



Debates

WEEKLY HANSARD

Legislative Assembly for the ACT

EIGHTH ASSEMBLY

11 DECEMBER 2014

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Thursday, 11 December 2014

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Thursday, 11 December 2014

MADAM SPEAKER (Mrs Dunne) took the chair at 11 am, made a formal recognition that the Assembly was meeting on the lands of the traditional custodians, and asked members to stand in silence and pray or reflect on their responsibilities to the people of the Australian Capital Territory.

Resignation of Chief Minister

MADAM SPEAKER: Members, in accordance with section 45 of the Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988 I advise that I have received a letter from Ms Gallagher MLA, Chief Minister, dated 10 December 2014, in which she tendered her resignation as Chief Minister. I table the following papers:

Resignation of Chief Minister—Written notice from Ms Gallagher MLA, dated 10 December 2014.

Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988 (Cwlth), pursuant to paragraph 40(2)(b)—Notice convening a meeting of the Eighth Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory at 11 a.m. on Thursday, 11 December 2014, dated 10 December 2014 (Special Gazette No. S2, Thursday 11 December, 2014).

Election of Chief Minister

MADAM SPEAKER: The Assembly will now proceed to the election of a Chief Minister. Is there a proposal?

MS GALLAGHER (Molonglo) (11.02): I propose Mr Andrew Barr, and I move:

That Mr Barr be elected Chief Minister for the Territory.

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr Barr, is the nomination accepted?

MR BARR (Molonglo—Deputy Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Economic Development, Minister for Housing and Minister for Tourism and Events) (11.02): Yes, Madam Speaker.

Yesterday my colleagues in the ACT Labor caucus elected me unopposed to their parliamentary leadership. I am deeply humbled by the responsibility and grateful for the honour. In turn today my colleague, friend and predecessor as Labor leader, Ms Gallagher, has nominated me for election as Chief Minister by this Assembly. I accept the nomination. Like Chief Minister Gallagher and Chief Minister Stanhope before her, I look forward to the support of the majority of the people's representatives and if elected, like my predecessors chief ministers Stanhope and Gallagher, I will seek to govern our city in the interests of every suburb and every citizen.

MADAM SPEAKER: Is there any further proposal?

MR COE (Ginninderra) (11.03): It is an honour to propose Jeremy Hanson, and I therefore move:

That Mr Hanson be elected Chief Minister for the Territory.

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr Hanson, is the nomination accepted?

MR HANSON (Molonglo—Leader of the Opposition) (11.04): It is, Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Are there any other proposals? There being no further proposal, I declare that we have to proceed to an election, there being more than one candidate. The election of Chief Minister will proceed by ballot. Before proceeding to the ballot, it is open to members to make statements that are relevant to the election; that is, any member. The time limit per speaker is five minutes.

MR HANSON (Molonglo—Leader of the Opposition) (11.04): Today's vote is not just a vote about the next two years. It is a vote about the direction of this territory and this city. Mr Barr claims that he has a mandate and that he deserves support. But I want to clearly and firmly state in this place that he has no such mandate and he deserves no such support.

This was a factional deal done for the party and not for the people of Canberra. He has no mandate to shackle this territory with light rail. According to the Treasury-costed policy submitted before the last election, the ACT Labor Party promise was for \$30 million. He will now force through a project with a cost at least 20 times that large. He will spend three times that amount of money every single year for at least 20 years. If this had been known before the last election, the result would have been different.

Madam Speaker, he has no mandate for his rates regime. Mr Barr was hiding the truth about the extent of the rates hike at the last election, and we now know that they are tripling, because it is in the budget and it is in everybody's rates notice. If this had been known before the last election, the result would have been different.

Madam Speaker, if it had been known that Andrew Barr and Simon Corbell would be the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister, the result would have been different. And let me prove it. Mr Barr gained just 4.2 per cent of the vote. For the record, every single MLA in the Liberal Party in his electorate got a higher vote. I, Mrs Jones, Mr Doszpot and even Elizabeth Lee, a candidate for the Liberal Party who did not get elected, got a higher personal vote than this man, Andrew Barr. As an aside, for Mr Rattenbury's edification, so did Caroline Le Couteur.

