable and the training and equipment are adequate so our mowers actually do have the capacity to collect their clippings as they go. But if collecting as they go is not an option, perhaps a solution to our organic litter problem is collecting mowing clippings after the fact. Whether this is using our street-sweeping infrastructure or trialling a more specialised program, there is a whole host of possible solutions to our organic green waste.

In fact I had a conversation with a constituent of mine at my electorate office last Friday, at Jindebah Café in Tuggeranong, who suggested installing nets or mesh fixtures inside the stormwater drains to try and limit the amount of leaf litter and grass clipping that flow into the lakes. Then we could ask some of our TCCS workers to go around and collect them regularly, particularly at the moment while our mowing schedule is so upscaled to meet the demand. While we need to invest only in evidence-based solutions to cleaning the lake and I am not suggesting the government start making investments based on my thought bubbles, we do owe it to our constituents to listen when they speak up and provide us some really innovative solutions. This motion represents the interests of my constituents and all of those who travel to Tuggeranong to spend time around our lake.

Once again, as much as I would love to be responsible for all the goings on in government as it relates to Lake Tuggeranong—and I am sure we all would—I do not have access to the same facts and figures as the minister. I do not hold that hose, unfortunately! That is why I have purposely left this motion open-ended and I have tried not to be prescriptive. I am asking the minister to work with his directorate and the ACT public service to identify this as a problem, to acknowledge it is a challenge, to acknowledge it risks undermining the hard work of the Minister for Water and the

brand new Office of Water to keep our lakes and waterways clean and to consider some of the innovative and new ways we can be a part of the solution as government and not contributing to the problem. We want to make sure that we are role-modelling best practice and best behaviour to our community. I want all of my constituents to be much more diligent with their grass clippings and their leaf litter. I want them disposing of them effectively rather than down our stormwater drains. But it must be a hard pill to swallow for my constituents in Brindabella when they are doing that, when they are listening to the Leaf Collective but seeing the government mower not necessarily meeting the same standards.

Our waterways are incredibly precious. We can put processes in place to treat our catchments with respect and foster an environment that is beautiful, welcoming and good for people and planet alike. This government is doing a lot to make Tuggeranong a better place and I am proud to be a small part of that, whether it is the investment in the Healthy Waterways Package, the \$4.75 million for the Lake Tuggeranong investment or—should I get my way by complaining long enough!—maybe even a fancy new skate park. That is perhaps a debate for another day! There is a lot happening and I am really excited about it. So too are my constituents.

But I wonder if the fanfare will be there that we would hope for and whether the ribbon-cutting will be as celebrated as we might like it to be, when the brand new Lake Tuggeranong foreshore revitalisation project is ready to go if the lake is still dirty, if the air still stinks of blue-green algal blooms. I want to join the minister, I want to join everybody in government, I even want to join my Liberal members for Brindabella on the opposition benches to celebrate the awesome investment in Tuggeranong when the foreshore revitalisation is open, and I would like to be able to take a deep breath in and celebrate the lake. Thank you.

**MR STEEL** (Murrumbidgee—Minister for Skills, Minister for Transport and City Services and Special Minister of State) (3.32): I thank Mr Davis for bringing forward this motion today. Lake Tuggeranong is an important community asset, and the people of Tuggeranong rightly expect us to take good care of it. That is why our government is continuing to invest in upgrading Tuggeranong, including investing in the Lake Tuggeranong foreshore.

That was an important ACT Labor election commitment which we are now delivering in government, which will provide improved amenity, walking and cycling improvements, and upgraded town park, including a play space—and we have been consulting with the community on that. During that consultation on the foreshore upgrades, one of the biggest concerns from the community was about the cleanliness of the lake. Residents want the lake to be a valuable recreational asset where they can potentially swim, go for a kayak and enjoy the lakeside.

I remember fondly my days windsurfing on Lake Tuggeranong—something that you did in the early 1990s. You do not see so many of them around these days. Part of making Lake Tuggeranong, indeed all lakes, important recreational spaces for the community is keeping lakesides and waterways amenable, safe and tidy.

Canberrans share an expectation that the grassy banks of Lake Tuggeranong are mown. We are in the midst now of the third year of the La Nina phenomenon. It is

having unprecedented impacts on our mowing program, meaning that a larger volume of grass than ever is being mown. There are more passes and more cuts being done by the fantastic mowing teams both in the ACT government and contractors. That grass is growing at a significant rate with the warmer weather and moist conditions, which has far exceeded any expectation.

Importantly, development across our city and urban infill means that more areas of our city than ever need to be mown. While we continue to grow the number of mowers supporting our program, we do face ongoing challenges with wet weather and soil saturation. Transport Canberra City Services aims to take care to ensure that the amenity around our lakes is a priority, recognising the importance of our urban lakes as recreational spaces for all Canberrans.

Mr Davis raised concerns about how grass clippings are impacting the water quality of the lake, and he has raised concerns about the levels of phosphorus entering Lake Tuggeranong. I acknowledge that those concerns are from the community. It is something that we are going to be looking at as part of the work in developing a new open space land management strategy. We are looking forward to consulting on that. It will also look at those mowing practices going forward, so that we can establish what the best practice should be in the ACT for mowing.

But it is important to highlight that grass clippings, alongside other organic material, are just one element that impacts water quality. Other significant impacts identified, including those identified by the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment in the *State of the lakes and waterways in the ACT* report include nutrient sediment, animal faeces, litter and organic matter such as leaves. The government does a lot to address the inflow of a number of these impacts and undertakes a range of different works, under successive ministers, to prevent a range of these elements entering the waterways. I acknowledge the work that continues under the Healthy Waterways program, led by Minister Rattenbury, responsible for water.

The report by the commissioner also identifies a range of issues that impact the longstanding water quality issues, particularly in Lake Tuggeranong, from the size of the lake, growing urban development around it and in its catchment and overall biodiversity. Transport Canberra and City Services will continue to do what they can to prevent concerning inflows into the lake. That includes exploring the way that grass clippings are managed, as put forward for consideration by Mr Davis in his motion.

Due diligence is done to prevent, as much as possible, clippings from government mowers entering our waterways. I understand that there was a particular notorious incident undertaken by a Suburban Land Agency mower next to the new development that is occurring in Tuggeranong. Of course, there are certainly lessons to be learnt as we continue to mow and work with some of our more inexperienced mowers, who may not be aware of some of the practices that Transport Canberra and City Services take. But operators ensure that, as much as possible, clippings do not go onto the road or footpaths or into stormwater infrastructure. I often receive photographs from people literally as the mowing is happening where there are substantial clippings on the paths. But it may be only up to a day later that they come back to try and clear away some of that material. Obviously, their focus at the moment is getting the clipping done, and that is a substantial task in the current weather conditions.

As part of the Lake Tuggeranong foreshore development, we will also be looking at what we can do further around preventing litter entering the lake—and we will be working with the sportsground teams in the Tuggeranong area, who are also working on this challenge—and, of course, looking at the stormwater infrastructure and its role in helping to improving the lake water quality.

Household organic waste is also a problem and should not be dumped in gutters. We should be mindful of waste and littering. We all need to be mindful about what is entering our waterways. There have been substantial government education campaigns about that to try and educate the community, particularly as they are undertaking their own mowing, cleaning up leaves and the like, particularly during the autumn months.

The government will support Mr Davis's motion today. We look ahead of the 2023-24 mowing program to see what changes can be made and what we can do to better address the grass clippings across our urban landscape. There is a balance to be struck. We know that we need to undertake the mowing, and that is an expectation of the community, and we need to do that in the most efficient manner possible.

We have heard from the community, through our deliberative democracy exercises like the Better Suburbs program, that TCCS should plan for surge capacity and flexibility in the mowing schedule to adapt to changes in weather patterns and seasons. We have done that by implementing the rapid response mowing team, which has been funded. It is a new 10-person team split into two parts—one is north and one is south—to, in addition to our scheduled mowing program, do reactive mowing based on community feedback and provide that surge capacity, given the current circumstances that we are in with warmer weather conditions and the La Nina wet weather that we have been seeing that has provided a perfect combination for grass growing.

We look forward to exploring and continuing to look at what other councils are doing around the country as well. But we are unique here in Canberra, and we need to take those circumstances into account as well. Of course, we have the largest amount of open space of any major city in Australia. That is a great feature of our city and something we also have to maintain and make sure that we are mowing to meet the expectations of the community. I look forward to updating the Assembly next year, and I thank Mr Davis for bringing his motion today.

**MS LAWDER** (Brindabella) (3.40): I would like to thank Mr Davis very much for bringing forth this motion today. I welcome any opportunity to discuss water quality in our lakes and waterways, and particularly so for Lake Tuggeranong.

As Mr Davis's motion notes, Lake Tuggeranong has long been plagued by poor water quality. For example, in 1994 a *Canberra Times* article relating to Lake Tuggeranong said, "Warning over algae". In 2014 we had headlines such as "Tuggeranong groups cry foul over stench coming from their lake". More recently, the 2021 Catchment Health Indicator Program, or CHIP, labelled Lake Tuggeranong's water quality as poor, marking it a D+, its worst ever result.

Water quality is a complex area. Poor water quality can be attributed to a number of different factors, and Lake Tuggeranong is no different. There are however a number of things that I believe we could do to improve the health of our lake. Whilst I agree with the intent of Mr Davis's motion today, I do believe it goes far enough. It calls on the ACT government to "consider and explore options to improve the collection of grass clippings from its mowing program to protect ACT waterways; consult on the Urban Open Space Management Plan through YourSay and publish the plan upon completion; and report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in September 2023—and I support those suggestions, absolutely.

I would like to quickly note that today I am not going to talk about mowing, per se. I know there is a lot of long grass around. But I acknowledge that there has been a lot of rain, there is a lot of wet ground and a lot of growth. I am sure it will come, but not yet. What I do what to talk about it is grass clippings and other nutrients entering our stormwater assets and waterways, which results in nutrients negatively impacting the water quality of our lakes and waterways.

On grass clippings specifically, as I think Minister Steel alluded to, back in March I raised during question time the issue of grass clippings entering our lakes and waterways. At the time, he assured me that there are procedures in place to prevent this, which led me to provide him with photos of workers mowing grass clippings which went directly into Lake Tuggeranong. During the estimates hearings in August and early September, via a question on notice, I asked what action had occurred since March, when I first asked the minister about mowing clippings entering Lake Tuggeranong. He provided me with a general response about mowing in September, about mowing practices in relation to grass clippings and the stormwater system. During the recent annual report hearings, I again asked the minister more specifically what action, if any, had occurred as a result of these photos—was there education, or training provided? What exactly had happened? This is on something that was first raised with him in March, and I had to ask again in November.

Just this week, I received a response saying that the area is managed by the Suburban Land Agency, and TCCS would have to speak to the Suburban Land Agency regarding clippings entering the waterway. So it took from my raising this issue in March until this week for it to be acknowledged it was a different area and for the minister to respond saying that "We will have to speak with them," implying that nothing had happened so far, in six months or more. If that is not the case, the minister's response to me was wrong and he should correct the record. But it appeared from the answer to the question on notice from the annual report hearings that nothing had been done since I raised this in March. So we see this type of activity occurring over and over again, damaging our lakes and waterways.

In November last year, November 2021, I moved a motion about mowing in our city. Amongst other things, this motion in November 2021 called on the Labor-Greens government to investigate how to better prevent grass clippings from entering stormwater drains and waterways. Clearly, given the length of time and obviously no action on this motion from a year ago, Mr Davis has felt the need to raise a similar issue once again a year later. Unsurprisingly, my motion of a year ago was rewritten

by the minister, and the Assembly resolved to continually update and modify standard operating procedures to minimise grass clippings from entering stormwater drains and waterways.

We need to adopt a water quality improvement strategy to address reducing pollutants based around treating the actual polluted flows rather than just building assets in convenient locations. Clearly, the government has not done a great job in this regard, given my questioning in March and Mr Davis's motion today. We could say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. So thanks, Mr Davis, for resurrecting my motion from November last year. I do find it a little strange, as Mr Davis is a member of the government that is not doing what the motion called on them to do a year ago and that seems to have failed to take much action, if any, in this area. That is particularly disappointing when you acknowledge the role of environmental volunteers, who are always working to improve the water quality in our lakes and to undertake water quality monitoring, such as through Waterwatch.

We have other initiatives, partly funded by the government or perhaps even wholly funded by the government, such as the Leaf Collective, which this motion acknowledges that the government has supported. Yet the government appear to fail to change their own maintenance practices that negatively impact our waterways and directly counter the work of organisations like the Leaf Collective.

I have said this before and I will say it again: I do not believe it is good enough to go around announcing new water quality infrastructure assets, with much fanfare and pats on the back and with lots of government members attending, at the same time that other areas of government are having a directly negative impact on the health of our lakes and waterways. We can have great photo opportunities announcing new infrastructure assets and, just a couple of kilometres down the road, a mower spreading its clippings directly into Lake Tuggeranong.

In addition, our water quality treatment needs to be designed for rain events, not just base flow. Rain events contribute in the order of five times the annual load of pollutants compared to base flows. That is why it is important to maintain the assets that we build. I have mentioned this over the years to relevant ministers, and in the recent annual report hearings I raised with Minister Rattenbury that the floating wetlands were once again damaged and spreading debris throughout the lake, and I wanted to ask questions about the maintenance of water quality assets such as this. Minister Rattenbury at the time told me that the responsibility for the maintenance of these wetlands fell under Minister Steel. So at a later hearing I raised it with Minister Steel, who appeared to be very confused and felt that this was not his responsibility.

So no-one can tell us who is responsible for maintaining these water quality assets, such as floating wetlands. It is claimed that they are improving the water quality, but they are falling apart. If you had been down that end of the lake recently you would have seen that they have broken apart. Some have come loose of their moorings. Some parts of them have turned upside down so that the plants, whose roots were meant to be under the water helping to remove nutrients, were now underwater, contributing to the problem.

Unfortunately, when I raised this a few weeks ago, no-one was interested. No-one thought it was their responsibility—and they are still there, falling apart. They have these big foam buoys—I think they might be called—on the corner of each of the wetland. Some of them have come off and are breaking up and are floating around the lake in bits and pieces.

So the things that are meant to be improving our lake are actually making it worse, because no-one cares about the maintenance. All they care about is the launch of them, the announcements and the photo opportunity, not making sure they are working as designed and not making sure they are maintained. It is appalling. And now we are announcing more and more of these things without any proof that the existing ones are working and without maintaining the existing ones. It is a damning pattern from this government of failing to maintain our water quality assets.

I seek leave to move together the amendments circulated in my name.

Leave granted.

**MS LAWDER:** I move:

(1) Omit paragraphs (2)(a) to (2)(f), substitute:

- “(a) the issue of grass clippings entering our lakes and waterways has been raised on a number of occasions to the relevant Minister and there has been no evidence of any action being taken as a result;
- (b) the Labor Greens Government has invested in a number of water quality assets without supporting evidence that these assets are improving the health of our lakes and waterways;
- (c) the Labor Greens Government fails to maintain their water assets, as evidenced by the current decaying floating wetlands spreading debris through Lake Tuggeranong;
- (d) the Labor Greens Government fails to measure the impacts of their water assets to see if any improvements have occurred as a result of their installation;
- (e) since 2014-15, the Labor Greens Government has failed to publish a comprehensive annual water quality report despite numerous recommendations for them to do so;
- (f) the Labor Greens Government has failed to implement clear, realistic water quality targets to measure the results of their water quality efforts; and”

(2) Omit all text after paragraph (3)(a), substitute:

- “(b) introduce clear, realistic water quality targets to measure the results of their water quality efforts;
- (c) introduce and publish the maintenance schedule of water quality assets to ensure they are properly maintained;
- (d) commit to publish a comprehensive annual water quality report;
- (e) consult on the Urban Open Space Management Plan through; YourSay, and publish the plan upon completion; and



- (f) report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in September 2023, in line with the commencement of the 2023-24 mowing program.”.

My amendments today call on the government to introduce and publish a maintenance schedule of water quality assets to ensure they are properly maintained. We have seen on previous occasions that they are not. We saw the experiment from the University of Canberra fall apart and spread debris throughout the lake; we saw the wetlands when they were first launched come loose of their moorings in the first rain event and float about the lake; and now we are seeing the wetlands breaking apart and spreading more debris throughout the lake.

My amendments also call on government to introduce clear, realistic water quality targets to measure the results of their water quality efforts. Last time I asked someone, “How do you know these water quality infrastructure assets are working?” the answer I got back from the minister was to look at the most recent Catchment Health Indicator Program report. Of course, as I have already said, it was that same report that gave Lake Tuggeranong its worst ever score. So this is the government admitting that the things they have done for Lake Tuggeranong have not worked. We have spent in the order of \$36 million over nearly 10 years around Lake Tuggeranong, leading to Lake Tuggeranong and in Lake Tuggeranong, but it is not working.

Finally, my amendments call on the government to commit to publish a comprehensive annual water quality report. We have been called on by other people and other organisations, not just me but also environmental experts, including the Commissioner for Environment and Sustainability. The Labor-Greens government has continually ignored these calls despite claiming to care about water quality in our lakes and waterways.

So my amendments to this motion strengthen the “calls-on” section of the motion and I hope they are reflective of Mr Davis’s motivation in bringing forth this motion for today. If he truly and genuinely believes the water quality should be improved in Lake Tuggeranong, he will see that these amendments place a greater call on the government to take action rather than further posturing. If Labor and the Greens are serious about improving the health of our lakes and waterways, they should have no problem in supporting my amendments today.

Lake Tuggeranong should be the jewel in the crown for Tuggeranong residents. It is important to improve the foreshore but, while the smell is there during many periods of the summer time especially, an improved foreshore will not necessarily help people who want to go down and enjoy the amenity around the lake or on the lake, or the residents nearby.

I would like to thank Mr Davis. This is an important motion, and I agree absolutely with the premise of his motion, which is about improving mowing practices, which should lead to an improvement in water quality in our lakes and waterways, including Lake Tuggeranong. It is a good start, but I feel it should be stronger. As evidenced by the lack of action and progress on my motion about mowing a year ago, I would like to see this motion result in something a bit stronger, a bit more concrete, a bit more meaningful, and I commend my amendments to the Assembly.

**MRS KIKKERT** (Ginninderra) (3.54): I thank Mr Davis for moving this motion and Ms Lawder for circulating her important amendments, which I support. I realise that the primary focus of this motion is Lake Tuggeranong, but I rise today, as a member for Ginninderra, to point out that mowing and water quality are also issues in my electorate.

The ACT government has an education program called H2OK. The slogan for this program, which appears on signage around Canberra, is “Only rain down the stormwater drain”. This plea, however, is a clear instance of this Labor-Greens government once again telling residents to “do what we say, not what we do”. The H2OK website claims that in, order to keep our waterways healthy, it is essential to keep grass clippings out of stormwater drains.

I invite each member of this Assembly to visit Ginninderra Drive after we adjourn later today. The knee-high grass on the median strip has finally been mowed and the gutters are literally filled with clippings. Piles of this grass can be seen working their way down the many dozens of stormwater drains that line the road. With this daily visible reminder, why would anyone in my electorate take the government’s slogan seriously? This problem is far bigger than the current very visible mess in Ginninderra Drive, with grass clippings from government mowing allowed to enter the stormwater system right across the area.

There are currently 17,972 stormwater inlets in my electorate, many of which drain into Ginninderra Creek and/or Lake Ginninderra. Every bit of mown grass that enters this network needlessly adds nutrients that contribute to worsening water quality. The ACT government is almost certainly the worst culprit by volume. Despite this shameless neglect, we in the Belconnen area have been reasonably lucky so far. As University of Canberra Professor in Water Science Dr Fiona Dyer noted on Monday of this week, Lake Ginninderra previously had the best water quality of all the lakes in Canberra, but this could easily change. I quote Dr Dyer’s dire warning:

For me, Ginninderra’s the worry ... Everybody has had their eyes on Lake Tuggeranong and Lake Burley Griffin, but haven’t really kept an eye on what’s going on in Ginninderra.

The warning signs are already discernible. However, with more high concentrations of blue-green algae recorded in Lake Ginninderra over the past five years than in any previous five-year period, Dr Dyer’s recommendation is straightforward:

We’ve got to stop nutrients getting into our waterways and flowing into our lakes.

As Ms Lawder’s amendment makes clear, it is time for this Labor-Greens government to finally walk the talk. I commend the amendment to the Assembly.

**MR RATTENBURY** (Kurrajong—Attorney-General, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Gaming and Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction) (3.58): I rise to speak in support of Mr Davis’s motion. I welcome him bringing it forward because it is important that we take the opportunity to discuss how we improve the water quality in Lake Tuggeranong, and particularly deal with some of the specific concerns that he has raised around grass clippings.

As Mr Davis rightly notes, the research that the ACT government has been doing clearly shows that nutrients in the lake come from many sources, and one of the key things is to try and address those nutrient sources as far up the catchment as possible. Dealing with grass clippings is one part of that, and the point that he has raised around trying to think through how we manage our mowing practices to minimise the inflow of nutrients is an important one.

I thought I would speak about how the ACT government's investment in ACT Healthy Waterways is improving water quality and how the new Office for Water will assist in coordinating a holistic approach to water management. I have spoken in this place about the Office for Water a number of times. It has now been established. It was created to address the lack of a holistic approach to water management.

Many areas of government operations relate to water and catchment management and these areas historically have worked without that centralised, coordinated approach. Whilst I think they have worked very diligently, the government has clearly identified—and this is why we took this policy to the election—that there is room for improvement in that space. I think we can make sure that the significant effort being put in by a range of agencies is more impactful through the process of better coordination. The new office will be a central coordination point that will help to ensure that water quality outcomes are considered across government operations, policies and programs. This will include looking at improvements that can be made to mowing practices.

The Healthy Waterways program has been spoken about quite a bit today. It seeks to deliver infrastructure such as constructed wetlands, rain gardens and swales, as well as public education on protecting and improving water quality. This program is an important part of our work to make incremental improvements in stormwater quality right across Canberra, and with a particular focus on the Lake Tuggeranong catchment.

As I have been quite frank in acknowledging, we all know that Lake Tuggeranong has really struggled in recent times. That is why it has been a significant focus of the government's efforts under this program. The incidence of algal blooms is high in Lake Tuggeranong, and in some of our other urban lakes and ponds, and that is not a simple matter to solve. These problems have been developing since the lake and surrounding development have been in place. It will take time to address these problems where they are most acute.

We also need to undertake the due diligence and investigations to ensure that future investments are going to solve problems and be cost-effective. That is why the Healthy Waterways program is not just about water quality assets. I think the way Ms Lawder spoke about some of those assets was unfortunate. The program is not just about assets. It has actually been about research and community engagement and community education because we know that a range of solutions are required, and we know that the knowledge and the understanding of how to make those improvements

is not perfect. That is why we continue to undertake further research and we have the research partnership with the University of Canberra in particular.

In 2023 the Healthy Waterways program will begin engaging with the community to create catchment plans for managing water quality in our three major lakes and Yerrabi Pond. The catchment plans to be produced under the ACT government's recent investment in Healthy Waterways will spell out how our water quality goals and targets will be met by a wide range of interventions. These include a program of newly constructed wetlands, ponds, rain gardens, re-naturalised drains and other natural features that clean stormwater.

In the past few years we have been trialling several new wetland designs, and we are continuing this work, with a focus on preventing stormwater from getting polluted in the first place. It is likely to be much more cost-effective to prevent pollution, rather than trying to filter it out of the stormwater once it has reached the large drains, especially in storms, when we know that the majority of nutrients in pollution are conveyed to our lakes. Because of the high volume of water in those storms it is much more difficult to control that flow of pollution at that point in time.

Landcare practices in urban green space will also be reviewed to see if there are more small-scale actions we can take to slow down run-off and allow it to infiltrate into soils, where it gets naturally cleansed. We will also conduct public education campaigns and cross-directorate discussions aimed at decreasing the amount of leaf litter, grass clippings and fertilisers that makes its way into drains. Other work will focus on policy settings, water sensitive urban design codes and compliance, and the challenges of operating and maintaining constructed wetlands. A defining feature of the solutions presented in catchment plans is that they will be evidence based. I want to emphasise that our urban catchments are complex systems and there are no simple solutions to our water quality problems.

As I have detailed, water quality goals will be achieved through many measures in combination. These are things like the constructed wetlands from upper to lower catchments, education campaigns engaging with the community, businesses and other parts of government, in-lake management measures, and adjustments to policies, regulations and codes relating water quality. The complex functioning of urban catchments and the multifaceted nature of water quality problems and solutions makes it challenging to predict how catchments will respond to various measures to improve water quality. Water quality models will be used to evaluate the costs and benefits of alternative competing solutions.

An understanding of the performance of alternative solutions will allow the government to engage with the community and settle on the solution best suited to achieving a catchment goal or target. The defining features of the current Healthy Waterways program are making incremental improvements in water quality, identifying tangible and meaningful goals for investments to improve water quality and formulating evidence-based solutions to water quality problems in our waterways.

In terms of Mr Davis's motion, whilst he has very specifically focused on known practices, I make some of these comments to highlight the fact that there are a range of things we need to do. The government is very focused on this. We have been frank about the challenges we face, but I think we can also be really clear that this is not saying it has been neglected. This is a problem that is being actively addressed, both with resources and with considerable human effort to seek to turn around the situation in Lake Tuggeranong which has been building up since the lake was established. It will take time to turn it around. I am very pleased to support Mr Davis's motion today.

I can say that I do not intend to support the amendment moved by Ms Lawder. I note the comments she made during the debate. I think they were unduly derisory of the work that is being done. She talked about the experiments and then listed a series of her complaints on the outcomes of those experiments. I am a great believer that one should be willing to try things. You obviously think about it first and you research it. These are well-researched responses to the problems we are facing. The sort of commentary that Ms Lawder makes suggests that we should not actually try anything. Her comments were, "Well, this is broken. This isn't working properly." Of course, that is part of the learning and experimentation process.

I can assure both Ms Lawder and the rest of the chamber that the water team is working very hard to make sure these programs are effective. There have been adjustments to some of the wetlands because they have not performed as expected or the scale of the water flowing through them has actually damaged them on occasion. There have been a range of repairs, and that work will continue as we seek to work on those experiments—and they are experiments. Lessons are being learned as we go. The only alternative option to avoid this critique is to do nothing, and that is not an option that I am willing to accept. We have to work hard to fix these lakes and waterways.

In terms of the general comments that she made, and that are contained in the amendment, about not having an evidence base and not monitoring this, I have answered questions on those matters before. We have provided significant information to Ms Lawder through questions on notice that she has asked. The team has spent a lot of time working on those answers to make sure that Ms Lawder is well briefed. We have been very transparent with the information we do have, so I reject the premise of the amendment. It does not reflect the significant work that is being done and the quality control that we are seeking to apply to that work. I am happy to acknowledge that some things are not working as they intended and that there are lessons being learned. As I said, I can assure the Assembly that we will continue to learn from those issues and work as hard as we can to improve the water quality of our urban lakes and waterways.

**MR DAVIS** (Brindabella) (4.08): I would like to thank all speakers today—Minister Rattenbury, Minister Steel, Ms Lawder and Mrs Kikkert—for their contributions.

I was struck by one figure that Ms Lawder remarked on in her speech, about a newspaper article in 1994 commenting about blue-green algae in the lake. I have to admit to the chamber that that broke my heart a little bit because I said to myself upon

my—as some might observe, almost accidental—election: “If I only get four years in this place, I am going to fix Lake Tuggeranong. I am going to get it sorted. I am going to bark enough and yell enough and complain enough and write enough emails and I am going to get it sorted.” As Ms Lawder rightly pointed out, it has been since 1994 that we have been dealing with this issue in Lake Tuggeranong, so perhaps I need a few terms.

I am really pleased that this debate has reflected well in the Assembly. It has been one of our better debates, albeit that there has been a little bit of political hyperbole. I think for the most part it has been a really considered conversation about something that we all identify as a problem. We all want to get down to the bottom of it and get a solution.

Speaking to Ms Lawder’s amendments and how they relate to my original motion, I do want to, for the record and for anyone listening at home—but do you reckon that is a regular thing, Minister Steel? Do you reckon people are listening at home? I hope they are—and for those following the debate, be very specific about exactly what it is that I am calling on the government to do. I am calling on them to consider and explore options to improve the collection of grass clippings in the mowing program. I have listed some options that they could include: a trial of a dedicated street-sweeping program; more training for our government mowing technicians; or trialling a post-mowing program to collect grass clippings and other organic matters. It might not necessarily be any of those things; it might be all of those things. I genuinely remain quite open-minded.

Point (b) here is really important, where I have asked the government to consult openly on the urban open space management plan through YourSay and, most importantly, publish that plan upon completion. I will be encouraging my constituents, as I trust Mr Parton and Ms Lawder will, to participate really earnestly in that consultation process and make sure that the perspectives of our constituents are really taken on board during that. Publishing the results afterwards, as a rule, really honours the time and effort that constituents have made to engage in those consultation processes, so I think that is really important.

But point (c) is the one that I really want to underline, where I have asked the government to report back to the Assembly by the last sitting day in September 2023. I want to put on the record now that if none of the aforementioned happens between now and September 2023, Ms Lawder and I might have an awful lot to agree on in that time. But right now I would like to remain open-minded and I would like to remain optimistic about the result of this motion.

I mean that I hope the government will go away and, quite deliberately, firstly, acknowledge that there is a problem and, secondly, sit down over tea and bikkies and reflect really earnestly about some of the different things that we can do to make it better. I hope that they take on board the feedback from our constituents who participate in the urban open space management plan consultation, and then report back on the accumulation of that work by September 2023. I think that is a very orderly and considered way to do business.

When I reflect on Ms Lawder's contribution to the debate—that we have been discussing Lake Tuggeranong and the blue-green algae bloom since 1994—that puts into perspective my impatience and makes me realise that getting something done by September of next year, relative to the length of conversation we have been having around Lake Tuggeranong, is actually getting things happening quickly indeed. I am enthusiastic to see that work.

In the meantime, it would be absolutely remiss of me to speak on the question of Lake Tuggeranong without thanking generously—no doubt on behalf of the entire Assembly but from me, personally, as a local member—the groups and individuals who work so hard to clean Lake Tuggeranong. I also acknowledge the emotional and mental energy it takes to be an advocate and an ally of Lake Tuggeranong publicly and consistently over a long period of time.

I am talking about groups like the Tuggeranong Lake and Catchment Carers group, the Tuggeranong Community Council, the Southern ACT Catchment Group and, of course, Waterwatch, which Ms Lawder mentioned earlier. These are really important, and I hope are seen as partners to government, because we are all singing from the same song sheet here. I hope we all want the same thing, and that is a crystal clear lake. If we get the water quality sorted out soon enough and we are not making the problem worse with our mowing program, maybe, just maybe, we can get Minister Steel back on a windsurfer. I would be interested to give it a crack. Minister Steel might have a couple of years on me, but I would be keen to go windsurfing on Lake Tuggeranong. I think other people would be keen, too. That is a fun thing to look forward to.

We will not be supporting Ms Lawder's amendments. Unfortunately, the bulk of them are quite political and partisan in nature. I have tried quite hard and quite earnestly to get a consensus motion where we can all agree on some of the work that is required. I am pleased that the minister and the government, more broadly, have been so open-minded to considering it and supporting it today. I look forward to coming back in September 2023 with fellow members for Brindabella and debating this issue once again. I hope that at that time we can reflect on some really positive work undertaken by the government to complement the Healthy Waterways initiative and the Healthy Waterways investments.

I am incredibly proud to represent a political party and to have run on an election platform that really put water quality, and Lake Tuggeranong in particular, on our agenda. I can tell you that, two years ago, standing at the stops throughout Tuggeranong, this was a very big deal to my constituents. I am very invested to make sure that the work of Mr Rattenbury is aided and abetted by all other parts of government. I look forward to continuing this debate in September 2023 when we have the report back.

Question put:

That the amendments be agreed to.

The Assembly voted—

Ayes 8

Mr Cain  
Ms Castley  
Mr Cocks  
Mr Hanson  
Mrs Kikkert  
Ms Lawder  
Ms Milligan  
Mr Parton

Noes 15

Mr Barr	Mr Gentleman
Ms Berry	Dr Paterson
Mr Braddock	Mr Pettersson
Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Cheyne	Mr Steel
Ms Clay	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Davidson	Ms Vassarotti
Mr Davis	

Question resolved in the negative.

Original question resolved in the affirmative.

## Light rail—stage 2

**MR PARTON** (Brindabella) (4.18): I move:

That this Assembly:

(1) notes the ACT Government has:

- (a) already committed to building Stage 2 of the tram to Woden and has already begun associated works;
- (b) not yet made public an estimate of how much the Stage 2 tram project will cost and has not made public an estimate of when the tram will arrive in Woden; and
- (c) not produced a business case for Stage 2 of the tram to Woden but will build the tram regardless of what the business case states;

(2) further recognises:

- (a) building the tram to Woden has already commenced where the component of raising London Circuit will cost \$60 million, with an estimated completion time of July 2024;
- (b) more than 675 car parks have been removed from Civic as part of the commencement of work associated with building the tram to Woden, but no cost of the tram nor end date has been shared with the public; and
- (c) Light Rail Stage 1 had a cost estimate, a time of completion and a business case completed long before the first works started; and

(3) calls on the ACT Government to make a public statement providing an estimate:

- (a) of which decade, which year and which quarter will the first tram arrive in Woden, by the final sitting day in March 2023;
- (b) to the nearest \$100 million of how much the tram to Woden will cost, by the final sitting day in March 2023; and
- (c) of when the business case will be made public, by the final sitting day in March 2023.



I want to start by saying that this is not an anti-tram motion.

*Mr Steel interjecting—*

**MR PARTON:** The minister can laugh all he likes. If the minister believes that someone calling for the cost of a project is anti the project, I would say that he has no faith in that project. This is not an anti-tram motion. It has been portrayed in some circles as an anti-tram motion; it is not. We are debating the largest single infrastructure program in the history of self-government. If it is somehow deemed that it is not acceptable for elected members of this place to ask questions about exactly how \$3 billion of taxpayers' money is being spent, I would say that there is something terribly wrong.

I would note, straight off the bat, that the "calls on" in this motion actually mirror similar requests made publicly by Greens members in this place, in hearings and in public forums. This motion is not anti-light rail; it just calls for clarity on the way that our money is being spent. If that is not something which is acceptable in here, I would think that that in itself is unacceptable.

We are elected to this place to serve the people of our electorate. First and foremost, that is why we are here. We are here to represent those people, to ask questions on their behalf and to bring about outcomes for those people. I have knocked on a lot of doors during this term, and I have fielded so many questions about the tram project. Two of the questions that I get the most are: "Do you know when the tram is getting to Woden?" and "How much will it cost for the tram to get to Woden?" They are not my questions; they are questions that come from the people of Brindabella. I respond by saying, "I really don't know." "Why don't you know? You're the transport spokesperson." I say, "I ask; I ask all the time, but they just won't tell me."

Today I stand here on behalf of the many hundreds of constituents who have asked me to hold the government to account and to find out the answer to those two key questions: what is it going to cost to get the tram to Woden, and when will it get there? Mr Steel will go on a rant, as Mr Steel does. He will suggest that somehow this is a far-right blitzkrieg. He will carry on about conservative forces. He will talk about Alistair Coe. I think he misses Alistair, as we all do, and he will do whatever he can to keep his cards concealed, as close to his chest as possible. When it comes to the cost and delivery of this project, he will create diversions, he will find excuses and he will just keep running the other way.

I say to the minister: you can keep on running, but you cannot hide from this one. For every rates notice that arrives in every suburban letterbox, for every pothole that anyone drives over, for every police matter that is not warranted to be important enough to result in police attendance, for every surgery that is delayed, for every road project that is cancelled, with the money diverted to the tram, for every asset that is sold, with the proceeds going to the tram, for every bridge that sits unfixed for three years, and for every unliveable public housing dwelling, whenever any of these matters impact on anyone, they will look to this government, and they will look at the biggest single pork-barrelling, red, shiny thing in the history of this town. They will want to know, "How much?"

Let's be honest about it: the announcement of stage 2 to Woden was sandbagging Murrumbidgee. Let's be honest about it. I have spoken to people who were on that team who were extremely surprised when the announcement was made because they were of the belief that it was probably going to Belconnen. We all know that that announcement was made to sandbag Murrumbidgee. What I am saying is: don't come in here and talk about pork-barrelling. When and where? They are very fair questions. We are also calling for a cost estimate of the entire project and a public statement about when the business case will be made public; that is all. That is all we are asking for: how much is it going to cost, who benefits and when is it going to be finished? I think they are fair questions.

Over here, on the adult side of the chamber, we have estimated the cost and the delivery date of the project. We base this on the information that the government has provided—which is quite sparse, it must be said. We have run that information past transport engineers and other experts in the field. With the help of outside experts, we have arrived at a figure of \$3.042 billion for the entire project, stage 2 to Woden, with a completion date of 2034.

I put these figures to the minister publicly. He has not corrected them. I, together with most Canberrans, can only assume that those figures are correct. This motion simply calls upon the minister to confirm those figures, deny them or correct them. He can do it here, right now, because he would know the numbers. Again, let us be brutally honest about this: there is no possible way that the government are lurching forward with this project without some idea as to when it will be delivered and what the cost will be. Indeed, if that is the case, you have to question how they are running the place. We just want to know what it will cost and when it will be delivered.

**MR STEEL** (Murrumbidgee—Minister for Skills, Minister for Transport and City Services and Special Minister of State) (4.25): The ACT government is delivering on the election commitment to build a better public transport system, with work already underway on building stage 2A to Commonwealth Park, starting with the raising of London Circuit.

The ACT is the fastest growing jurisdiction in Australia, according to the 2021 census. With more people living and working in Canberra, it is vital that the government finds new ways to efficiently move our larger population around quickly, easily and sustainably, avoiding the same problems of congestion that other cities face. An integrated public transport network is key to delivering on our vision for a connected, sustainable and vibrant city. That is why the ACT government is making a long-term, future-focused investment in our city and building Canberra's first mass transit system in light rail.

Stage 1 of light rail has already been built, and it has exceeded expectations. Light rail stage 1 from the city to Gungahlin has increased patronage on public transport and supported significant urban regeneration along the corridor. The frequent, comfortable and reliable services provided by stage 1 of light rail have been embraced by Canberrans on the north side. We want to extend those same benefits to the residents of the south side.

The government's vision to extend the light rail line to the south side to create a mass transit spine from Gungahlin to Woden is a significant one. It will mean that all Canberrans can travel to key destinations, including employment centres, north to south along the line in a single trip. The line will be integrated with rapid and route bus services. In the future, additional light rail lines are planned to other town centres and destinations.

The first critical stage of extending the mass transit line south is bringing light rail to Commonwealth Park. Construction on stage 2A of light rail has already begun, with works to raise London Circuit. This will provide a more people-friendly interchange for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport. The project will also improve connections between the city and the lake, with accessible footpaths, dedicated cycle lanes and a more vibrant and useable public space for all Canberrans to enjoy. The stage 2A extension will provide stops at key destinations in city west, city south and Commonwealth Park, running wire free.

There will be some disruption during this period of construction. We have been clear about that and up-front with the community. The building of major infrastructure projects is always disruptive, but, once complete, it will provide long-term benefits to the city. The ACT government has been undertaking extensive preparation and planning. We have put in place a range of measures to manage the impact of expected traffic congestion while construction takes place. We will also be asking Canberrans to rethink their routine during the construction period and to keep up to date on the latest information at [builtforcbr.act.gov.au](http://builtforcbr.act.gov.au).

I will be seeking to amend Mr Parton's motion today to note a range of things. The ACT government is committed to the delivery of light rail to Woden. That is very clear. My amendment notes that the government is progressing the delivery of light rail to Woden and that it has already achieved significant milestones, including releasing the stage 2A business case in August 2019. The Libs refuse to admit that this was the case. We have published the net present value figures associated with that business case as well. Again, they refuse to admit that. We submitted the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act referral in December 2019, which was then released for public exhibition in August 2020 and received approval in February 2021.