Then, Madam Speaker, there is his record. His first act on his first day as a minister was to start closing 23 schools. This was not a closure program that was taken to the ACT electorate. It was hidden. And he has presided over an explosion of debt and deficit. Most of all, his real vision is to tax the family home. Let me quote from Mr Barr's maiden speech:

I believe that the exemptions for home owners from capital gains and land taxes need to be looked at ... I think it is fair to say that the price of a house in Canberra these days is a reflection of its tax-free haven status ...

Debts, deficit and taxing the family home are not a vision for Canberra. A billion dollar tram that nobody voted for is just a plan to keep Labor in government. There are those on the Labor backbench—probably not Ms Gallagher, I would accept—who know that light rail is wrong. They have an option today to stand up for their constituents rather than the factions of the Labor Party.

Madam Speaker, I ask members for their support.

MADAM SPEAKER: Is there anyone else who would like to address the question about the election of Chief Minister? There being no-one else who wishes to speak, we will go to the distribution of ballot papers. Members will please write on the ballot paper the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote and hold the ballot paper for collection. The candidates are Mr Barr and Mr Hanson.

Visitors

MADAM SPEAKER: While the ballot papers are being collected, I acknowledge the presence in the chamber of former members: former Speaker Mr Berry, former Deputy Chief Minister Mr Lamont, and former Deputy Chief Minister Mr Whalan. Welcome back to your Assembly.

Election of Chief Minister

A ballot having been taken—

MADAM SPEAKER: The result of the ballot is: Mr Barr, nine votes; Mr Hanson, eight votes. Therefore, Mr Barr, the candidate with the majority of the votes of members present and voting, is declared Chief Minister.

MR BARR (Molonglo—Chief Minister), by leave: I begin by acknowledging the traditional owners, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respects to elders past and present.

Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen and friends gathered this morning, I am deeply honoured by the result of today's election and I am deeply grateful for the Assembly's support. Thank you.

Eight and a half years ago I was elected to fill the vacancy left by a great Canberran, Ted Quinlan, so I know a little about having big shoes to fill. But nothing could be more humbling than to follow Katy Gallagher as ACT Labor leader and Chief Minister of the ACT. Katy, few people have left this Assembly better liked and more respected than when they arrived. You are one of the few. You have been a great leader of our government in this place. You are an ACT Labor hero and I know you will be a great voice for this city in the federal arena.

Madam Speaker, to be the seventh person elected Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory is certainly the highest honour of my professional life. But I know I would not be here without the support of the people of Canberra for the Australian Labor Party at the 2012 election and without my Labor colleagues' support for me as their leader. We should never forget this humble reality: all of us here are representatives. I acknowledge as well this morning the confidence of my ministerial colleague of these past two years, Mr Rattenbury. Shane, we have come a long way together and you are helping us to govern well.

To my supporters and friends in the Labor Party and beyond: I will never forget your work and your words through my 22 years in our movement, my eight years here in the Assembly and in the past eight days. Friends, I will be calling on you again.

To my family: now is not the place or the time for everything I have to say about you all. To my mum, my dad, my brother, Iain, my sister-in-law, Nat, and gorgeous baby Zoe: I know how lucky I am. Anthony: I love you and I look forward to the day when we can legally marry in this country.

Madam Speaker, a predecessor, Jon Stanhope, was elected on a platform to repair our city's health and education services and our planning system. My predecessor, Katy Gallagher, took office nearly four years ago and promised to focus on the things that matter for Canberra families: health, education, community and municipal services. They both delivered—indeed they delivered in spades—and I have learned so much from both of them.

Jon Stanhope showed me that Canberra wants and deserves leadership with a progressive vision and voice. Our community is not afraid of change and our people's values should be heard on the national stage. Katy Gallagher taught me, above all, that leadership is about people. She reminds me of it in her words and in her deeds every single day.