We obtained a federal government commitment to contribute a combined total of \$218.4 million of funding for light rail stage 2A in February 2021 and October 2022. We progressed the delivery of the raising of London Circuit by signing an early works contract in June 2021, receiving works approval in March 2022 and signing the main works contract in July 2022, which we have released. We signed the contract in July 2022 for five new light rail vehicles, retrofitting batteries on the existing fleet, which includes the existing fleet that will be used for stage 2B, and expanding the light rail depot to enable wire-free operations on light rail stage 2. We commenced the construction of the raising of London Circuit in October this year.

The government will continue to progress the delivery of light rail to Woden. I can provide an update on some of those milestones. We will lodge a works approval and development application for light rail stage 2A in December this year, with the aim of

receiving approvals in around quarter 2 of 2023. We will undertake contract negotiations for the delivery of the stage 2A main works contract while obtaining works approvals, which is expected to be received in around quarter 2 of 2023. Construction of the depot expansion will commence in 2023. The first new light rail vehicles are expected to arrive in 2024, with the retrofitting of the existing fleet commencing shortly thereafter, as it requires the new, additional ones to arrive to allow that to happen.

The specific delivery time frame for light rail stage 2A commencing operations is subject to receiving works approval from the National Capital Authority, a third party, and signing a contract with the ACT government's delivery partner and the finalisation of an agreed construction program. Once the National Capital Authority has issued works approval for light rail stage 2A, the government will then shift its focus, with our technical design partners, to progressing light rail stage 2B to deliver light rail to Woden, which will include the planning, design and development and subsequent publication of a business case for stage 2B, which will go into how we will implement our commitment to bring light rail to Woden.

In the future we will undertake contract negotiations for the delivery of light rail stage 2A, in 2023. We will publish estimated costs for stage 2A and 2B once contracts are signed and procurement is finalised, to ensure that the territory is in the best position to achieve value for money. The opposition does not care about that, but we do, through our procurement program. We do not want the contract parties that we are negotiating with through the procurement process to know what we are prepared to pay for it ahead of time. It is simple infrastructure 101 that the opposition simply does not understand. All of the major stakeholders—Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, the MBA—are on our side on that one.

We will continue to release business cases and contracts for future stages of light rail, just as we have done with the other stages. We will commit to continuing to adequately resource Major Projects Canberra and other directorates to ensure that they continue to have appropriate capacity to deliver the infrastructure like light rail stage 2B, as we continue to progress with our vision of extending light rail to Woden.

Our government and the Labor Party recognise the benefits of extending light rail to Woden. We have published those benefits in the business cases. We understand the transport benefits, the wider economic benefits and the city-shaping benefits that light rail brings to our city. We have seen those benefits realised on stage 1, and they continue to be realised, with further city shaping still to come and future patronage growth on that route.

We commit to delivering light rail to Woden, and we are committed to realising our vision of a city-wide light rail network. Those opposite do not support that vision. This week it has become crystal clear that the Liberals do not support delivering light rail to Woden. They do not think that Canberrans living south of the lake deserve the same high-quality, frequent and reliable services that the ACT government have already delivered to north siders. They broke their election promise to the people of the south side this week. It is a betrayal of the south side.

The Liberals have asked for a time line on light rail, which I have provided, and will do through the amendment that I will be moving shortly. But it is clear that, under a Liberal government, they would never have built light rail stage 1 from the city to Gungahlin and, despite what they promised at the election, they will never build light rail stage 2 to Woden—ever.

The ACT government has been making, and will continue to make, long-term, future-focused investment in our city. By comparison, the Canberra Liberals are too hung up on their same old conservative campaigns, ripped out of Zed Seselja's playbook. The Canberra Liberals were supposed to be different under the new opposition leader, but, sadly, things remain the same. They are opposed to light rail and without a vision for our city's future. The Canberra Liberals do not support light rail and they never will. I move the following amendment to the motion that has been circulated in my name:

Omit all text after "That this Assembly", substitute:

(1) notes:

- (a) the ACT Government is committed to the delivery of light rail to Woden;
- (b) the cost and timeframe for constructing light rail to Woden is subject to various federal government approvals, and that publication of estimates would detrimentally impact commercial negotiations;
- (c) the ACT Government has committed to constructing the first segment of light rail between the City and Commonwealth Park (LRS2a), while obtaining Federal approvals to construct the remaining segment of light rail from Commonwealth Park to Woden (LRS2b); and
- (d) around 665 of the city's approximately 14,780 public parking spaces will be changed or removed as part of Raising London Circuit (RLC);

(2) notes the ACT Government is progressing delivery of light rail to Woden and has already achieved the following milestones:

- (a) released the LRS2a business case in August 2019;
- (b) submitted an EPBC Referral in December 2019, which was then released for public exhibition in August 2020, and received approval in February 2021;
- (c) obtained Federal Government commitment to contribute a combined total of \$218.4 million funding for LRS2a in February 2021 and October 2022;
- (d) progressed delivery of RLC by signing an Early Utility Works contract in June 2021, receiving Works Approval in March 2022 and signing a Main Works Contract in July 2022;
- (e) signed a contract in July 2022 for five new light rail vehicles, retrofitting batteries on the existing fleet, and expanding the light rail depot, to enable wire-free operations on light rail stage 2; and
- (f) commenced construction of RLC in October 2022;

(3) notes the ACT Government will continue to progress delivery of light rail to Woden with the following current estimates of project milestones:

- (a) lodge Works Approval and Development Application for LRS2a in December 2022, with the aim to receive approvals around Q2, 2023;
  - (b) undertake contract negotiations for delivery of LRS2a Main Works while obtaining Works Approvals, which is expected to be received around Q2, 2023;
  - (c) construction of the depot expansion will commence in 2023;
  - (d) the first new LRV is expected to arrive in 2024, with retrofitting of the existing fleet commencing shortly thereafter;
  - (e) the specific delivery timeframe for LRS2a commencing operations is subject to receiving Works Approval from the National Capital Authority, signing a contract with the ACT Government's delivery partner, and finalising an agreed construction program; and
  - (f) once the National Capital Authority has issued Works Approvals for LRS2a, the ACT Government will shift its focus to progressing Light Rail Stage 2b to deliver light rail to Woden which will include planning, design, and development and subsequent publication of a Business Case;
- (4) calls on the ACT Government to:
- (a) undertake contract negotiations for delivery of LRS2a in 2023;
  - (b) publish estimated costs for Stage 2A and 2B once contracts are signed and the procurement is finalised to ensure the Territory is in the best position to achieve value for money;
  - (c) continue to release Business Cases and Contracts for future stages of Light Rail; and
  - (d) commit to continuing to adequately resource Major Projects Canberra and other Directorates to ensure they have appropriate capacity to deliver infrastructure, such as Light Rail Stage 2B, in a timely manner; and
- (5) calls on all parties to publicly:
- (a) recognise the benefits of extending light rail to Woden;
  - (b) commit to delivering light rail to Woden; and
  - (c) commit to realising the vision of a city wide light rail network.”.

**MS CLAY** (Ginninderra) (4.35): I rise to speak about Mr Parton's motion on light rail stage 2 and the amendments circulated by Minister Steel. I would like to thank Mr Parton for his interest in the delivery of light rail stage 2. We Greens are also very interested in the delivery of light rail stage 2 and in the delivery of our whole city-wide light rail network.

We need this built as soon as possible. With over 60 per cent of tracked emissions coming from transport, this is an essential project to address our climate crisis. It is also essential to deal with Canberra's congestion, which is growing at a rate three times faster than any other mainland Australian city. It is essential if we want Canberra to remain liveable and accessible for everyone. It was also part of Canberra's original plan, so we were running pretty late on this from the outset.

We need to build our city-wide light rail, and we need to do it as quickly as possible. I have been getting regular updates on the milestones in this project. I encourage the opposition to work with the ACT government a bit better to try and understand how a major project like this is running. I have also been asking transparency questions on the public record, because, like Mr Parton, I hear transparency questions from my constituents quite often, and I find myself having a lot of thoughtful, detailed conversations about how commercial negotiations are run and when information can and should be released.

In the 2022-23 ACT budget estimates hearings on 25 August, I asked the minister when light rail stage 2A will have a signed contract. Minister Steel said that there is procurement underway for the stage 2A works component but that work will not start until after we have raised London Circuit. He said that in around December we would see a works approval application made to the NCA for stage 2A, and we have just now heard that restated. We are getting updates, if members are listening.

I have asked several more questions about stages and about the release of information since I came into office. I asked questions in October about planning for our future light rail network. I asked whether future indicative alignments identified by the refresh would include identification of enabling projects. That is really important; that lets us start planning future stages while we are building 2A and 2B. I was really pleased to hear that the answer to that was an unambiguous yes.

I am also pleased to see Minister Steel's amendments, which set out really clearly all the stages that have been completed, what information has been released, and what is coming up next. The ACT government has released the stage 1 and stage 2A business cases. The ACT government has submitted the EPBC referral and obtained federal government funding commitments. The ACT government has signed the contracts for the early utility works for 2A.

The ACT government has signed contracts for five new light rail vehicles, retrofitting for the batteries on existing vehicles, and an upgraded rail depot to enable wire-free operation for stage 2. They have also commenced construction of raising London Circuit. Next up, the ACT government will lodge works approval and the DA for stage 2A, negotiate contracts for the main works, expand the depot and finish retrofitting the fleet. They cannot say exactly when the NCA will issue works approvals for 2A, but it does look as if the early legwork has been done.

I have sought transparency at every stage, but I do not insist on a full release of commercial figures during commercial negotiations. Releasing these numbers now will undermine those negotiations, which is a point that has been made so many times in here before. I understand this; I have negotiated a lot of contracts. When you are negotiating a contract, you do not state what your upper limit is—you do not state what your total budget is—because if you do that, that is what you will pay. I think anybody who has negotiated a contract understands this. When I explain to Canberrans what information gets released, and when and why we release it at certain times, I find that Canberrans are smart; they get it.

Canberrans do not want us to give away our negotiating power. That would be really, really irresponsible, and I think most people understand that that would not get us a

good financial outcome. So it is important that the information is released, but when we release it is also really significant. The amendments that the minister has circulated give us some really good milestones and really good commitments about when we are going to see costings and business cases. I am looking forward to seeing those updates next year.

I am still concerned about how long the project is taking, and I share a lot of the community's frustrations on this. Stage 2 of light rail was in the Ninth and Tenth Assembly parliamentary agreements. It was committed to in 2016. I am glad that the first works have commenced, but I am worried about the pace. It has taken us six years to get this far. I understand that major projects are complicated, and that COVID has affected our delivery. This stage is particularly complex, with the involvement of the NCA. The former hostile federal government was also a barrier. I am really hoping we get quicker progress from here on, because one stage of light rail per decade is not going to help the climate crisis; nor will it help us fast enough with congestion and liveability.

Going forward, light rail network planning should identify early any enabling works for light rail and deliver them now, in anticipation of future stages. This will mean that the rollout of a city-wide network can be as seamless as possible. The Gold Coast light rail project is taking that approach. The Gold Coast is in the process of delivering its third stage, and it has a fourth in the works. These stages are a bit smaller than ours; they are not the same. It is not comparing like with like, but, as an example, the Gold Coast first signed a contract for stage 1 in 2011, with completion in 2014. Stage 2 contracts were signed in 2016 and operational in 2017, and construction for stage 3 has begun and is expected to be completed by 2025.

In Belconnen we are feeling particularly impatient. We have 100,000 residents, but many of the jobs are in the city or the parliamentary triangle. The Belconnen-to-city bus corridor is incredibly well frequented and is facing significant capacity constraints already. I would like to see Belconnen light rail before the 2030s. Delivering gold standard public transport infrastructure city-wide, and in a reasonable time frame, is the expectation of Canberrans. We have to ensure that we have the capacity within the ACT government to meet these expectations.

I was really pleased to work with Minister Steel on these amendments. I am pleased to see the inclusion of a lot of transparency measures and the need to adequately resource the ACT government to ensure that we can do that timely delivery.

I am interested in the Canberra Liberals' drive for transparency. I think we Greens share that drive, but we apply it a bit differently. Transparency on our large transport projects is really important, but the Canberra Liberals seem to apply it quite selectively. On Tuesday we were speaking about a cost-benefit analysis for the light rail project. We have heard a lot more about the need for that today. We do need that business case, and we are going to see it. We saw it for stage 1 and stage 2A, and we will see it for every stage. This is more transparency than we see from other governments running major transport projects.

What I do not hear from the Canberra Liberals is calls for a cost-benefit analysis for other transport projects—for our road projects, for instance. We spoke about



\$86 million worth of proposals on Tuesday. There was no business case for that and there was no call for a cost-benefit analysis. The Canberra Liberals are happy to let that go through unscrutinised.

The ACT government has committed to around \$1 billion of road projects in the pipeline or recently completed, but the Canberra Liberals do not call for scrutiny on that and they do not call for a business case. They only ask for scrutiny on public transport. When provided with as much information as can be sensibly published during a commercial negotiation, they simply and repeatedly say that it is not enough. I am really looking forward to equal scrutiny of all of Canberra's major projects, including our roads and other transport projects, and I am really interested to see if they hold all of our projects to that same standard.

Canberra, like other cities and other state governments, must build modern and sustainable transport infrastructure. We must also build all of our other infrastructure, and we need to maintain all of our other services. There is a lot going on in Canberra and, of course, we need all of these services. It is not an either/or question. We do not choose. A growing city with ageing infrastructure needs all of these things, and we have to get on and do all of them.

Long-term infrastructure is a long-term investment in the future of our city. Our city has grown by almost 100,000 people since we first announced light rail stage 1. We grew by around 11,400 per year between 2016 and 2021. We cannot let short-term thinking stop our city from making the long-term decisions we know we need to make. If we do not make these decisions, we will lose quality of life for current and future Canberrans and we will also lose the chance to make a real change to our climate emissions.

Light rail is unique here. It is not just transport infrastructure; it is also key planning infrastructure. The light rail corridor is allowing people to choose a different lifestyle. It is allowing people to choose where they live and to either live car-free or move from a two or three-car house to a one-car house because they are choosing to live in that transit corridor. That is exactly the kind of planning and development that the IPCC is calling for, for the sake of the climate.

We have just had COP27. The results of what has been achieved are pretty mixed, but I did not hear anybody stand up and call for more urban sprawl or for more fossil fuel based transport. We understand what we need to do, and we need to keep doing it. This is what climate action actually looks like. It means making choices and following through with those choices. An integrated Canberra-wide light rail network, along with frequent zero emissions buses, is the gold standard public transport network that Canberra needs and deserves.

I appreciate the minister's amendments that signpost our next steps and our previous stages on light rail. I am pleased to see a commitment to transparency and I understand why we have the timing on the release of that information. I invite anyone who is interested in this topic to sit down and have a look at those stages and at what information is coming out and when. It is really clearly set out and there are very good reasons. It is made out pretty well.

The ACT Greens support delivering light rail stage 2 to Woden and beyond. The ACT government is committed to delivering light rail stage 2 to Woden, and we are really happy to keep working together to make sure that that happens. The ACT Greens will be supporting Minister Steel's amendment.

**MS LEE** (Kurrajong—Leader of the Opposition) (4.46): I commend Mr Parton for moving this motion today because he is continuing to ask some pretty sensible questions, questions that the Canberra community have been asking, questions that the Canberra Liberals have been asking and questions that any government with the privilege and responsibility for making huge decisions that impact our community should be up-front and transparent about.

This ACT Labor-Greens government has decided that, regardless of what the business case says, regardless of what the cost-benefit analysis is, they will build the tram to Woden. We had it confirmed in the annual reports hearings from the minister and we had it confirmed again today. They will not and cannot share the justification with Canberrans and they will not and cannot tell us when the tram will arrive in Woden. They will not and cannot make it clear how much the light rail will cost Canberra taxpayers and they will not and cannot tell us how long we will all be paying for it, both in interest on borrowings and the ongoing payments to the public-private partnership for decades to come. This is a government that is afraid to come clean. The big question is: why? Why will they not tell us?

What is clear, however, is that this government cannot pay for this tram project without cutting essential government services. We know they have already pulled crucial funding out of our health system. Well done to the Labor-Greens government on achieving the longest emergency department wait times in the country. Earlier this week we saw yet another Labor-Greens election promise broken—this one to increase funding for and services of endoscopies. Elective surgery wait times continue to blow out. The Canberra Hospital expansion is a decade overdue. Cutting critical funding for health services has consequences and it is our hardworking frontline medical professionals and Canberrans, when they need those health services the most, that are paying the price, all because Labor and the Greens have diverted critical funding for health to help pay for the tram.

It is the same story with the education system. Results have been declining. School infrastructure has been neglected. Some schools have been declared unsafe workplaces. Fixing the chronic shortage of teachers that we have in our schools is something that our hardworking teachers have been calling for years. Despite this, the Labor-Greens government continues to prioritise the tram over education and the wellbeing of our students and our teachers.

The tram is cold comfort for the more than 3,000 Canberrans on the public housing wait list. Three thousand Canberrans are on the public housing wait list. For years now Labor and the Greens have been pulling funding out of housing. How is it possible that we now have fewer public housing dwellings than a decade ago, despite the fact that our population has grown by 100,000 in the same period?

Basic maintenance of our streets, green spaces and footpaths has been utterly neglected by Labor and the Greens. Yes, we have had unseasonably high levels of rain due to La Niña, but the Labor-Greens government will not and cannot scale up their operations to address it because they have no money left in the bank. They are cutting garbage collection across the whole city because they have run out of money. Potholes litter our streets, leaves are left unswept and streetlights go unfixed. Even the Greens asked a question about that in question time today. Local shops are neglected, all because this Labor-Greens government prioritises the tram above all other essential government services.

Labor and the Greens have borrowed, they have taxed and they have overstretched our city's finances beyond any sensible and responsible measure to pay for the tram. Canberrans will be paying more than half a billion dollars each year to cover the Treasurer's interest bill by 2025-26. That is half a billion dollars each year on interest repayments alone. What Canberrans want to know is: what are we getting for the record level of debt, record level of taxes and record level of public spending? Where has the money gone?

To cap it all off, we recently heard, through the federal budget, that the Labor-Greens government did a deal with federal Labor to divert much-needed funding, originally destined for important road upgrades, to help pay for stage 2A. Those were three important road upgrades at a time when road safety has never been more important. But almost \$90 million of federal funding is now going to help transfer Canberrans from the city to the middle of Commonwealth Park.

The question that many Canberrans should be and are asking is this: what is next? What is next on the chopping block? Health, education, community safety, public housing, road upgrades—it seems no essential government service is safe when it comes to pillaging to pay for the tram.

Mr Parton has given this government, this minister, yet another opportunity to come clean, another opportunity to be up-front and transparent with the public. Tell Canberrans what else you will be cutting next, how much you will be borrowing and how much more Canberrans will need to pay in record taxes to pay for the tram. That is the question that Canberrans are asking, and that is the question that Canberrans should be asking.

I thank Mr Parton for his ongoing advocacy for transparency and accountability from this Labor-Greens government, especially when it comes to being up-front with the people that have given this government the privilege of making important decisions on their behalf. The key question is: what other critical government services are at stake for this Labor-Greens government to continue to pay for the tram? I commend Mr Parton's motion to the Assembly.

**MS DAVIDSON** (Murrumbidgee—Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services, Minister for Disability, Minister for Justice Health, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Veterans and Seniors) (4.54): As a local member for Murrumbidgee, I would like to say a few words in support of Minister Steel's amendment. We all want an accessible and easy to navigate city; am I right? Yes. We all want that. But population growth is coming. Canberra has long been quite car

dependent. So unless your vision for our future is endless roads choked with cars, it is time to get on board for a better future. That is one that has an easy to use, affordable, accessible transport network, not just light rail but also buses, and a well-maintained active travel network of footpaths and cyclepaths. We want to allow cars to be a choice, not a necessity.