I know now I have a new role. I will be out from behind the Treasurer's desk, in our city's great suburbs, listening and learning from our people and always part of our community. When I am welcoming the world to our city I will feel a special pride, and on the tough days for our people I will feel a special responsibility. Being Chief Minister will be a wonderful opportunity to work alongside Canberrans in all the many phases of this city's life—the small businesses, the sportsmen and women, the charity workers, the community organisations, the teachers and the nurses, the police and the emergency service workers and, yes, our fantastic public servants, here in our garden suburbs and in our urban villages.

Madam Speaker, Bill Hayden once said that the life of a community representative was a "school fete worse than death". I could not disagree more. I cannot wait. I will bring my own background and outlook—knowledge and skills as a student of the economy, as a passionate advocate for economic growth and as Treasurer of the ACT—to the times in which I govern. As chief ministers, Jon Stanhope and Katy Gallagher knew the importance of the city's economy as the backdrop to service delivery for our community. The Stanhope government was fiscally responsible through a long period of economic growth. The Gallagher government worked hand in glove with federal Labor in office to keep this city strong after the global financial crisis.

Today, however, we govern in very different times. Our community must be able to rely on our health services, our children must be able to learn in our schools, and our suburbs must be livable and lovable. But the economy is no longer the backdrop to government in the ACT. For the Barr Labor government, the economy is centre stage and, as Chief Minister of the ACT, jobs for Canberra is my leading role.

The old certainty for our economy was its underpinning in a strong national economy or support from a friendly federal government. Throughout our history of self-government we have had at least one of those things. We have neither of those things today. So today, and for the period from now until at least the end of 2016, we have to work with a new certainty. Our city will confront the most testing external economic environment in 20 years—and in that environment we can only rely on ourselves.

As your Chief Minister, my job is to take on this challenge very directly. We cannot pretend that things have not changed and we cannot solve every problem the outside world throws at us. But what we can do, we will. The government I lead will take every necessary decision to maintain economic activity, to encourage new investment and, above all, to grow jobs. This is the key to all our work: from education and health to transport and planning and suburban renewal, and even service provision and problem solving on a local scale. Above all, our job is jobs.

Madam Speaker, education is always the key to a humane life for individuals and to mobility within our society. I know that from my own family's life. My parents were part of the lucky generation whose horizons were broadened by university because Gough Whitlam cared. Today, education is critical to the future of investment and jobs in our city. Our higher education and trades training institutions are employers, they are exporters and they are investors. They simply must flourish for our city's economy to be strong.

Young people who live here need the best training and education to compete for jobs. Young people will only come here after study if we offer the highest standards. Our adults can only stay here and retrain if they know that what we have to offer is the best. Most of all, no Canberra business can truly compete if our workforce is short of the mark. Nothing less will suffice in a modern economy marked by so much change.

As a city-state combining municipal and provincial functions, we have a big competitive advantage and a brilliant opportunity to be a leader in innovation and ideas. We attract, and we will continue to attract, leading researchers and thinkers from around the world.

Our time in government has seen fantastic developments, including the expansion in our tourism and hospitality sectors, the flowering of our IT sector and the emergence of our region as a food and wine leader. We have grown exports in professional services, which have nearly doubled in the past nine years to be worth more than \$1¼ billion annually today.

Above all, Madam Speaker, we have seen the growth and diversification of our innovation industries that will drive our economy into the future. The role of the

territory government has been to lead and to enable. The CBR innovation network is a very striking example of this combined public and private effort to accelerate innovation and growth and to maximise wealth creation for our community. Together we are transforming the ACT economy into an innovation ecosystem that supports company growth and job creation. There is much to do in this area.

Health is always the key to the security and comfort of Canberra families. The baby born with a disability, the sick child in the night, the anxious teen, the injured cyclist or motorist, the elderly person who faints or falls—all need to know that they will be cared for. In a good city and a good system this care should never rely on how much is in their wallet when they get hurt or when they arrive.

Today, Madam Speaker, health must be both generous and wise. This is critical to our fiscal future. An ageing society combines with modern habits of life to create huge pressures of chronic disease. If health spending is to be sustainable in the long term, investment in preventive health simply must accelerate. We will stay on this path. These are enduring priorities in social policy and major opportunities for economic growth.