I am a big fan of transparency. We all like to be able to see and understand the evidence base for why we make the decisions we do. But one does not simply publish one's negotiating position while the contracts are still being negotiated. The question here is: light rail 2B or not to be? We have been asking this question for what feels like a very long time. I am trying to mess with your self-expression, but stressing and obsessing about somebody else is no fun. So let us unite north and south Canberra and do that literally with light rail 2B.

**MR GENTLEMAN** (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety, Minister for Planning and Land Management and Minister for Police and Emergency Services) (4.55): I rise to speak briefly in support of Minister Steel's amendment to Mr Parton's motion. It seems that this week the Canberra Liberals are feeling a bit nostalgic for 2016. Mr Hanson has his eye on the leader's job and the Canberra Liberals are once again arguing against light rail.

Light rail works in Canberra, and it works around the world. In 2016, as planning minister, I took an industry delegation to North American cities with light rail networks. The purpose of this visit was to understand the impacts of light rail on planning and the built outcome and how we could ensure that Canberra built on these learnings. The cities which we visited were facing similar environmental and planning challenges to Canberra, including becoming a more active and less car-dependent society and creating more affordable, sustainable places for people to live.

In Tucson the delegation visited and saw firsthand how light rail can transform a city and how it complements existing programs to promote safe cycling, walking and other forms of active travel. In Portland the delegation saw a range of collaborative community, government and business projects focused on establishing different options for affordable community housing, while creating more liveable environments. This confirmed that light rail corridors have a transformative effect on business growth. The delegation was provided with an opportunity in Seattle to tour the renowned eco-district, a neighbourhood-based sustainable housing project that offers a wide range of affordable housing options for residents with diverse needs. At the final stop in Vancouver attendees had the privilege of visiting the UniverCity precinct, which is a fine example of the immense potential of combining university, city and transport renewal ambitions in one coordinated program of development.

What we saw was quite extraordinary. These cities were vibrant, connected and happy. Public spaces were improved when light rail came in, as was the public transport system more generally. People also changed their behaviour because light rail suited them. In Vancouver, for example, we saw that, among young people, those 21 years and younger, those choosing to get their driver licence were now in the minority. That is quite amazing. Those people 21 and younger were choosing not to even get a driver licence. They instead preferred to use public transport and were able to see fewer cars

in the city. These young people were able to use their resources to do other things they enjoyed, rather than get a car. The federal and local governments had made a series of investments in Vancouver that helped set up a long-term, integrated and connected transport network. Active travel was prominent. The city is clearly a better place as a result of the investment in active travel and public transport.

Our city is growing, as you have heard. We need to plan for current and future populations, for where they will live and how they will move about our city. We have seen a huge revitalisation in the Woden town centre, ahead of light rail stage 2. The government is investing significantly in this area and this investment is bringing more businesses to the area. There are new gyms and Pilates studios, excellent pubs, nice restaurants and cafes and pop-up local businesses appearing in the town centre.

We have also seen businesses grow and change in the Tuggeranong town centre. By taking buses off Anketell Street and making the public realm upgrades, the town centre has become a better public place and is preparing for the arrival of light rail. We are also seeing more people living in these town centres, which contributes to the vibrancy and business growth of the areas. It is exciting.

The Productivity Commission also tells us that this is good planning. A report released in September 2022 backs up what this government has been saying for years. We want people living close to transport corridors so that they can have good access to services, and to avoid urban sprawl. This also helps with affordability. Good public transport creates good living and good living supports good public transport. It is that simple, yet those opposite refuse to get on board.

You would think they would have learnt from the previous two elections that Canberrans do support light rail. It seems they would still rather buy Audis than discuss the benefits of good public transport networks. This trackless opposition are railing at nothing. All week the Leader of the Opposition has refused to say whether the Canberra Liberals would support light rail stage 2. There are two tracks to choose from and I know which one the government is on. I suspect the opposition are on the track to return to the past.

The Canberra Liberals have been in opposition for 21 years and they are still conducting their campaign from six years ago. They are all out of ideas. Light rail may go in two directions, but these Liberals are still steaming to nowhere. I commend Minister Steel's amendment to the motion to the Assembly, and his excellent work as transport minister. I look forward to Ms Lee putting her position on light rail stage 2, along with the position of her party, on the public record.

**MR BARR** (Kurrajong—Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Climate Action, Minister for Economic Development and Minister for Tourism) (5.01): I rise briefly to speak, largely in response to some of the commentary from the Leader of the Opposition. She pretty clearly highlighted, as a number of other speakers have identified, that 2016, 2020 and 2024 are going to follow a very similar path: new leader, same old Canberra Liberals. I think the community is very clear, and the debate this afternoon further crystallises, where the respective parties stand on public transport investment.

We know there has been a little bit of focus group and research work done because you mob refer to everything as “the tram”. It is as if you have thrown the red meat into the conservative focus group and that is the word they do not like, so you are just going to keep on using that, back and forth, back and forth.

**Mr Parton:** It was actually chicken! Some vegetarians among them.

**MR BARR:** It is an interesting bunch of conservatives who want to be fed chicken, Mr Parton. Very good. Whether you are throwing them red meat or chicken, either way, this week largely has been about attempting to solidify the conservative base of the Canberra Liberals. We have had a series of private members’ motions that have sought to stoke culture wars, and here we are again for the tenth year—

**Mr Parton:** Culture wars. Men’s health is culture wars? Did we support it in 2020? Did we support it?

**MR BARR:** Who knows what your position was in 2020? You had about seven different opinions in the course of the election campaign. It depended on which day and which person. You are probably the most consistent on it, Mr Parton, because you have always opposed it. That is very clear. But some of your colleagues, having suffered the defeat of 2016 and the defeat of 2012, decided in 2020 that maybe this was not the space you were going to go into. What was it that Split Enz sang—“History never repeats”? Not for the Canberra Liberals. Here we are again. I feel like we have seen this movie before.

Nevertheless, the main accusation from the opposition leader related to the affordability of the project and the territory’s fiscal position, so I think it is important to put a few things on the record. I know that the level of public debt is an absolute obsession with some in the Liberal Party. It is certainly larger as a result of the pandemic; there is no doubt of that. But the interest expense for the territory is four per cent of our general government sector expenses—four per cent. What is overlooked in this debate, consistently, is that on the other side of the equation our interest income is three per cent of GGS revenue and our investment revenue is a further three per cent. So on the question of loans versus our assets and the return on our investments, as a share of the general government sector it is six per cent on the revenue side and four per cent in relation to general government sector expenses.

It may have escaped the notice of the Leader of the Opposition that on Tuesday the September quarter 2022 consolidated financial report for this fiscal year was tabled in the Assembly. I thought it was worthwhile focusing on that, because in the September quarter the general government sector was operating at a surplus of nearly \$410 million, \$81.7 million higher than the September year to date budget.

The improvement was due to the strength of our economy, but it was both increased revenue and less expenditure. As interest rates are normalising, the territory’s net financial liabilities are also normalising, to the tune of being lower by \$2.3 billion. This is a result, as I think we have canvassed extensively, of the long-term superannuation liability. But let us be clear: the territory’s total assets are in the order of \$43 billion. Our net debt is a little over \$5 billion. Our net financial liability is \$9.7 billion. The territory’s net worth is \$21.2 billion.

There is not a fiscal crisis. We are a triple A rated jurisdiction with prudent debt management. The long-term prognosis for the territory's economy is strong. Our population growth continues to be nation leading. The territory does need to make infrastructure investments for the long term. We will hit half a million people by 2027. We need to be investing in our transport infrastructure, in our health infrastructure, in our education infrastructure, in our community infrastructure, and the government is doing all of that.

We need to raise revenue in order to fund those infrastructure projects. The government does that through asset sales, through taxation and through grants from the commonwealth. The other element that Ms Lee skirted over in her contribution was to not recognise the significant change in both the nature of commonwealth infrastructure investment in the territory and also its quantum into the future. One of the important elements of the next stages of the territory's infrastructure planning is that we know confidently that we can go into this phase with the commonwealth as a partner in housing for the first time in a decade.

A significant additional contribution to stage 2A of the light rail project is the commonwealth investing in their own assets in the territory, all of which—

**Mr Parton:** And roads?

**MR BARR:** The commonwealth invests in roads, just as the territory does. The commonwealth invests in roads in the territory, just as the territory government does. It is interesting, the absolute obsession on that side to demonise public transport investment. As Ms Clay and a number of other speakers have pointed out, I have never heard the Canberra Liberals ask for a business case or a cost-benefit analysis in relation to any road project, ever.

An interesting example is that the commonwealth and New South Wales governments have invested a billion dollars in the Barton Highway duplication, with a cost-benefit ratio of about 0.25. I hear absolutely nothing about that, absolutely nothing. Apparently, every road project, no matter its cost benefit, is perfect and unquestionable in their minds—any road project in our region or in our territory. Yet there is an absolute obsession in relation to light rail investments. What we see today in Mr Parton's motion is yet another episode in a sad saga of denial and rejection of investment in public transport.

We have seen this movie before; we have played this game before. You guys will stick to doing what you have done for the past 20 years. The result will be that you will still be sitting where you have been for the past 20 years for the next 20 if you continue with this sort of approach. Nothing has changed. The Liberal Party is still conservative and still anti-public transport. The difference is that this Leader of the Opposition has the biggest glass jaw of anyone in ACT politics. One bit of criticism and we get a tirade of interjections.

**Ms Lee:** A tirade?

**MR BARR:** A tirade, yes. Here we go. I am pointing out that you are taking the same position as you did in 2012, 2016 and, it would appear, 2020, into 2024. All the best with that.

**DR PATERSON** (Murrumbidgee) (5.11): I rise today to speak in support of Minister Steel's amendment to Mr Parton's motion. My speech today is a vote for light rail to be in Woden. The reason I joined the ACT Labor Party is that I recognise the ability of my colleagues to think about and plan in a careful and transparent way for the future, with imagination, with wisdom for the people of Canberra—to have vision, and no-one has vision like Minister Steel. Light rail is a vision that was delivered to the north of Canberra and now it is our turn to the south. I want to live in a city that is futureproofed. I want to see infrastructure that has transport benefits, economic benefits, environmental benefits and social benefits.

I was recently—actually, it was six months ago now—at a Woden Valley Community Council meeting where we had briefings from Westfield Woden, from the Southern Cross Club and from the Hellenic Club on all the millions and millions of dollars of investment that is going into Woden. An audience member asked the Westfield people, because the plan that they presented was very much a preliminary draft of the potential future for Westfield Woden, “What is going to make this happen?” and the Westfield guy came back and said, “The game changer is light rail. If light rail comes to Woden then we will be able to do this.”

You see the towers go up. The people that are investing their lives, their lifestyles, in Woden, in those towers, want to see light rail. They want to be part of a vibrant, buzzing, modern community. That is something that has been terribly lacking in the south of Canberra, and one of the reasons why I ran for election and why I am here today. I want to see investment in Murrumbidgee and in the south of Canberra, and this is exactly the way to do it: to bring modern infrastructure with intelligent design to the south of Canberra.

In closing—just a brief speech today—I am glad to see that this side of the chamber gets it, and I am glad to see the futureproofing of this city. I look forward to an integrated mass transport system being implemented in Canberra. Thank you.

**MR PARTON** (Brindabella) (5.14): I want to respond to a number of the comments that have been made in this debate. It is good to have so many people involved. It is always good to see the chief wander on down and have a chat.

I want to take the Minister for Transport and City Services to task first up, because he said, “We have already started,” in reference to the works for the raising of London Circuit. I have mentioned this on a number of occasions. In previous discussions about this project, this government have, with a straight face, assured us that the raising of London Circuit had nothing to do with the train project. They just chose to leave these costs out of the business case for light rail stage A because they were going to do it anyway. It was not related in any way to this project.



Is it a part of the project or isn't it? The Auditor-General called you out and suggested that the cost of raising London Circuit had to be included in the new business case. Basically, by the sound of it, you have agreed with him on that front. Of course, the Auditor-General also called for an updated business case, but you are not going to do that. So I am assuming, now that you have got over the hurdle of that business case, you are going to accept that the raising of London Circuit is a part of the light rail project.

The transport minister said that patronage on public transport has increased since light rail. I would argue that that depends on how you spin the numbers. Yes, there may be more boardings, but, given that all of the direct bus routes between Gungahlin and Civic have been removed, there are twice as many boardings for those in Gungahlin because they have got to catch a bus to the tram, get a tram into the city, and then on the way out do two boardings. I would argue that it does not translate to an increase in patronage.

Indeed, I would suggest that less than seven per cent of the population used public transport before stage 1, and after this billion-dollar spend it is still sitting at less than seven per cent of the population. So if we look at the percentage of the population that is using public transport, the dial has not moved. You have spent more than a billion dollars and, in terms of percentage of population using public transport, you have not moved the dial.

Ms Clay stated here, passionately, that the Greens support this tram vision. I do not know if she just means the Greens MLAs, the ones with or without investment properties on the light rail line, or if she means the entire Greens membership, but I suggest that she should perhaps go to the Greens membership and ask them. I know that there is a bit of work going on in that space at the moment in terms of polling from the Greens, because obviously you are keen to find out what it is that people are actually thinking about this issue.

I want to pay tribute to Mr Gentleman because he is a funny guy. I mean, he is a very, very funny guy and he always manages to get a laugh out of me—none more so than when he said, with a straight face, in this chamber, “The people in Tuggeranong town centre are preparing for the delivery of light rail.” I mean, honestly! Most of the people in the centre of Tuggeranong will not be here when light rail gets to Tuggeranong, and it is ludicrous to suggest that they are genuinely preparing for light rail. Indeed, if they are preparing for light rail, they are doing so because they have been misled by this government.

I have received messages this afternoon from a CEO of a major infrastructure construction company, who is not in the transport space, and from a former senior adviser to a former federal infrastructure minister. In regard to this motion they both said that disclosing when the tram will arrive in Woden, which decade, which year, would not impact negotiations and that disclosing a ballpark figure would not impact negotiations if it was just a public estimate. I put it to the chamber that we are hiding behind roadblocks that do not actually exist.

I got another message from someone in the construction space, who said to me, “How did you arrive at the figure of \$3.042 billion? That sounds like a really exact figure.

How on earth did you arrive at that figure?" Let me tell you how we arrived at it: City to the lake construction costs, raising London Circuit, \$100 million construction costs, including five new LRVs and conversion of the 14 LRVs in the fleet with batteries, the depot upgrade and the new bridge over Parkes Way. All those things totalled \$193 million. All other associated works for roads and utility changes were \$50 million. So we are at \$343 million for 2A.

For 2B: one major bridge; three medium-sized bridges—Lake Burley Griffin, State Circle, the southern side; Hopetoun Circuit; Yarralumla Creek; and Yamba Drive, which is a floodplain, so it will need to be raised or have a bridge. That adds up to \$325 million. There are construction costs at \$1.3 billion; extensive changes to roads at \$185 million; and 11 or more new light rail vehicles at \$66 million. All other associated costs for works, roads and utility changes equal \$200 million. That makes a total spend of \$2.76 billion. A 30 per cent variance for today versus a future value inflation rate of five per cent is \$2.699 billion.

The total cost, when we put them together, is \$3.042 billion. We have been a little conservative here because we have not included the early enabling works, which were around \$150 million. That has been hidden from the costs; we have just left it out. We have not included the operating costs to get CMET to run the Woden part, so there is potentially another \$40 million a year in payments for 20 years, plus increases in inflation. We have not included the costs to do all of the bus side of the work: change the bus network, remove stops and shelters. We also have not included the cost for Major Projects and all of their contractors to plan and deliver the light rail works over the past four years, and now for the next 10 years, and we certainly have not included the Woden bus interchange, which is being absorbed into the CIT development.

In terms of the assumptions that were made regarding the delivery date, I can again talk you through those, because the people of Canberra want to know this stuff. We have got the raising of London Circuit, which, it has been suggested by the minister, will take two years to complete. We are starting around now and we are going to go for two years. We have got stage 2A, then, to take around two years. I think the suggestion is that that could be finished by the back end of 2026 or maybe the early end of 2027. The new bridge for Commonwealth Avenue is starting in 2027-28. Add in the light rail stage 2B construction starting, and taking three to five years to complete, and you end up with around 2034.

That is how we have arrived at those figures. They are the ones that we have put on the table, because the government does not want to put them on the table. I would suggest that, again, as has been suggested to me by people who have worked very high up in government machinery and by people who are involved in construction, ballpark figures and rough estimates of arrival will not impact on these negotiations. I call upon the government to tell Canberrans what it is that they are doing with their money, how much they are spending and when this project will be delivered. Thank you.

Question put:

That the amendment be agreed to.

The Assembly voted—

Ayes 15

Noes 8

Mr Barr	Mr Gentleman
Ms Berry	Dr Paterson
Mr Braddock	Mr Pettersson
Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Cheyne	Mr Steel
Ms Clay	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Davidson	Ms Vassarotti
Mr Davis	

Mr Cain
Ms Castley
Mr Cocks
Mr Hanson
Mrs Kikkert
Ms Lee
Mr Milligan
Mr Parton

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Original question, as amended, resolved in the affirmative.

## Justice and Community Safety—Standing Committee Reference

Debate resumed.

**MR BRADDOCK** (Yerrabi) (5.28): I move:

Omit all text after “That this Assembly”, substitute:

“request the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety to conduct an inquiry into the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (No 2), and report back to the Assembly by 31 January 2023.”.

I wish to remind all members here that each and every single piece of legislation is examined by a scrutiny committee, a committee on which I sit, alongside Mr Cain and Dr Paterson, and I can assure you that we do examine each and every bill in detail. I am sure there are some in this chamber who would regard us as pedants, obsessively examining every single detail. They would be right, because we are well advised by expert lawyers. To Daniel Stewart and Stephen Argument, thank you; I am very grateful. We, as a committee, do not hesitate to seek further information or to recommend changes to bills where required or where something is not up to standard. Therefore, this bill will of course come through the scrutiny committee for careful consideration.

Secondly, it is the practice here for all bills to go to the relevant committee for calm and careful consideration as to whether an inquiry is required. The Canberra Liberals are represented on the JACS committee, like every other party here. The Canberra Liberals could have, as part of normal process, sought to inquire through their representation on that committee, but instead, with zero notice and by suspending standing orders, the Canberra Liberals have slapped down this request in the middle of a sitting day, with the purpose of publicly seeking attention and to appease their ideological masters at the *Australian* newspaper.

I also note that Ms Lee’s motion selected a date that is in excess of the Assembly’s time frames for inquiry. The normal time frame for such an inquiry would be due on

24 January. The final sitting in March would be double the normal time for an inquiry. I agree that Christmas will take up some time; hence, I have selected in my amendment a reporting date of 31 January as a more reasonable time for the completion of the inquiry, to take into account the public holidays.

Finally, we have discussed previously in this place the need to respect committees and their ability to prioritise and manage their work. Whilst I admit that that practice in this chamber has varied, I think it is a practice we should continue. Hence, I have included the word “request” at the start of my amendment.

**MR RATTENBURY** (Kurrajong—Attorney-General, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Gaming and Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction) (5.31): I rise to indicate that I will be supporting Mr Braddock’s amendment to the motion moved by Ms Lee today. The time frame specified in Mr Braddock’s amendment takes account of the small amount of additional time that may be required due to the Christmas break but reflects the relative simplicity of the amendment that appears to be the focus of Ms Lee’s attention.

I am surprised by how tenaciously Ms Lee advocated for the bill’s referral to a committee this morning, declaring that it is a significant piece of law reform that warrants thorough inquiry. While I do agree with describing it as an important piece of law reform, I am somewhat sceptical as to the claim that it is so significant that this collection of subsections really requires the four months of inquiry that Ms Lee has proposed here today. It does not become an earth-shattering amendment simply by attempting to speak that into being. I do not believe that there are any other elements of the bill that have garnered Ms Lee’s ire, just these few subsections from the Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act.

The standard time frame for a committee to resolve an inquiry is two months, and that is for entire bills. I struggle to understand Ms Lee’s motivation as to why she feels compelled to advocate here for four months. In reality, this is just a simple piece of law reform. It allows for witnesses in trials about deeply confronting content to only go through that difficult experience the minimum number of times. It preserves the evidence of cross-examination from the original trial and still allows for further questions to be asked and for that recorded evidence to be challenged. This treatment has also been common practice, as I understand it, in a number of recent trials, where such recordings have been tendered as hearsay by consent of the parties. Clearly, even people whose liberty is at stake do not perceive that there is any particular unfairness.

I would also note that this amendment will bring us into full alignment with recommendation 56 of the *Criminal Justice Report* of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Recommendation 56 provided the following:

State and territory governments should introduce legislation to require the audiovisual recording of evidence given by complainants and other witnesses that the prosecution considers necessary in child sexual abuse prosecutions, whether tried on indictment or summarily, and to allow these recordings to be tendered and relied on as the relevant witness’s evidence in any subsequent trial or retrial. The legislation should apply regardless of whether the relevant witness gives evidence live in court, via closed circuit television or in a prerecorded hearing.

That description by the royal commission is exactly what this legislation seeks to do. It was recommended by the royal commission because it has real effects in preventing people from being retraumatised unnecessarily. It already has safeguards built in to ensure fairness, such as the discretion to exclude any part of the recording and to allow further questions to be asked.

I note as well the generally applicable provisions of part 3.11 of the Evidence Act to exclude and limit evidence. These amendments are simple, beneficial and sensible. I am confident that, were this only a matter of concern about the proposed amendments per se, we would have heard nothing at all from Mrs Lee. This is not mere speculation. The reason I feel so confident about this is due to the legislative history having been so deeply uncontroversial in the past.

Section 69 of the Evidence (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act was inserted into the act by the Crimes Legislation Amendment Act 2013, at that time as section 43A, and it only applied to complainants. Surely, if the Canberra Liberals are so disturbed by this radical law reform today, the idea of giving evidence by audiovisual link and recording that would have seemed even more extreme at that time, when it was introduced for the very first time. But it seems there were no issues.

The bill was not referred to committee. The scrutiny committee made no comment on those aspects of the bill. Mr Seselja, speaking on behalf of the Canberra Liberals, spoke for just over a page of *Hansard*. These amendments were alluded to in a single dot point of his speech. He stated that the bill does a number of procedural things, such as:

... strengthening Sexual Assault Reform program evidence provisions for giving evidence in sexual and violent offences and the giving of victim impact statements in such cases.

The Canberra Liberals supported the bill without discussing the issue further.

The provisions were considered again in 2018, with the Royal Commission Criminal Justice Legislation Amendment Bill of that year, which expanded the provisions to apply to all witnesses. Again, it was not referred to the committee. Again, the scrutiny committee made no mention of these provisions. And, again, the Canberra Liberals, this time represented by Mr Hanson, made only cursory comment on the provisions saying:

On the procedural matters, we recognise that the processes of the trial itself can be improved to reduce the distress to those who are dealing with the impacts of very serious crimes, and we will support these changes.

You can imagine my confusion today. There was no big deal when the provisions were first introduced; nor when they were expanded. The amendments that Ms Lee has singled out are, I would argue, the smallest of these steps, simply seeking to rectify what has been identified as an anomaly, yet they curiously need four whole months to consider. So unless Ms Lee wishes to shed some light on her motivations

here, the government will not support her truly excessive request and will support Mr Braddock's amendment, to allow for an extra week for the inquiry to be conducted and not to double the amount of time for an inquiry into what is quite a narrow issue.

**MS LEE** (Kurrajong—Leader of the Opposition) (5.37): The reason that I brought this motion to the Assembly is that we are talking about significant reform to the way evidence that is adduced in court will be treated. The Attorney-General went into some detail and history about everything that has gone by. If he has to go back over 10 years and rehash what happened back then, it goes to exactly why we need an open and thorough inquiry into this issue.

**Mr Barr:** Is that the best you've got?

**MS LEE:** Are you going to let me finish, or are you going to keep—

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Ms Lee, the advice that I provide to those on the right—

**Mr Hanson:** On a point of order, Madam Speaker—

**MADAM SPEAKER:** Mr Hanson, sit down.

**Mr Hanson:** Regularly, people will raise a point under the standing orders by—

**MADAM SPEAKER:** I do not need a lecture by way of interjection from you, Mr Hanson. Ms Lee, you have the floor.

**MS LEE:** The Attorney-General tries to say, "I'm perplexed that Ms Lee has moved this and has sought extra time for this inquiry." That is the part that is perplexing. We are talking about a reform that is being brought here; it is being dropped into the final sitting period. Mr Braddock's amendment seeks a reporting date that is before the parliamentary sitting calendar even starts next year, and through a Christmas and new year period. The question really should be: why the rush? If the Attorney-General is trying to say that this is not a rush, why were stakeholders given 48 hours to provide feedback on the exposure draft of this bill?

Let me be very clear: when it comes to reform that is designed to remove barriers for people who are participating in court proceedings, when it comes to sexual or family violence, the Assembly has demonstrated time and again that we are willing to work together. Every single step of the way, all of us have been cognisant of respecting all stakeholders to ensure that this important work is done in a thorough, conscientious and respectful way. Giving various stakeholders 48 hours to provide feedback is anything but thorough, conscientious and respectful.

Mr Braddock, in moving his amendment, spoke about the fact that, "Of course, the bill's going to go to the scrutiny of bills committee." Of course, it will. But we are talking about law reform, and my motion clearly requests that the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety undertake an inquiry. A bill that will have an impact on, as the Attorney-General says, many people in this community

requires an inquiry that will give the community every opportunity to have their say and to be reviewed properly. It cannot be rushed by asking stakeholders to provide feedback within 48 hours.

We can go to the fact that the JACS committee currently have five open inquiries, and they are significant. We are talking about an inquiry into the freedom of information bill. We are talking about an inquiry into the Integrity Commission bill. We are talking about an inquiry into sexual assault reform. We are talking about an inquiry into dangerous driving. These are important inquiries, and they have five of them that are current.

The Attorney-General, and Mr Braddock, for that matter, say, “Actually, we’re giving you even more time, because of Christmas.” Dropping it into the final sitting fortnight, and with a reporting date that is even before the first sitting day next year, is anything but thorough, conscientious and respectful.

That is the other point. The Attorney-General spent most of his time talking about the actual bill itself. Of course the debate will come. The fact is that this proposal, this amendment, may be necessary, and it may be a good step, but we do not want to see stakeholders being rushed, being given 48 hours to respond, and this being rushed through a committee inquiry. That is why I have brought the motion to the Assembly today. The Canberra Liberals will not be supporting Mr Braddock's amendment.

Question put:

That the amendment be agreed to.

The Assembly voted—

Ayes 15

Noes 8

Mr Barr	Mr Gentleman
Ms Berry	Dr Paterson
Mr Braddock	Mr Pettersson
Ms Burch	Mr Rattenbury
Ms Cheyne	Mr Steel
Ms Clay	Ms Stephen-Smith
Ms Davidson	Ms Vassarotti
Mr Davis	

Mr Cain
Ms Castley
Mr Cocks
Mr Hanson
Mrs Kikkert
Ms Lawder
Ms Lee
Mr Milligan

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Original question, as amended, resolved in the affirmative.

## Adjournment

Motion (by **Mr Gentleman**) proposed:

That the Assembly do now adjourn.

## **Tuggeranong—SouthFest in the Suburbs**

**MS LAWDER** (Brindabella) (5.47): I want to pay tribute this afternoon to the organisers of SouthFest in the Suburbs. Instead of one big event, which is how SouthFest started off, because of COVID restrictions it went to a range of activities, about 50 of them, throughout the Tuggeranong suburbs, between 5 and 19 November. I want to congratulate the organising committee and everyone involved on the huge range of events throughout Tuggeranong. Most of them were free. I got to as many of them as I could, but certainly not all of them. I want to list a few of them here, as a way of congratulating those people who helped to organise them.

Starting on 5 November we had the Gordon Community Day at the Gordon Community Centre, the Kambah Community Gardens Open Day and the Wellbeing and Sustainability Family Day at the Diversity Hub in Kambah. On 6 November the Markets Wanniasa—Outdoors! was held, and the Vikings Sunday Funday at Vikings Park, Erindale. On 7 November there were the Sing Australia 21st birthday celebrations and singalong at Greenway Views. On 9 November there was the Man Walk and BBQ Breakfast at Bunnings, Tuggeranong. On 10 November there was Coffee for Community Champions at Little Luxton at Gordon Community Centre. On 11 November there was the battle of the bands in the town centre and the Friday night markets in the town centre.

On 12 November we had the Gilmore Primary School car boot sale and market, the Good Shepherd Community Day at the Good Shepherd Community Church in Chisholm, and the Conder wetlands neighbourhood party on the corner of Tom Roberts Avenue and Templestowe Avenue in Conder.

On 13 November we had the EV Experience Day in the town centre, a come-and-try electric bike day in the town centre, an aqua class at Lakeside Leisure Centre, and a social dance class at the Crystal Ballroom in Greenway. On 16 November there was a Man Walk and BBQ Breakfast at Bunnings, Tuggeranong and a dance class for adults at the Crystal Ballroom in Greenway. On 17 November we had Zumba fitness with Elly's dance studio at Calwell High School. On 18 November there was the Maggie Moo Music intergenerational morning tea at Club Kalina in Greenway, a garden festival party at Mura Lanyon Youth and Community Centre, rock and roll in the laneways in Tuggeranong town centre, Friday night markets in the town centre, and *Age of the Pinedemic—the Musical* at Tuggeranong Arts Centre.

On 19 November there was the rowing club open day at Lake Tuggeranong Rowing Club, the Lake Tuggeranong clean-up and barbecue, which had been postponed from the previous weekend due to bad weather, the Calwell Family Fun Day at Calwell shopping centre, the Tuggeranong Salvation Army Community Day in the Churches Centre car park, the EV Experience Day in the town centre, and *Age of the Pinedemic* was performed again at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre.

Once again, big congratulations go to everyone involved. It was a completely different way of delivering SouthFest, but it enabled people throughout so many different suburbs of Tuggeranong to enjoy the festivities. Thanks very much also to the Tuggeranong Community Council, who helped to organise SouthFest through an organising committee.



**Health—Canberra Birth Centre**

**MS CLAY** (Ginninderra) (5.50): Two weeks ago, I had the immense privilege of attending the 30th birthday dinner of the Canberra Birth Centre. I learnt so much from the speakers, Bernadette Miller, Alison Chandra, Alice Cotter and Bek Bowman.

While I knew that Ngunnawal people have lived and birthed on this land since time immemorial, I was fascinated to learn that Ngunnawal women also traditionally birthed in the rock pools at Ginninderra Falls, experiencing the same benefits from birthing in water that women experience in the Canberra Birth Centre baths. I learnt that midwives are *yarwun bullan*, which is Ngunnawal language for “strong woman”. It was incredible to hear the stories about all of the hard work by so many *yarwun bullan* who came together to create the Canberra Birth Centre.

Birth and midwifery care is a deeply feminist issue because woman’s bodies matter. Every woman should be able to choose where and how she gives birth. The Birth Centre is a place where women can birth naturally in a home-like environment, supported by a known midwife, who has provided them with continuity of care for their pregnancy, and who will continue to provide care for them and their newborn in the post-partum period.

Canberra women have only been able to choose low intervention births through the Birth Centre for 30 years. It was midwives and women consumers, *yarwun bullan*, who fought the system to bring about the changes that we take for granted today.

My absolutely favourite quote on the night was from one of the speakers, Bek Bowman, who said: “Midwives are the granddaughters of the witches they forgot to burn.” If this seems to be an extreme statement, it is really not. In my own lifetime, and in the lifetime of most of us here, women were not recognised as having any control over their own bodies while they were birthing.

There are so many things in birth that we now take for granted that midwives fought for and made normal practice in the Canberra Birth Centre—things like being able to choose your own birthing partner, not being separated from your baby after birth, being able to leave the bed, move around and deliver where you are comfortable, whether that is in a bath, in a shower or on a chair. Women used to be required to be on a bed, on their back, so that the doctor could have easier access. Women were routinely given a shave and an enema, and often an episiotomy—a cut to widen the birth canal—whether they wanted it, needed it or not. Women’s bodies have literally been cut open for the convenience of doctors.

Midwives fought because women’s bodies matter. It was midwives who fought to be able to use minimalist interventions like a hot towel compress during delivery, which reduces tearing. Whether you have given birth or not, most of us can understand that a hot towel will generally be better than a scalpel.

We also heard some interesting statistics that night. Australian women who receive midwife-led continuity of care, the kind of care that is offered at the Birth Centre, are 16 per cent less likely to lose their baby. If that was a pill, we would hand it out to

everyone. They are 24 per cent less likely to have a pre-term birth, and they are 16 per cent less likely to have an episiotomy. Women's bodies matter

The Birth Centre dinner was a wonderful celebration of how far we have come, but it was also a necessary reinvigoration for the next generation to take on the matter of continuing to advocate for positive change. There is still work to be done.

A caesarean section is an important, life-saving intervention for 10 to 15 per cent of women and babies. But in Canberra our rate is 34 per cent and it has been increasing over the last decade. Midwifery-led continuity of care reduces the caesarean rate and it reduces the cost to the Australian healthcare system by 22 per cent. It is also better for midwives. Midwives are telling me, and the research confirms this, that the ones who work in continuity of care are less burnt out and less anxious than the midwives who work in fragmented models. The place of giving birth matters. The Birth Centre matters.

I would love to offer my congratulations to everyone who has been involved in the Canberra Birth Centre over the last 30 years. I would like to finish with another quote from the night, from Alison Chandra, who was head of midwifery at the old Royal Canberra Hospital in the 1980s and was one of the *yarwun bullan* instrumental in the early Birth Centre:

Let us never forget the importance of having a Birth Centre as the base for midwife led continuity programs, including home birth, and maintaining a designated space where the majority of women on those programs can, and indeed should, birth.

## **Health—Canberra Birth Centre**

**MS DAVIDSON** (Murrumbidgee—Assistant Minister for Families and Community Services, Minister for Disability, Minister for Justice Health, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Veterans and Seniors) (5.55): Nurses and midwives know how to mark big moments. I recently attended the Canberra Birth Centre's 30th birthday party, where the midwives have a lot to celebrate.

I have some history with the Canberra Birth Centre, having been one of the founding members of the second-generation Friends of the Birth Centre group, and past convenor; ACT Branch President of the Maternity Coalition, when their catchcry was, "Every Woman, Every Choice"; and Deputy CEO at Women's Health Matters. I was one of the community representatives consulted for the design of the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, on behalf of the Friends of the Birth Centre.

I would like to thank Chris Fowler for organising the Birth Centre birthday party, and Alison Chandra, Nola Wong and Janet Phillips, whose work I have drawn from for this speech.

Canberra's Birth Centre was conceived in the 1980s, when women around the world were asking for more choice and continuity of carer during pregnancy and birth. In those days women first met the midwife caring for them in labour when they arrived at the labour ward door.

In 1981 a discussion paper entitled “A Birth Centre for Canberra?” was written by Marian Hambly, who was an ACT Health Commission senior research psychologist in mental health. Others involved in the 1980s include Fran Parker, Megan Evans and Roz Rebbeck, who later became the first midwifery leader of the Birth Centre. One of the most important outcomes from this time was recognition that the Birth Centre’s natural birth philosophy and model of care are just as important as the architecture.

In the face of considerable medical opposition, Janet Phillips, Aileen Conroy and a determined group of allied health professionals, women and midwives, started lobbying through Act for Birth in 1989. They were well supported by QEII and the Canberra Mothercraft Society, particularly Rhodanthe Lipsett, who I have had the honour of meeting several times and for whom the Australian College of Midwives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander midwives scholarship fund is named.

The 1989-90 federal budget allocated funding to state and territory governments to establish alternative birthing services. I really enjoyed hearing the inside story at the birthday party from the first ever women’s health policy officer at the ACT Health Commission in 1990, about how they overcame the actions of those who opposed women’s health services, with an important role played by then federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner Dame Quentin Bryce. We no longer need to have a women’s health policy officer specifically within ACT Health because it is something that runs throughout all our policy work.

Furnishings were acquired by Cathy Rumble and Janet Phillips, and a Birth Centre liaison midwife position was taken up by Debbie Cameron. Some of the midwives and GP obstetricians in the early Birth Centre, which opened in April 1992, were Suzie Nash, Cath Sansum, Susie Close, Ann Hosking and Peter Davis. Professor David Ellwood and his partner, Anne Sneddon, played an essential role in supporting the Birth Centre and midwife-led care during the 1990s. One change for which Friends of the Birth Centre advocated was midwife continuity, achieved by the late 1990s, so that women needing transfers to the delivery suite were able to still be cared for by their known birth centre midwife.

It was wonderful to celebrate with friends everything that the Birth Centre, their midwives and supporters have done for Canberra women, and particularly to hear from Bek Bowman. It is not just about health outcomes; it is about truly being with women in one of the most powerful moments of their lives and supporting the transition to becoming parents. I also want to personally thank Ingrid McKenzie for her guidance and wisdom as I learned how to advocate for midwives and birthing women. What a wonderful evening to re-energise for the next steps in the journey. Congratulations, Canberra Birth Centre.

### **ACT Law Society—events**

**MR CAIN** (Ginninderra) (5.59): I am sure the remnant members love hearing me recounting my exploits, either through the electorate or through my shadow portfolios. This afternoon I would like to spend a few minutes recounting some of the significant encounters and events and developments in my capacity as shadow Attorney-General.

As the nation's capital and the most educated city in Australia, Canberra is privileged to be home to a large number of legal professionals. As with any professional group, there are members' associations and awards nights. I am going to speak about two of those gatherings and one pending.

It was a pleasure to join the Law Society annual dinner and awards night earlier this month. I would like to pass on my congratulations to the various award winners: the Government Law Award winner, Mr Patrick Hornby of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau; the ACT New Lawyer of the Year Award winner, Ms Liana Tomassini of the United Workers Union; the Pro Bono Service Award winner, Pierre Johannessen of Johannessen Legal, with special commendations to Chloe Curran of Hijazi Curran Cameron Lawyers; the ACT Firm of the Year winner, Griffin Legal; and the winner of the final award of the night, the President's Medal, Claudia Maclean of the Women's Legal Centre.

It is always a delight to catch up with my fellow members and colleagues in the Asian Australian Lawyers Association. By and large, they are young professionals really seeking to put their mark on the profession and to advance the diversity that they bring to our legal community. A coffee catch-up with them was also earlier this month.

I want to congratulate Nelson & Hill and Adero on their successful amalgamation, Adero Law opening up its new office in Hobart Place just a couple of weeks ago. It was also good to join the celebration with Synergy Law, on their first anniversary of operation.

The other significant awards event I attended just last Friday was the National Golden Gavel and Australian Young Lawyer Awards at the Hyatt Hotel. For those who are not familiar with the term, the Golden Gavel competition is a humorous presentation by a young lawyer, given short notice, of a topic that is meant to entertain and stimulate. I make special mention of the presentation by the ACT's representative, Daniella Fiocco. But the winner, from Victoria, was Michaela Kennedy. The People's Choice Award went to Emma Wei from New South Wales.

Tomorrow I look forward to attending the ceremonial swearing in of Justice Belinda Barker at the ACT Supreme Court. I look forward to joining the legal professionals and justices at that time.

Also, tomorrow night, the Law Council of Australia is holding its gala dinner and presentations of the President's Awards for Excellence in the Australian Legal Profession. In addition to that, I am keen to engage with leading stakeholders. Some of these conversations I publish; some of them I keep confidential. Of the ones that I have published recently through my social media, it was good to talk with the Women's Legal Centre ACT and the Domestic Violence Crisis Centre ACT about resourcing and pursuing policies that are important to them, and seeing how much we can get on board with their very worthy agendas.

The Canberra Liberals believe in the importance of a thriving legal profession in the ACT. A strong legal sector ensures a strong society and, indeed, a just one. I am

grateful to the hardworking legal professionals of Canberra who perform outstanding work, with a significant pro bono component, and who want to engage with their community. I present myself to them, and make myself available to them, to seek improvements in our legal system and to promote justice in the ACT.