Madam Speaker, we also have big projects to deliver in coming years. Capital metro is vital to Canberra's economic future. I have been proud to be a member of a government which has invested in our first light rail system, and I will be enormously proud to lead the government that will deliver it. It is the right decision.

Our city needs jobs, and capital metro supports jobs. Our city needs investment, and capital metro supports investment. Our city needs a diverse, balanced economy, and capital metro supports a diverse, balanced economy. Our city needs growing returns on land, and capital metro supports growing returns on land. The business case estimates these economic benefits to be worth more than \$1 billion to our city.

Alongside these economic dimensions, there are tremendous benefits for our community as a whole. I do not want this to be a city where the only work is white-collar and public service. We must never become a “no-degree, no-start” town. We need quality jobs for people with the widest range of modern skills. I do not want this to be a city that young people leave in search of a modern lifestyle. I do not want this to be a city that older people leave to find adaptable housing and a walkable, active place to live. One of my life's great fortunes is that our extended family—retired parents, younger siblings and my beautiful niece—live here in Canberra, and I know this is an aspiration that so many families share.

I do not want this to be a city where it takes an hour to drive from Gungahlin to Civic, where the city to Russell to the airport corridor is a permanent bottleneck, where heavy traffic spills throughout the city's south, while housing spreads ever further across the border to the east. I do not want this to be a city fuelled by petrol forever, and I do not want this to be a city forever designed around the motor car. Canberra is a jewel in 20th century urban design and Canberra can be a triumph of 21st century urban future—a clean-energy city where new jobs are renewable jobs.

All of this, Madam Speaker, is why capital metro is the right decision for Canberra. That is why the Labor Party campaigned on light rail in 2012, that is why we are delivering capital metro now, and that is why we will continue to invest in public transport across our city. Light rail is part of an integrated transport strategy for Canberra, and capital metro is part of our vision of renewal for our suburbs.

Madam Speaker, as a long-term Canberran, I have lived in almost every part of this city. When my parents first arrived in 1977, young graduates destined for the public service and the teaching profession, our very first house was in Macgregor in west Belconnen. We then moved to Flynn and, as the family expanded, to a larger home in Kambah. At that time, Canberra was a town of just 200,000 people, and I have to say, even as a young child, some of those houses felt like they were on the very edge of civilisation, on the absolute suburban fringe. After living in Weston Creek and Woden and studying in the inner north and in Belconnen, in the end I have settled in Dickson, one of the real centres of change in our city.

There is so much I fondly remember about the lifestyle that Canberra of the late 1970s and early 1980s provided and so much that we have successfully retained. But we have not done so by locking everything up or changing nothing. I believe the real genius of Canberra is that we have got the balance right, and we will continue to keep the balance right.

Canberra's garden suburbs and our urban villages are in my blood and they are in my bones. We do not have to choose between them. Canberra can retain the best of the idyllic amenity of the past—but only if we can grow to become a modern, dynamic city with a strong urban core. We can build new urban villages. We can build new, affordable housing in Molonglo, in Gungahlin and in the inner north. And the economic returns on land in these areas and the efficiency of service delivery they achieve are vital to preserving the garden suburban lifestyle of space and security that so many Canberra families treasure about life in this place, between the hilltops and ridges of our home.

For a time in my younger days we were moving almost every six months, in short-term rental, through Stirling, Chapman, Torrens, Hawker, to name a few, in just a few years. The pressures of affordable rental and affordable buying in a relatively high income economy are not new to me.

The city government's authority over development approval and land supply means our policies and practices have an inevitable impact on the value of existing homes and the price of getting into the housing market. I am determined to make the best of modern suburban design, innovative policy and reformed taxes, Madam Speaker, not only to support dynamic and vibrant communities but to keep maximum downward pressure on the cost of housing, especially for private sector workers and middle and low income earners. Our policies cannot change everything, but they must—they simply must—make things better.

Our territory government is, in one important respect, unique in Australia: we deliver both state and municipal services. I have spent many years in this building as an

adviser, as a member and as a minister working to ensure that our local services are high quality and that they are affordable for the community. It is right that our big focus is the big picture of jobs, health and education. It is also right that we never lose sight of the quality of local services and all the elements that make up a good local life. So service delivery must never be neglected. Regulations and approvals must always be modernised and improved. In coming days I will have much more to say about reform of this area of local administration.