### **Children's Week**

**MS STEPHEN-SMITH** (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Families and Community Services and Minister for Health) (6.03): I rise briefly to reflect on Children's Week, which occurred from 22 to 30 October this year. The theme for this year's Children's Week was "All children have the right to a standard of living that supports their wellbeing and healthy development". Children's Week, each year, looks at an article of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This year it was article 27.

It was fantastic to join the Children's Week awards celebrations. I particularly want to talk about the work that the Children and Young People Commissioner, Jodie Griffiths-Cook, did, through Children's Week, talking to children in the ACT generally about life, and asking them to reflect on their experiences of life. She handed over the book of this work to us on 3 November. It was a great privilege to receive it.

The book of the work that was done is entitled *Listening to Children and Accepting How They Feel*. It reflects what one person said, through the project—that children's wellbeing would be supported if adults started "listening to children and accepting how they feel instead of making your own decision about how they feel".

The project overall worked with children and young people in their schools to talk about what contributes to their wellbeing. One of the activities was to ask them to write notes on leaves that made up a tree, that expressed some of the things that contribute to their wellbeing, as well as some of the things that challenge children's wellbeing. This has been presented in themes that have been come up with by adults. Ms Griffiths-Cook notes that many of the leaves overlap across these themes, and the themes would not necessarily be the same if the children themselves had determined what they were.

I want to pick randomly through this book some of the things that children had to say, because their voices are important, and I encourage people to go and explore the project. One of the children, under the theme that has been identified as "identity" said, "Be who you want to be and don't let others get in your way." Someone else said, "Don't judge people on how you feel; do what is more important—be free to express yourself." On inclusion, one of the children said, "Helping kids with disabilities, saying thank you to kids, being nice to kids." Someone else said, "Accept all genders and be equal with others." Someone else said, "Feeling good, just the way you are, and that you don't need to fit in and be yourself; everybody is equal, just the way you are."

The children talked a lot about friendship, families and pets, and about the importance of "time to see other people, love and support". Some of the children had difficult

stories to tell. Walking along the wall where all of the leaves were stuck up, there was one that really jumped out, from a child who said:

I have parents that don't understand English really well, and when it comes to a document or police checks, they give the responsibility to me to fill out. And sometimes I don't understand the words. I feel ashamed. So to make my life easier, please make documents and police check easy to understand for kids and parents who are not from here.

There are probably other things we can do to make life easier for children who are in that situation, and not require the children to be the translators for their parents. We should make the systems easier for the parents themselves to navigate.

On a more positive note—and I want to emphasise that there was support provided for the children through this process—children talked about the importance of random acts of kindness and doing kind things. They talked about “liking the beach, and I would like to be there more”, “social, emotional”, “dogs at school for people who need them”. There are a wide range of activities and things that make children and young people feel good about creativity and imagination, about sport, about nature and being outside.

I encourage everyone to take the time to look at this project, listen to the voices of children in our community and reflect on how we sometimes put words in their mouth that do not reflect what they really want to say.

### **Federal government—territory rights**

**MS CHEYNE** (Ginninderra—Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Business and Better Regulation, Minister for Human Rights and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (6.08): I have lost count of how many times in this chamber in the last six years I have spoken about restoring territory rights, and argued against and reflected on the gross injustice of the ACT and its citizens having been denied our democratic rights by the federal parliament for 25 years. I am pleased that in the last several months there have been several positive occasions on which to speak—I think I can say on behalf of us all, finally.

Madam Speaker, you would be aware that, in early August, the federal Labor government, through a private member's bill, brought forward changes to restore territory rights, which was passed by the House of Representatives later that week, resoundingly. Not long ago it was introduced into the Senate, and there was quite a lengthy debate that ended rather abruptly this morning, with the result at the end of the second reading debate being 41 to 25.

It is not over yet, Madam Speaker. It has moved to the committee stage. Some senators have indicated that they have amendments that they wish to put. For some reason they have not been drafted by today, despite it having been before the parliament now for more than three months. Regardless, 41 to 25 is a lot different from 34 to 36.

I have reflected quite a lot on how I felt when I first spoke those words, 34 to 36, just over four years ago in this place. I want to mark this occasion. This is a very big, positive step forward, with the Senate indicating its will in a resounding way. It is not over yet, but this is the closest that we have ever been in 25 years to having our territory rights restored. I want to acknowledge, particularly, the efforts of our ACT and Northern Territory colleagues, who have argued for this so vociferously, and particularly Minister Gallagher and Senator Pocock. What a difference it is without Senator Seselja there, arguing against the democratic rights of his own citizens.

There is a lot to be grateful for today. On behalf of the ACT government, I want to put on the record how much we welcome that. Perhaps by this time next week, we may be physically present in the Senate, ACT parliament willing, to see this resolved once and for all, and, I hope, in a very positive way.

On that note, today is, of course, Thanksgiving. I note that there is plenty to be thankful for—thankful for what has occurred in the Senate today, and there are so many reasons to be thankful for living in the ACT, despite what we have been inflicted with over the last 25 years. We are an inclusive, diverse, multicultural community. The Australian-American community are such a big part of that, and have given so much to the Australian community and the Canberra community. I look forward to celebrating tonight with the Australian American Association, who will also be back in a very big way next year for the 25th anniversary of the National Multicultural Festival.

I wish everybody a very happy Thanksgiving. Everyone has plenty of reasons to reflect on what they are thankful for.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

**The Assembly adjourned at 6.13 pm until Tuesday, 29 November 2022 at 10.00 am.**

## Schedule of amendments

### Schedule 1

#### Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

##### Amendments moved by the Minister for Health

1

#### Proposed new clauses 11 and 12

Page 6, line 8—

*insert*

#### 11 Section 49 (4) (c)

*substitute*

(c) with the consent of—

- (i) the person to whom the information relates (the ***relevant person***); or
- (ii) if the relevant person is a child or young person—a person with parental responsibility for the relevant person; or
- (iii) if the relevant person is a legally incompetent person—a guardian of, or power of attorney for, the relevant person; or
- (iv) if the relevant person is a deceased person to whom subsection (1) (a) applies—the relevant person's next of kin or legal personal representative; or

#### 12 New section 49 (5) and (6)

- (5) For subsection (4) (c), the definition of ***next of kin*** in the dictionary does not apply.
- (6) In this section:
  - legally incompetent person*** means a person who is subject to—
    - (a) an enduring power of attorney that has become operative; or
    - (b) a guardianship order.

***person with parental responsibility***, for a child or young person, means a parent or someone else with parental responsibility for the child or young person under the *Children and Young People Act 2008*, division 1.3.2.

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## Answers to questions

### Health—gastroenterology and hepatology waiting times (Question No 908)

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Health, upon notice, on 23 September 2022:

- (1) How many patients are on the waiting list for the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Unit (GEHU) for 2021-22.
- (2) How many of the patients referred to in part (1) have been on the waiting list for over 12 months.
- (3) What is the average wait time for an initial appointment at the GEHU, that is, the total time taken for a referral to a named specialist between when the referral was received and the date the appointment was booked for.
- (4) How many referrals have been waiting more than (a) six and (b) 12 months without being seen.
- (5) What percentage of referrals, for example, urgent referrals, are seen within clinically recommended times.
- (6) What is the average wait time for (a) general gastroenterology referrals and (b) sub-speciality referrals.

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

- (1) As at 4 October 2022, there are 3,608 patients on the current clinic wait list (new episodes of care). There are 8,500 procedures currently on the wait list which is combination of those booked for their procedure, patients appropriate for booking and patients that have been contacted and are unable to be booked for procedures or consults for several reasons (e.g. the patient has refused due to personal circumstances or extenuating medical reasons).
- (2) 3,359 patients have been on the procedure waiting lists for over 12 months and 2,408 patients have been on the consultation waiting lists for over 12 months.
- (3) Average wait time for initial consultation in days:

Financial Year	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Urgent
2021-22	54	649	829	32

- (4) Referrals waiting more than 6 and 12 months:

	Patients awaiting a booking between 6 and 12 months (180 to 364 days)	Patients awaiting a booking over 12 months (365+ days)
Current clinic waiting lists	547	2,408
Current procedure waiting lists	1,513	3,359

- (5) All urgent bookings are made within the clinically recommended timeframes. Patients who are referred as a part of the National Bowel Cancer Screening program are all booked for a consultation within one month of receiving a referral.
- (6) GEHU is formed from three distinct medical specialties – General Gastroenterology, Hepatology and the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) service. A patient who is awaiting a liver appointment would not impact the waiting times of a general gastroenterology appointment as they are two separate specialties, however the patients for all specialties are wait listed under “the gastroenterology ambulatory waiting list” – comments within the waitlists dictate which specialty a patient should be booked into. In regard to specific wait times, please see below.

#### Average Gastroenterology Wait times in days

Financial Year	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Urgent
2021-22	50	697	843	31

#### Average Liver Wait times

Financial Year	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Urgent
2021-22	67	230	698	34

#### Average IBD Wait times

Financial Year	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Urgent
2021-22	75	415	0	62

### ACT Corrective Services—Indigenous liaison officers (Question No 927)

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Corrections, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) What key performance indicators are associated with the Indigenous Liaison Officer (ILO) position.
- (2) How many full-time equivalent ILO positions are funded for ACT Corrective Services.
- (3) How many ILOs have resigned or taken an extended leave of absence (over six months) in the last four years, given the committee for the inquiry into Community Corrections stated that there was “high turnover of ILOs”.
- (4) How many ILOs have been hired in the last four years.

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

1. The Aboriginal Liaison Officer (ALO) role (previously the Indigenous Liaison Officer (ILO) role) is expected to meet the following requirements:
  - to engage each detainee on their primary allocated caseload on at least two occasions per month
  - ALO Inductions for new receptions to be completed within the required completion time in at least 90% of cases, and
  - ALO Exit interviews for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees exiting from custody to be completed in at least 80% of cases.

2. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services Team is comprised of four staff including an Aboriginal Services Officer and a Team Leader, who engage with detainees as required. There are also two full time equivalent ALO positions funded for ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS).
3. Each of the two ALO positions has had one nominal occupant resign in the last four years. ACTCS has no records of any occupants taking a period of extended leave.
4. A total of six ALOs have been employed across the two positions in the last four years. Specifically, each position has had two permanent occupants and one temporary occupant.

### **Roads—maintenance (Question No 929)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) How much funding was set aside for the purpose of pothole repair in the (a) 2019-2020, (b) 2020-2021, (c) 2021-2022 and (d) 2022-2023 financial years.
- (2) How many private contractor businesses were engaged to repair potholes on behalf of the ACT Government in (a) 2019-2020, (b) 2020-2021, (c) 2021-2022 and (d) 2022-2023.
- (3) Are the contractors, referred to in part (2), subject to any key performance indicators to assess their performance.
- (4) How many potholes did each contractor fix during the time of their contracts.
- (5) How much was paid to each private contractor business to repair potholes in the (a) 2019-2020, (b) 2020-2021, (c) 2021-2022 and (d) 2022-2023 financial years.

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

- (1) Roads ACT runs several programs for undertaking road repairs including reactive repair programs and preventative maintenance programs such as the annual resurfacing program. Reactive pothole repairs (coldmix) are not budgeted or tracked separately. Below are the budgets for: routine works which includes funding for reactive pothole repairs (coldmix), and road repair and resurfacing (eg. reseal, asphalt overlay, prep patching and heavy patching):

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Routine works including reactive pothole repairs (coldmix)	\$1,469,595	\$1,739,446	\$1,388,160	Actual TBC at end FY
Road repair and resurfacing (eg. reseal, asphalt overlay, prep patching and heavy patching)	\$17,000,160	\$15,928,076	\$17,774,623	Actual TBC at end FY

Note: Road Resurfacing includes pothole repair that is not quantified as part of the process.

- (2) Reactive coldmix pothole repairs are primarily conducted by Roads ACT staff. In the 2022-23 financial year July to present, Roads ACT engaged Patches Asphalt and Capital Asphalt to assist with reactive coldmix pothole patching. Both contractors were engaged for a total of four days each. No contractors were engaged for period (a), (b), (c).
- (3) the nature of this contractual arrangement is to provide plant and labour resources working under Roads ACT direction and supervision. Consequently, contractual output indicators are not appropriate. Work is packaged and provided to the contractors with specific scope and requirements including expectations of performance.
- (4)

Date of Coldmix Pothole Patching	Capital Asphalt	Patches Asphalt
07/10/2022	36	28
11/10/2022	48	56
12/10/2022	26	40
13/10/2022	54	37

- (5) For the period (d) listed above, Capital Asphalt were paid a total of \$4,850.00 and Patches Asphalt were paid a total of \$7,700.00. Noting these costs were based on the resources allocated to the task, not the number of potholes repaired. No cold mix potholing services were contracted during period (a), (b), (c).

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## Health—paediatric services (Question No 930)

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Mental Health, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) What programs are in the paediatric high care ward for kids with mental health and eating disorders.
- (2) How are parent and sibling experiences considered in the care for children with eating disorders.
- (3) Is there a formal parent and sibling reference group.
- (4) Has the Government reviewed the paediatric high care ward; if not, why not; if so, (a) was it an internal or external review, (b) what was the cost, (c) what were the recommendations of the review and (d) what changes has the ward made following the review.
- (5) Does the ward consult with other clinicians that the child sees outside the ward; if not, why not.

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

- 1) There are no programs on the paediatric high care ward specifically for children and young people admitted to hospital in the context of an eating disorder. A young person needs to be physically well enough before they can undertake any therapy. Once medically stable, programs are developed and individualised for the young person as part of the multidisciplinary meetings. Care planning is undertaken to identify potential supports that would be beneficial for that individual and their specific care needs, this may include the involvement of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.
  - 2) The Eating Disorder Program (EDP) is community based and provides evidence-based therapy to eligible clients. These core interventions include Maudsley Family Based Therapy (FBT). Families and significant others are involved as much as it is clinically recommended for the individual person throughout their treatment and recovery.
  - 3) The ACT Government recognises that people with lived experience provide a wealth of insight into how systems can be improved and highly value these contributions. The Expanding Public Health Services for Eating Disorders in the Territory project ensures these views are heard through the Project Reference Group, which includes a parent/carer with lived experience and a community member with direct lived experience of an eating disorder.
  - 4) A review of paediatric services was conducted in 2021, which included the Paediatric High Care ward at the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children. I am advised by Canberra Health Services (CHS) that prior to this review an audit of facilities was conducted in 2015.
    - a) Please refer to Question on Notice 902 for information regarding the 2021 review of paediatric services. The 2015 audit was conducted by medical representatives from tertiary paediatric services in New South Wales.
    - b) This audit was a territory wide audit and not funded by CHS.
    - c) The audit was 'very impressed with the paediatric facilities and the dedication and professionalism of the nursing, medical and administrative staff' and found that a fully functioning high dependency unit was justified. At the time of the review in 2015 it was found the Canberra Hospital facilities for paediatric high dependency did not comply with the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand standards and the review recommended improved line of sight was necessary to better care for children and young people with high acuity needs.
    - d) In 2020, as part of the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children Expansion Project, the new Paediatric High Care Ward was opened that delivered a range of improvements to care for children and young people with high acuity needs, including improved line of sight. Work was also undertaken across the organisation to deliver the high dependency capability that reflects the 2015 review recommendations.
  - 5) With the permission of parents or carers, clinicians will engage a multidisciplinary approach to provide care.
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## Canberra Hospital—paediatric services (Question No 931)

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Mental Health, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) What has been the Canberra Hospital's paediatric high care ward's budget since 2016-17.
- (2) How many staff work in the ward, including (a) full-time equivalent and (b) headcount each year since 2016-17.
- (3) Can the Minister provide each staff classification, for example, nurse, psychiatrist, executive.
- (4) How many presentations have there been at the ward each year each year since 2016-17.
- (5) How many children (younger than 16) have presented to the ward with eating disorders each year since 2016-17.
- (6) How many children who have presented to the ward, have been discharged and readmitted, each year since 2016-17.
- (7) What is the criteria to discharge a patient with an eating disorder and which clinicians have an input and how.

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

- 1) Canberra Health Services (CHS) does not report budget allocations at the ward level. Current and prior year budget allocations are published on the ACT Treasury website and can be accessed here <https://www.treasury.act.gov.au/budget>. Further financial information can also be found in the CHS Annual Reports which can be accessed here <https://www.canberrahealthservices.act.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/publications>
- 2) CHS is unable to report at the ward level or prior to 2021 as this would be an unreasonable diversion of resources due to the specialised reports that would need to be accessed and created. Data has been provided detailing paid full time equivalent (FTE) and headcount (HC) for Paediatrics as of 30 June each respective year.

As of 30 June	Paid FTE	Paid HC
2021	117.62	134
2022	130.6	148

- 3) The breakdown of staff employed within the Paediatrics Department as of 28 September 2022 is:

Nursing Staff	Registered Nurse Level 1
	Registered Nurse Level 2
	Registered Nurse Level 3
	Enrolled Nurse Level 1
	Assistant in Nursing

Medical Staff	Resident Medical Officer
	Senior Resident Medical Officer
	Registrar
	Senior Registrar
	Post Graduate Fellow
	Specialist
Administrative Officers	ASO Level 2
	ASO Level 3
	ASO Level 4
	ASO Level 5

Within the Division of Women, Youth and Children Health Professionals, Senior Officers, General Service Officers and Technical Officers are also employed and provide services to the Paediatric Department.

- 4) Note that data provided in response to questions 4, 5 and 6 for 2019 20 reflects the relocation and opening of the new Paediatric High Care Ward as part of the Centenary Hospital for Women and Children Expansion Project. As a result of both infrastructure and model of care changes, figures provided for the period 2016 17 to 2018-19 are not comparable with those for subsequent years.

Financial Year	Number of Episodes of Care commencing in Paediatric High Care Ward
2016-17	1514
2017-18	1565
2018-19	1541
2019-20	600
2020-21	1139
2021-22	1156

5)

Financial Year	Number of children under 16 years of age with Paediatric High Care Ward stay involving eating disorders
2016-17	20
2017-18	33
2018-19	40
2019-20	23
2020-21	31
2021-22	49

6)

Financial Year	Number children who have been readmitted to the Paediatric High Care Ward after any previous episode of care involving the Paediatric High Care Ward
2016-17	277
2017-18	260
2018-19	269
2019-20	123
2020-21	180
2021-22	198

Many of these are planned readmissions as part of ongoing care of chronic and complex conditions or part of a staged approach to complex surgeries.

- 7) A decision to discharge is made by the medical team, in collaboration with the person, their family/carers and the multi-disciplinary team. This usually occurs when the medical team is confident that the young person is medically stable and able to return home. As part of discharge planning, the child/young person would have ongoing support from their General Practitioner and could be stepped down to community-based supports and public or private support systems.

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### **ACT Corrective Services—employment specialist (Question No 939)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Corrections, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) What key performance indicators are associated with the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Employment Specialist position.
- (2) Given that in the ACT Government's submission to the Community Corrections inquiry it states that part of the services offered by the ACTCS Employment Specialist includes the identification of suitable job vacancies through engaged employers, can the Minister provide some examples of these "engaged employers", and some examples of where the Employment Specialist has identified a suitable job vacancy and referred that vacancy to a released detainee.

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

- (1) The performance expectations for the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Employment Officer (ACTCS Employment Specialist) position, include:
  - Job vacancies to fill
  - Employment assistance offered to offenders both in the AMC and Community
  - Employment placements for offenders
  - Issuing of work ready booklets to offenders both in the AMC and Community

With the commencement of a second ACTCS Employment Specialist at the SOGC level, these performance expectations will be reviewed and will include internal and external stakeholder management and employment opportunities created through the management of these relationships.

- (2) ACTCS has worked with several employers to identify suitable job vacancies. Details are provided below:

#### **Business #1**

In 2020, the ACTCS Employment Specialist started referring offenders to this specialised recycling business and since this time, approximately 18 offenders have been referred with eight being placed into ongoing employment.

#### **Business #2**

The ACTCS Employment Specialist started working with this skip bin business in 2019. On 16 December 2019, they employed their first detainee from the Transitional Release Program. The business has since employed eight detainees from the Transitional Release Program and three offenders supervised by Community Corrections, and, as of 21 October 2022, employs three men engaged in the Transitional Release Program.



**Business #3**

The ACTCS Employment Specialist approached this scaffolding business in 2020. The ACTCS Employment Specialist has referred approximately 11 people to the business of which five have been employed ongoing.

**Business #4**

The ACTCS Employment Specialist approached this metal business in March 2020. The business employed a detainee while exiting the AMC and transitioning into the community and the ACTCS Employment Specialist provided ongoing support to maintain this employment throughout that transition to ensure the ongoing success of the employment arrangement.

**Business #5**

In June 2022 a Grounds Maintenance Business contacted the Alexander Maconochie Centre to see if a “Work Crew” could be facilitated for their business. The business will employ two detainees from the Transitional Release Centre commencing on 17 November 2022, on a casual basis for two days per week to start. The business is willing to increase the detainees’ work hours when the business owner is feeling more comfortable with the process and building trust with the detainees as he is new to the space.

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**Alexander Maconochie Centre—body scanners  
(Question No 942)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Corrections, upon notice, on 14 October 2022:

- (1) In relation to the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), when were the body scanners promised by the Government after the strip search incident on 11 January 2021 installed and when were they turned on and made a part of routine AMC operations.
- (2) How many body scanners were purchased and installed.
- (3) What was the cost of purchase for each body scanner.
- (4) What was the total cost of purchase and installation for each body scanner.
- (5) Will there be a policy on the use of the body scanner similar to the policy written for the SOTER body scanner back in 2010.

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

1. The installation of the body scanners was completed in June 2022. It is anticipated the devices will become part of routine operations at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) in December 2022, when the necessary radiation licensing is obtained and training, compliance and operating procedures for the use of the devices are all completed.
2. Two Rapiscan X-ray body scanners were purchased and have been installed.
3. The cost of purchase of each scanner was \$249,638, excluding GST (\$274,602 including GST).

4. The total cost of purchase and installation for the two scanners - including delivery, networking requirements, licencing, preventative maintenance, and project management - was \$601,056 excluding GST (\$661,162 including GST). This is \$300,528 excluding GST per scanner (\$330,581 including GST).
5. The overarching policy for the use of body scanners is the Searching Policy 2022 which is already in effect. An operating procedure outlining the use of body scanners is under development and is currently subject to consultation with stakeholders. The operating procedure will be notified on the ACT Legislation Register prior to the scanners going online for use.

### Municipal services—play spaces (Question No 946)

**Mr Cain** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) Can the Minister provide a breakdown of cost elements for the delivery of play spaces in the ACT, in relation to the categories of (a) district, (b) central and (c) local, play spaces.
- (2) What is the geographic breakdown by suburb of play spaces across the ACT.

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

- (1) The cost to construct a play space is highly variable due to a variety of site-specific needs. Indicative base costs have been provided at Table 1.
- (2) Please refer to Table 2 for play spaces across the ACT.

**Table 1**

	Local play space	Central play space	District play space
<b>Breakdown of cost</b>			
Feasibility, Design and supervision	\$45,000	\$150,000	\$500,000
Contingency	\$45,000	\$150,000	\$500,000
Construction*	\$450,000	\$1,500,000	\$5,000,000
Procurement fees	\$18,000	\$60,000	\$200,000
Insurance fees	\$4,500	\$15,000	\$50,000
Project Management fees	\$22,500	\$75,000	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$585,000</b>	<b>\$1,950,000</b>	<b>\$6,500,000</b>
General delivery cost range	\$0.5m - \$0.8m	\$2.0m - \$3.5m	\$6.5m - \$7.5m
*Construction includes preliminaries, earthworks, incidental works, play space equipment, landscaping and consolidation			

Examples of extras not included in the construction figure	Footpath connections	Oval remediation/irrigation	Oval Remediation/irrigation
		Carpark	Carpark
		Footpath connections	Two or more multipurpose courts
		Multipurpose court	Toilet facility (4+ cubicles)
		Toilet facility (1 cubicle)	Exercise equipment
		Exercise equipment	picnic facilities
		picnic facilities	skate park
			bike track

**Table 2**

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	HILDER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOONLIGHT AVENUE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	HARRISON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MARY KITSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WATSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HANNAH PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DEAKIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHARLOTTE BARTON ST NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MARY GILLISPIE AVENUE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GUNGAHLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANSETT STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GUNGAHLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SAMARIA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CRACE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	THADOONA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CRACE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TURBAYNE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CARMODY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CASEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WIGHTON TERRACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CASEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	REFSHAUGE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DILLON CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JOHN HOLT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DE GRUCHY PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VOLPATO STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DON BELL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CALWELL SHOPPING CENTRE	CALWELL
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	KILMENY CLOSE COMMUNITY PARK (CRIP)	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ELIZABETH JOLLEY CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FULLSTON WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BON SCOTT CRIP PARK	MONCRIEFF

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	WANDERLIGHT AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BIRRELL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PAGE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TELFER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOMBS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	LONGERENONG STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	FARRER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	BOOMALULLA OVAL	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEAMER CERESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HEAGNEY CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DALYELL STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALSTON STREET	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KIRKCALDIE CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PROCTOR STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HEAGNEY CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GILMORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HOGUE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GILMORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROSMAN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GILMORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ELLIOTT PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CAMPBELL
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	DE LITTLE CIRCUIT CENTRAL COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND	GREENWAY
DISTRICT	ANKETELL STREET	GREENWAY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MARQUET RETREAT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONYTHON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RUSSEL DRYSDALE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CONDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HUSSEY COVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONYTHON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COCKROFT AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHARLESTON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WILLIAM HUDSON CRESCENT ROAD MEDIAN	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GARSIA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CAMPBELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HALLSTROM CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CLIVE STEELE AVENUE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALABASTER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VICTOR PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONASH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NEWMAN MORRIS CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	OXLEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CUTHBERTSON STREET MCKIBBIN PL SEMI NATURAL OPEN S	OXLEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VIDAL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RICHARDSON

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHAUNCY CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RICHARDSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CLIFT CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RICHARDSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VICTORIA CROSS PARK	CAMPBELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LOUIS LODER STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	THEODORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LAWRENCE WACKETT CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	THEODORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHIPPINDALL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	THEODORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SCANTLEBURY CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	THEODORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DYETT CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	THEODORE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LANSSELL CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BUSSAU CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SULLIVAN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SAINSBURY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHITE CRESCENT (WEST) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CAMPBELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BILLSON PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WANNIASSA
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SANGSTER PLACE SHOPPING CENTRE	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHITEMAN STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HALFREY CIRCUIT (ATA STYLES PL) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHEELER CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HERVEY PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	STEINFIELD COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WATKINS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WANNIASSA
DISTRICT	MCGILVRAY CLOSE DISTRICT PARK	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	EVAN PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COBBY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CAMPBELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FINDON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ISABELLA PLAINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KEVERSTON CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ISABELLA PLAINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	YABTREE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ISABELLA PLAINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MANNEHEIM STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GIBBS PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MARCONI CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LASCELLES CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HASKETT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CRAFER PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HORTON CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TOOLE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEUCHAR CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MCKILLOP PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VANZETTI CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CROUCH PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SUMMERLAND CIRCUIT (SOUTH) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MCLEOD PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BRIMAGE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COGHILL CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RUTHERFORD CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AINSLIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LOWANNA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BRADDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BODDINGTON CRESCENT (SOUTH) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BOUSTEAD CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PINKERTON CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROUNSEVELL STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DALE CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
DISTRICT	SPRINGBETT STREET DISTRICT PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PRIMMER COURT	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HUMBLE COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MAXWORTHY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD APRK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LIVINGSTON AVENUE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	GLEBE PARK TOWN PARK	CITY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	OLDFIELD CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	AMMON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALLCHIN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ATTIWELL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BTWN BUCKLEY CCT AND BARRITT ST PEDESTRIAN PARKLAN	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FAITHFULL CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BULLOCK CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KARNEY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SAMUEL CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CALWELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANGAS STREET ROAD VERGE	AINSLIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WERE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CALWELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CASEY CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CALWELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BECKETT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CALWELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOUNTAIN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CALWELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LEARMONTH DRIVE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KAMBAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MERRIMAN STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACARTHUR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BAYLY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACARTHUR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	JEFFRIES STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HOWELL PLACE	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	INWOOD PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MIDDLETON CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WRAY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WEATHERS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GOWRIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOLVIG STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOONTA PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FISHER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ARALUEN STREET	FISHER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DENNIS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GARRAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HENDERSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GARRAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BISDEE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	HUGHES
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MCNICOLL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HUGHES
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GOBLE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	HUGHES
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	DUMOLO PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ISAACS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROWNTREE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ISAACS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HAGELTHORN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FARRER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WAGGA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FARRER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOODIE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FARRER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GATTON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FARRER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KALLARA CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUFFY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MIRROOL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUFFY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GLENMAGGIE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	DUFFY

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CARGELLIGO STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	DUFFY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROCKLANDS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUFFY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PEARSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CALDER CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DE GRAAFF STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ORDELL STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CHAPMAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PERRY DRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHAPMAN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	TAUCHERT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHAPMAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BERTEL CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHAPMAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MACALISTER CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DAGLISH STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PHILP PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CARRUTHERS STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MORGAN PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FARNELL PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CURTIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	STOREY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CURTIN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CHIFLEY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHIFLEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHARTERIS CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHIFLEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RISDON PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	LYONS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TOOMS PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	LYONS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEVONPORT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LYONS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PILLAR PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	LYONS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TANK STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	PHILLIP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROWE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PHILLIP
DISTRICT	LAUNCESTON ST DISTRICT PARK	PHILLIP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BARLEE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	STIRLING
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BUNBURY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	STIRLING
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SANTALUM STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RIVETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	YATE GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RIVETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BLANCOA PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RIVETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SOLLYA PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RIVETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MALARA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WARAMANGA



ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WARRAI PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WARAMANGA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHITNEY PLACE	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GRUNER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FRY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PARSONS STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	TORRENS
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	TORRENS PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	TORRENS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HORROCKS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	TORRENS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	AGNEW STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AINSLIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHITHAM PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	PEARCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MACFARLAND CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PEARCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KEMSLEY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PEARCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COBBADAH STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	O'MALLEY
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CULGOA CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'MALLEY
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	WILKINS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DU FAUR PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LASERON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	AURORA CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HAMERSLEY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FISHER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WITHERS PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	QUINLIVAN CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	EVELYN OWEN CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	POCKETT AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BANKS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SHOOBRIDGE CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHAUVEL CIRCLE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHAPMAN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GREENWAY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEAN PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MATARANKA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HAWKER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALLMAN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACQUARIE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	JAMISON CENTRE	MACQUARIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BADGERY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACQUARIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BLACKMAN CRESCENT PEDESRIAN PARKLAND	MACQUARIE

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	LEVINE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	EVATT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	HALL PARK PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	HALL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HARPER STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VIOLETS PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BIMBERI CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WYLDE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACQUARIE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	KOSCIUSZKO AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WEDDIN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LOFTY CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WELLINGTON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HOMESTEAD PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NOBLE CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BLACKLOCK CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SONDER CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MACQUARIE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACQUARIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CORRINGLE CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MIRRABEI DRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	METCALFE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BURRUMARRA AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BYWATERS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CANDLEBARK CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PANDANUS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FISHER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ERSKINE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACQUARIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEUMONGA COURT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GADALI CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BARGANG CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PROSERPINE CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BIZANT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SUE GEH CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANNE CLARK AVENUE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WANDERER COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AMAROO

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SCULPTOR STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GIRALANG
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	PAUL COE CRESCENT ROAD MEDIAN	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GOULDSMITH STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TEA GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GUNGAHLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	STEDMAN PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WARRING PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GIRALANG
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TARDENT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DOWNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ACHERNER CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GIRALANG
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BARACCHI CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GIRALANG
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MALINDI PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GIRALANG
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RIGEL PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GIRALANG
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JEFFERY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MCKELLAR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VAGABOND CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MCKELLAR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TIPPING PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MCKELLAR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BAIRD PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DUIGAN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GATTY PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FENTON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DOWNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HARGRAVE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BROADSMITH STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LEVIEN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	SCULLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WOOLNER CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HAWKER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANNINGIE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	HAWKER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOWLE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WEETANGERA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SMITH STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WEETANGERA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MATHIESON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WEETANGERA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BERRY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DOWNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	EARLIE PLACE	PAGE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	THOZET PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PAGE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	PATERSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AINSLIE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	HAWDON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DICKSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SOLOMON CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LATHAM

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HENSMAN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LATHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHUBB STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LATHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GEORGINA CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DARBY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GLENELG STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ASHBURTON CIRCUIT KALEEN SHOPPING CENTRE	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BELLINGER COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BURKITT STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	PAGE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PETTERD STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	PAGE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NEWBERY CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PAGE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BARRETT STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PULLEINE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHALMERS PLACE LANEWAY	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BERNE CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BEANEY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MACGREGOR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SHAKESPEARE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FRASER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BINGLEY CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FRASER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MILDENHALL PLACE SEMI NATURAL OPEN SPACE	FRASER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GUNDARA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ARANDA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JAGARA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	ARANDA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BANDJALONG CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	ARANDA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BANAMBILA STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	ARANDA
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	KESTEVEN STREET FLOREY SHOPPING CENTRE	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COLE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DOWNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TATTERSALL CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HEWLETT CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BOSWELL CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MEYRICK PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	O'SULLIVAN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HIGGINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HUDSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HIGGINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RICH STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HIGGINS
DISTRICT	FLOREY DRIVE DISTRICT PARK	LATHAM

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ELLENBOROUGH STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WARREGO CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALBERGA STREET PEDESTRIAN PARK	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LIFFEY CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KALEEN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	HANCOCK STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	SPENCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CROFTS CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	SPENCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GLASSEY PLACE SPENCE SHOPPING CENTRE	SPENCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BRITTEN JONES DRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CAZALY CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BOYLE PLACE	HOLT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HARDWICK CRESCENT SHOPPING CENTRE	HOLT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HOPE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DICKSON
DISTRICT	DIDDAMS CLOSE (WEST)	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TOTTERDELL STREET SOUTH NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TOTTERDELL STREET NORTH PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	BELCONNEN
DISTRICT	MACDERMOTT PLACE DISTRICT PARK	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PIGDON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RENNY PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COBBETT PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BRUCE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	TRYON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HACKETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MUGGLESTONE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	BRUCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JAEGAR CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BRUCE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SCARLETT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MELBA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DELANY COURT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MELBA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HENSLOWE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MELBA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BISHOP PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MELBA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FLOWER PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MELBA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BLACKWELL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLYNN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HERSCHELL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLYNN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	RECHNER PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLYNN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BRAGG STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HACKETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PLOWMAN PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLYNN

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DONNISON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BETTINGTON CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SADLIER PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COVINGTON CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GOLLAN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JACOBS STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CALDWELL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HACKETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KINKEAD STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PITCAIRN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	EVATT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	READ PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COPLAND DRIVE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TEAGUE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	COOK
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEXTER AND BOURNE STS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOK
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MACKELLAR CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOK
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LYTTLETON CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	COOK
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CLISBY CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOK
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GILRUTH STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HACKETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LAMPARD CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	BRUCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ARCHDALL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CONDAMINE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	TURNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CORREA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'CONNOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BORONIA DRIVE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	O'CONNOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WONGoola STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'CONNOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	COCKLE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	O'CONNOR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	FINN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'CONNOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DAVID STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'CONNOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HARRIS STREET	HACKETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DOWLING STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WATSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SIMPSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WATSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HARDING STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WATSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WADE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WATSON
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	GEERILONG GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	REID

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	RAILWAY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	OAKS ESTATE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WILLIAM STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	OAKS ESTATE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CARNEGIE CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	VON GUERARD CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LYNEHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SPRENT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANEMBO STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND (WEST)	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ANEMBO STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND (EAST)	NARRABUNDAH
DISTRICT	TELOPEA PARK	BARTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BROCKMAN STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WELLS GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GRIFFITH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FLINDERS WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GRIFFITH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	STOKES STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GRIFFITH
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	COSSINGTON SMITH CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	LYNEHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LIGHT STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GRIFFITH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	THROSBY LANE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GRIFFITH
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	MUELLER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	YARRALUMLA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BEDFORD STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DEAKIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LAWLEY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DEAKIN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	GOLDEN GROVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RED HILL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ASTROLABE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RED HILL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GOODCHILD STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LYNEHAM
DISTRICT	WESTON PARK DISTRICT PARK(EAST)	YARRALUMLA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WILSON CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BANKS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MENZIES COURT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BANKS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NOEL RYAN GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	IREDALE PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KIRKWOOD CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	POPPLEWELL PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GORDON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KNOKE AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GORDON
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CREMONE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CONDER

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LAMBERT PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LYNEHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MONTIFIORE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CONDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DIXSON CRESCENT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CONDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MCPHAIL PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	FADDEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BERTRAM STREET NATIVE GRASSLAND	FADDEN
DISTRICT	COYNE STREET DISTRICT PARK	FADDEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PARNELL PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FADDEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DE BURGH STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	LYNEHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MEESON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHISHOLM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LANABA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CRACE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MAX JACOBS AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	APPLEFORD AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	JACKA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BILIN BILIN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ITERRA GROVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	CARMAN LOOP NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	JAMES HARRISON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DALMAN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	O'MALLEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GREG IRWIN CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CASEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PETER CULLEN WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KAVANGAL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	STOWPORT AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CRACE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	AIDA BALL CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BURNUM BURNUM CLOSE CRIP PARK	BONNER
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BRUCE DITTMAR CENTRAL COMMUNITY PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PAISLEY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ABBIE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	YEEND AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CASEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GLADYS LISTER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PHYLIS STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JOHN CRAWFORD AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CASEY
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	GUNGAHLIN CENTRAL LINEAR PARK	GUNGAHLIN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	TANAMI STREET (NW) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HARRISON



ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ERIC MAWSON STREET (WEST) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HARRISON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GWEN MEREDITH LOOP PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CRACKERJACK WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONCRIEFF
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BETTONG AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	THROSBY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PORTER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DEVENISH STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	TAYLOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NARRABUNDAH SHOPPING CENTRE	NARRABUNDAH
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DOT BUTLER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WARAMANGA PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WARAMANGA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MAYMURU WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WHITLAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	LADY NELSON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RED HILL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NICKLIN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FADDEN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	STAPYLTON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MANSFIELD PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	PHILLIP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	EPACRIS PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	RIVETT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	YANDA STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WARAMANGA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BOWLING PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	SPENCE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CANAWAY PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	EVATT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GWYDIR SQ KALEEN SHOPPING CENTRE	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WAKOOL CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	KALEEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WAKEFIELD GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	AINSLIE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HACKETT GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	TURNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	DIRRAWAN GARDENS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	REID
DISTRICT	GARRYOWEN DRIVE DISTRICT PARK	ACTON
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	HAWKER SHOPPING CENTRE	HAWKER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BONIWELL STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HIGGINS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MC QUADE CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CHARNWOOD
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SANDERSON CLOSE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	FLYNN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MACROSSAN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LATHAM
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ARMSTRONG CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SANDALWOOD STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KINGSTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CASSON CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RICHARDSON

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NEMERANG CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WARAMANGA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ROSSON PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	ISAACS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	KITSON PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FLOREY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	GILLESPIE STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	WEETANGERA
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CNR DOROTHY GREEN CR AND PATRICK WHITE CCT	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CNR CHRISTINA STEAD ST AND BALLANTYNE CR	FRANKLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	WHITROD AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CASEY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CHIPP STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOMBS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ADLARD PLACE - PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GUNGAHLIN
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	PAHLMAN STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CLYDE FINLAY STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SLIM DUSTY CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MONCRIEFF
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	CAMPBELL SEC 5 BINDUGAN CRESCENT	CAMPBELL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NOFFS CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOMBS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TERRY CONNOLLY STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	COOMBS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ELDERSHAW CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BURGOYNE STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONYTHON
DISTRICT	WUNDERLICH STREET DISTRICT PARK	GUNGAHLIN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	HANRAHAN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MAG PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DUNLOP
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TUBMAN PLACE PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	NICHOLLS
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JAMES SMITH CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	CONDER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BELLBIRD LOOP NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	LAWSON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	TISHLER STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BANJO PATTERSON AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WRIGHT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MCCONCHIE CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	WESTON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BINDUGAN CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	NGUNNAWAL
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	JEANNE YOUNG CIRCUIT PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	MCKELLAR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	THYNE STREET SEMI NATURAL OPEN SPACE	BRUCE
DISTRICT	TOWNSEND PLACE DISTRICT PARK	BELCONNEN
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BRYAN HUDSON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	MACGREGOR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BODDINGTON CRESCENT (NORTH) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH

ASSET_SUB_TYPE	LOCATION	SUBURB
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MORICE PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONYTHON
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	RIVETT PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	RIVETT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BEAUREPAIRE CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HOLT
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	CNR BONYTHON AND MELBA STS NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DOWNER
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SUMMERLAND CIRCUIT (NORTH) NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	KAMBAH
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	TEMPLETON STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	COOK
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	NARDEN STREET CENTRAL COMMUNITY PARK (CRIP)	CRACE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ALBATROSS CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	HARRISON
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	PEARL GIBBS CIRCUIT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	NEIDJIE CLOSE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MEDHURST CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	CRACE
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	LIMBURG WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	GREENWAY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	BETTONG AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAYGROUND	THROSBY
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	FERNANDO STREET NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	BONNER
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	SPEC PLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	PALMERSTON
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	NEIL HARRIS CRESCENT DISTRICT PARK	FORDE
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	FLORENCE TAYLOR STREET	GREENWAY
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	MORTIMER LEWIS DRIVE	GREENWAY
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	SUTHERLAND CRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	TAYLOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	MOTTRAM STREET PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	TAYLOR
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	CANOPUS CRESCENTS PEDESTRIAN PARKLAND	GIRALANG
CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD	ADA NORRIS AVENUE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK	DENMAN PROSPECT
LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD NATURAL	ROMBERG WAY ROAD VERGE	TAYLOR
CENTRAL COMMUNITY	BLUE POLES PARK	WHITLAM

### Government—annual reports printing costs (Question No 949)

**Mr Cain** asked the Chief Minister, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) What was the total cost of the physical printing of annual reports across the ACT Public Service (ACTPS) for 2021-22 for the (a) Justice and Community Safety Directorate, (b) Community Services Directorate, (c) Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, (d) Environment, Planning and Sustainable

Development Directorate, (e) City Renewal Authority and (f) Suburban Land Agency.

- (2) What is the total cost of physical printing of annual reports across the ACTPS for the reporting years of (a) 2021-22, (b) 2020-21, (c) 2019-20 and (d) 2018-19.
- (3) What is the minimum statutory requirements for how many annual report booklets must be distributed or filed.

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

- (1) Table 1 provides the total cost of physical printing of annual reports for the Directorates specified.

**Table 1**

Directorate/Agency	2021-22 ex GST	2021-22 Inc GST
Justice and Community Safety Directorate	\$4,925.00	\$5,417.50
Community Services Directorate	\$4,705.00	\$5,175.50
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate	\$5,518.00	\$6,070.00
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate	\$3,150.00	\$3,465.00
City Renewal Authority	\$3,514.50	\$3,195.00
Suburban Land Agency	\$1,725.62	\$1,898.18
Total	\$23,538.12	\$25,221.18

- (2) Table 2 provides the total cost of physical printing of annual reports across the span of identified reporting periods.

**Table 2**

	Total ex GST	Total inc GST
(a) 2021-22	\$23,538.12	\$25,221.18
(b) 2020-21	\$29,879.09	\$32,867.00
(c) 2019-20	\$31,089.19	\$34,144.11
(d) 2018-19	\$37,102.55	\$40,812.41

- (3) Printing requirements for ACT Government directorates and agencies are outlined in the following sources:
  - Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Direction 2022
  - Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004
  - The Assembly Process Handbook (CMTEDD)

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### **Multimodal network plan—integration (Question No 951)**

**Ms Clay** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) How is the multimodal network plan going to be integrated into existing documents within Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, including planning policies,

planning guides, frameworks, strategies, design guides, design standards and practitioner tools.

- (2) What new or updated information is the plan expected to provide.
- (3) How will this differ from existing documents within the directorate.
- (4) How is the multimodal network plan expected to be integrated into the work of other ACT agencies such as the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, City Renewal Authority and Suburban Land Agency.
- (5) How will this work and other works be integrated into the ACT planning system review and reform project, future district strategies and a future territory plan.
- (6) How is the multimodal network plan considering the role of the National Capital Authority in ACT transport systems.
- (7) Will the multimodal network plan forecast future needs at the current mode share or a future more sustainable mode share with a smaller portion of private motor vehicle travel, noting that the 2020 Transport Strategy does not identify mode shift targets.

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

- (1) The ACT Transport Strategy 2020 sets a vision for a world class transport system that supports a compact, sustainable and vibrant city. This vision is supported by principles for development of the future transport network, including integration of land use and transport planning, proactive planning for future scenarios, connected transport modes and promotion of zero emissions transport.

The Multimodal Network Plan (MNP) will apply this vision and transport network development principles. The MNP will review existing transport networks and confirm modal priorities using Movement and Place classifications for key transport corridors and significant areas such as the City Centre and other town centres.

Initially, the MNP will simply overlay existing transport networks including the strategic cycle network plan, indicative light rail network and rapid public transport network. This will help identify modal priorities and gaps in the integration of transport modes using the Movement and Place Framework. In accordance with the Australian Transport Assessment and Planning Guidelines, in future the development or update of individual modal plans will be aligned with transport corridor and network objectives and priorities of the MNP.

The MNP will also consider multiple future scenarios to help with planning for increasing demand for public transport and the uptake of electric vehicles and other technology.

It will include an indicative staging and prioritisation program of infrastructure and non-infrastructure initiatives across all transport modes. The initiatives will be assessed and prioritised based on a multi-criteria analysis and testing using the Canberra Strategic Transport Model. The non-infrastructure initiatives may include updating of design guides and infrastructure standards and further enhancing the Active Travel Practitioner's Tool.

- (2) As mentioned in response the Question 1, the MNP will provide an indicative staging and prioritisation program of infrastructure and non-infrastructure initiatives across all

transport modes. This indicative program will be aimed at achieving the vision and principles of the ACT Transport Strategy. This will help guide the ACT Government in its transport planning activities over the next 30 years across all transport modes – active travel, public transport, freight and private vehicles.

- (3) Multimodal network planning is a relatively new approach to transport planning. Transport network planning in many jurisdictions has traditionally focused on planning for individual modes. Under the Australian Transport Assessment and Planning Guidelines, the philosophy is that individual modal planning should be replaced, or preceded, by multimodal network planning. As mentioned in response to Question 1 and 2, the ACT MNP will confirm modal priorities using Movement and Place classifications for key transport corridors and significant areas and include an indicative staging and prioritisation program of infrastructure and non-infrastructure initiatives across all transport modes aimed at achieving the vision and principles of the ACT Transport Strategy 2020.
- (4) Transport Canberra and City Services is working closely with Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, Suburban Land Agency and the City Renewal Authority to ensure the MNP considers the future development of Canberra. For example, the significant areas in the MNP will match each of the draft district strategies that were recently released for community consultation. The MNP will also consider future land release areas and long-range population projections.
- (5) As mentioned in response to Question 4, the MNP will be integrated and aligned with the district strategies and the future Territory Plan. Similar to the district strategies, the MNP will not remain a static document and it will be reviewed and updated on a periodic basis.
- (6) The National Capital Authority (NCA) is being consulted in the development of the MNP. Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate will ensure the MNP aligns with the National Capital Plan and other statutory planning documents and frameworks which come under the oversight of the NCA.
- (7) As mentioned in response to Question 1, the MNP will consider multiple future scenarios to help with planning for increasing demand for public transport and the uptake of electric vehicles and other technology. It will also identify key performance indicators for the transport network – having regard to the modal priorities for key transport corridors and other parts of the network.

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### **Transport Canberra—zero emissions buses (Question No 954)**

**Ms Clay** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) What stage is the leasing of 12 new zero-emissions buses at, noting that in March 2022 it was stated that these would be in operation from Belconnen and Tuggeranong depots this calendar year.
- (2) What stage of tendering is the ACT Government at to ensure that the target of 50 zero-emissions buses mentioned in the 2022-2023 Budget is reached this financial year.

- (3) How many zero-emissions buses can currently operate from the (a) Belconnen and (b) Tuggeranong Bus depots.
- (4) What works must the ACT Government undertake to accommodate 50 zero-emissions buses at existing depots.

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

- (1) The 12 new leased zero emission buses are expected to arrive in Australia in mid-November 2022, with delivery to Transport Canberra expected by the end of 2022.
- (2) The Request for Proposal for the 90 Battery Electric Buses (BEB) procurement closed on 2 September 2022. Evaluation of responses is underway and expected to be completed by end of November 2022.
- (3) On completion of depot electrical infrastructure upgrade works that are currently progressing, it is planned for a) Belconnen to house four and b) Tuggeranong up to 12 battery electric buses by the end of 2022.
- (4) Transport Canberra is working with Evoenergy to ensure Tuggeranong Depot has a suitable high voltage connection through electrical feeder augmentation works.

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### **Housing ACT—dwellings (Question No 957)**

**Mr Parton** asked the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) How many Housing ACT properties are there in each suburb, including the breakdown per suburb.
- (2) How many of those properties in each suburb, referred to in part (1) are in the category of  
(a) occupied, (b) vacant to be sold, (c) vacant to be demolished and redeveloped, (d) currently in development, (e) vacant for refurbishment and (f) vacant for another reason.
- (3) Of those vacant to be redeveloped or in development what were they before and what will they be developed as (for example, three bedroom single dwelling becoming two three bedroom townhouses).
- (4) Of those vacant, on average how long have these properties been vacant.
- (5) How many properties in the Housing ACT portfolio are vacant in the category of (a) one bedroom apartments, (b) two bedroom apartments, (c) two bedroom townhouses, (d) three bedroom townhouses, (e) three bedroom free standing home, (f) four bedroom free standing home, (g) five bedroom free standing home and (h) another type of housing.

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

(1) See answer for part (2). To protect the privacy and security of public housing tenants, which include women and children escaping domestic and family violence, a breakdown of public housing properties by District is provided.

(2)

Number of Housing ACT properties per category	ACT District								
	Belconnen	Canberra Central	Gungahlin	Jerrabomberra	Molonglo Valley	Tuggeranong	Weston Creek	Woden Valley	Other <sup>3</sup>
(a) occupied	2837	2734	1219	73	237	2409	735	818	20
(b) vacant to be sold	19	43				12	5	9	
(c) vacant to be demolished and redeveloped	44	49				22	2	10	
(d) currently in development <sup>4</sup>	54	62				44	9	23	
(e) vacant for refurbishment	54	86	6	4	4	29	11	10	
(f) vacant for another reason <sup>1</sup>	9	8	14			7	5		
<b>Total for Part (1)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>2948</b>	<b>2914</b>	<b>1220</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2449</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>20</b>

\*As at 24 October 2022

Notes:

1. Category (f) includes new acquisitions/constructions and properties recently vacated awaiting planning decisions.
2. In answer to Part (1), totals shown are the number of currently occupied or vacant Housing ACT properties in each District and exclude (d) currently in development.
3. Other: All Districts with fewer than 20 properties.
4. Category (d) only includes those properties currently in construction for redevelopment projects. New properties on greenfield land are excluded.

(3) Vacant properties to be redeveloped or currently in development, as at 24 October 2022:

a) prior to redevelopment

Number of properties by type, before redevelopment	Number of bedrooms					Total
	1	2	3	4	5+	
Apartment	4	6				10
Townhouse		8	6	4		18
House		13	136	27	2	178
						<b>206</b>



b) after redevelopment

Number of properties by type, after redevelopment	Number of bedrooms					Total
	1	2	3	4	5+	
Apartment	4	88	7	2		101
Townhouse*	1	246	61	39	1	348
House				4	4	8
*The term 'Townhouse' includes all semi-detached properties (dual/tri/quad-occupancy, village, etc.)						<b>457</b>

- (4) All currently vacant properties have been vacant for an average of 9 months. Excluding the properties that are being prepared for sale or redevelopment, the average vacant time is 5.7 months, as at 24 October 2022.

(5)

Vacant properties by category*	Number
(a) one-bedroom apartments	42
(b) two-bedroom apartments	62
(c) two-bedroom townhouses	18
(d) three-bedroom townhouses	7
(e) three-bedroom free standing homes	214
(f) four-bedroom free standing homes	33
(g) five-bedroom free standing homes	5
(h) another type of housing	81

\*As at 24 October 2022

### Light rail—network plan (Question No 960)

**Ms Clay** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

- (1) What is the purpose of the light rail network plan refresh.
- (2) Why was this refresh considered necessary.
- (3) When will this work be completed.
- (4) Will this work identify indicative alignments for future stages of light rail.
- (5) Will future indicative alignments which may be identified by the refresh include identification of enabling projects which could be completed in anticipation of later light rail delivery to allow expedited delivery of future stages.
- (6) Will the network refresh change the staging of stages 3 and 4 from the anticipated Kippax to Airport and Mawson to Tuggeranong routes.

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

- (1) The light rail network plan refresh will update and provide current thinking on the future light rail network for Canberra. This work will inform future transport and land-use planning for future stages of light rail and particularly the future east-west stage 3 route to Belconnen. The review will also consider network integration in the city centre, where the current north-south lines and the future east-west lines will connect physically and operationally.
- (2) The previous light rail network plan is out of date, and whilst indications of the Government planning is outlined in the ACT Transport Strategy and the ACT Infrastructure Plan, the "ultimate" network corridors are not included.
- (3) Work is expected to be completed in the first half of calendar year 2023.
- (4) Yes.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) No.

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**Canberra Institute of Technology—casual employees  
(Question No 964)**

**Ms Lee** asked the Minister for Skills, upon notice, on 21 October 2022:

Can the Minister provide, broken down by college/division, the (a) number of casual teachers employed by the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) each year, (b) dollar value of the total wage bill (including on-costs) relating to the employment of casual teachers at CIT, (c) number of casual corporate (non-teaching) staff employed by CIT each year, (d) dollar value of the total wage bill (including on-costs) relating to the employment of casual corporate staff at CIT and (e) qualifications and accreditation of these casual staff, for the calendar years 2017-2018 to 2021-2022.

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

The detailed response to parts (a) to (d) of the question are provided at Attachment A and B.

In relation to part (e), the qualifications for each staff member are confirmed on engagement by each local area according to the requirements of Registered Training Organisation and are specific to each industry area. This documentation is not stored centrally, and CIT is not able to provide this information without a significant and disproportionate investment in time and resources.

*(A copy of the attachment is available at the Chamber Support Office.)*

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## Questions without notice taken on notice

### Canberra Hospital—Intensive Care Unit

**Ms Stephen-Smith** (*in reply to a question by Ms Castley on Wednesday, 12 October 2022*):

Intensive Care Unit (ICU) staff are highly skilled and a stepped-education program is used to upskill staff from orientation/foundation through to senior roles within the ICU. These are continually reviewed and updated to ensure staff are confident to safely deliver care across the spectrum of treatments that are provided in the complex ICU environment. Canberra Health Services has listened to the concerns of staff and implemented the following:

- Increasing the Clinical Development Nurse (CDN) support, with an additional two temporary CDN positions (doubling the existing team);
- Introducing nine Assistant in Nursing positions (AINs) to provide additional support (within their scope of practice) to the nursing team;
- Specific education days for Clinical Care Coordinator and Team Leaders, to provide further understanding of their roles and provide leadership development opportunities;
- Running the Foundations Program for those new to the ICU without previous ICU experience – 12 month stepped program developing their competencies in all areas of ICU nursing;
- Running the ICU Orientation program (for those new to ICU but with previous experience) – includes five supernumerary days;
- Establishment of the ICU Culture Action Plan Working Group to drive the development of the ICU Culture Action Plan, which will take the recommendations from the ICU review and develop and implement actions to address concerns; and
- Recruitment process to fill current vacancies in the unit, advertising locally, nationally and internationally.

### Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—legal services

**Mr Rattenbury** (*in reply to a question by Mr Cain on Thursday, 13 October 2022*):

Reference to the current provision of an interview friends service by the Aboriginal Legal Service was a historical reference that has now been removed from the JACS website.

### Motor vehicles—registration

**Mr Steel** (*in reply to a question by Mr Parton on Tuesday, 18 October 2022*):

ACT Policing has issued no fines for the specific offence of not transferring vehicle registration to the ACT within the required three-month period. Noting this requirement came into effect in April 2022.

**Molonglo River—sewage**

**Mr Rattenbury** (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Lawder and Mr Milligan on Tuesday, 18 October 2022*):

During recent rain events, the Office of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) received notifications from Icon Water indicating that, due to significantly increased inflows, the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre (LMWQCC) released partially treated effluent from the bypass storage dam. These overflows were not treated to a maximum capacity. However, the overflows were partially treated and consistent with the Environment Authorisation (EA) approved Environment Management Plan associated with the LMWQCC.

Routine water quality testing indicated that the LMWQCC remained compliant with the conditions of the relevant EA, as indicated below –

- **LMWQCC Effluent results**
- *EPA Licence Result Summary August 2022*
- *August 2022 – 100% Compliance*
- *EPA Licence Result Summary September 2022*
- *September 2022 – 100% Compliance*

Based off previous sampling and similar events, the EPA considers that the high volume background flows from persistent rain, as well as the partial treatment of the effluent, would have provided significant dilution and therefore mitigated environmental harm.

The EPA understands that the LMWQCC was operating at full capacity during these events and was not aware of any equipment being ‘offline’.

The following table has been supplied by Icon Water as part of their reporting on this event and EPA analysis is provided.

It shows that the treated volumes during the recent peak rain events were about twice the Average Dry Weather Flow (ADWF), at 150 to 198 ML/day compared with a current average of 100ML/day. This suggests an additional 50-98 ML/day associated with the wet weather. The key outlying of peak instantaneous flow is also worth noting, and is likely to have been a key feature driving overflows. The difficulty of emptying ponds between consecutive rain events is also a challenge, not just in the ACT but across much of Australia. The EPA is actively engaging with Icon Water to support efforts to reduce the risk of overflows, noting that such efforts require considerable lead times and financial investments.

*(A copy of the attachment is available at the Chamber Support Office.)*

**ACT Policing—staffing**

**Mr Gentleman** *(in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Mr Hanson and Dr Paterson on Thursday, 20 October 2022):*

The 702 in 2011-12 and 691 in 2021-22 are figures based on headcount as at 30 June of those years. As ACT Policing's numbers fluctuate throughout the year relative to the number of transfers to AFP National and recruit commencement in ACT Policing, using average FTE figures provides a more accurate comparison of police numbers:

There are a number of factors that contribute to the perception that sworn police numbers have not increased in ACT Policing over the past 10 years. The main factor is the transfer of 47 police FTE in 2015-16 to the Specialist Response Group (SRG) and Canine functions of AFP National. Additionally, in 2020-21 the ACT Watch House replaced police with 12 Protective Service Officer (PSO) positions.

The overall FTE staffing level in ACT Policing has increased by approximately 55 police, 13 PSOs and 39 unsworn positions over the past 10 years. The FTE related to enabling services purchased by Government from the AFP, has also increased by 23 in SRG and Canine and 32 across other enabling services.

More than half of the growth in the ACT Policing unsworn FTE derives from transferring unsworn members into operational support roles that were historically performed by police across a range of areas including Intelligence, Judicial Operations, Family Violence and Vulnerable People. This together with the introduction of PSOs into the ACT Watch House allows police to better shift their focus to frontline operational policing duties.

In the 2019-20 Budget, the ACT Government provided \$33.9 million over four years to enable ACT Policing to commence the transition to a community focused model of policing.

This funding allowed the creation of 71 positions which includes 61 operational and 10 support positions. In 2022-23, ACT Policing intends to recruit the final 26 staff from this tranche of funding.