Madam Speaker, one particular group in our community I am thinking of today are Mr Fluffy home owners. You have been through so much. Last Thursday this place passed the Appropriation (Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication) Bill so that we could act quickly to help those most affected. I can announce this morning that under the scheme many offers have now been made, and some have indeed been accepted. The process has begun.

This was a big bridge to cross, and I know some home owners have a hard road ahead. I will continue the Gallagher government's approach to listening to home owners, being flexible and recognising the range of individual circumstances. I can assure you, you have not lost a Chief Minister who cares but you will gain a new senator who understands.

I urge the Assembly to respect both the human and economic dimensions of this genuinely difficult issue. There is simply no need to descend into a partisan argument. For my own part, as Chief Minister I will remain very conscious of the general good of the whole community as we support home owners in the coming time.

Madam Speaker, like many here, I remember our centenary in 2013 with such pride: the opening of the arboretum; the exhibitions of Toulouse-Lautrec and then *Turner from the Tate*; the longest bubbly bar in the world; the city to the lake; that last try against the Waratahs; that last scrum against the British and Irish Lions; the first visit here by the Australian cricket team; that long weekend weather, which would have been astonishing if it were not so absolutely routine. Think of the parties at the shops; all of those smiles. We know our city's life cannot always be one long Canberra Day weekend. Eventually the time comes to get back to work. But what we can have with us is our pride in our accomplishment, the unity in our diversity, and the confidence in our future which overflowed on that March weekend—if we keep growing, if we stay strong.

In my first speech here eight years ago I said:

There is no point being in government if you cannot make people's lives better. And you cannot do that if you are not paying attention to the economy. Good governments manage the economy responsibly, and that good management leads to benefits for all the community.

It was true then and it is true today. Canberra is more resilient and more independent at 101 years old than at any time in our past, and it is just as well.

I said that we face the most testing external economic environment in 20 years, and we do. I say this as well: we have never been more ready for the test. We are a city of brilliant possibilities. We are confident, we are bold and we are ready. This city is smart. This city is strong. This city is united. We are bigger, Madam Speaker, than the job in front of us. And for the Barr Labor government, it is time to get to work.

MR HANSON (Molonglo—Leader of the Opposition), by leave: I would like to start by congratulating Andrew Barr on becoming Chief Minister. These are big responsibilities you take forward. It was a close vote; I was genuinely surprised.

But on a more serious note, Madam Speaker, our vision on this side is more focused on the people of Canberra than on the factions and on the Greens. As Chief Minister, my team and I will deliver greater growth in Canberra, we will deliver a better connected Canberra and we will restore our core services to once again being the best in Australia. Our vision on this side of the chamber is unashamedly to make Canberra the best place in Australia for everybody to raise a family, to make a living and to get ahead.

Madam Speaker, greater growth in Canberra means a bigger Canberra, a Canberra with a true city heart, with vibrant town centres, while ensuring that the suburbs where we live retain their character. We will improve our planning laws, we will fix the flawed system that is grinding development in this city to a halt, and we will deliver the policies to remove the unnecessary regulation and duplication which are strangling business in this city and restricting employment growth.

We will not sit idly by and blame the federal government, be it Liberal or Labor. I remind members that it was Kevin Rudd who took the meataxe to the federal public service and sacked 14,500 public servants. We will grow our own economy and we will create our own jobs, because it is the Liberals, and it always has been the Liberals, Madam Speaker, who are the friends of hardworking business across this city who create the jobs, create the wealth and drive the economic prosperity of our great city.

Madam Speaker, we will make this a better connected city. We do not have the disdain for cars that those opposite have. We will make sure that when people travel across this city to work, visit their friends and families, they will do so connected by the best road system in Australia.

Madam Speaker, we will improve our bus service because, in a city as spread out as Canberra, buses make sense and a tram does not. We will not squander a billion dollars of taxpayers' money on a tram that simply gets 500 additional public transport users into the public transport system. That is not connecting Canberra. In the words of Dr David Hughes, it is not just a folly; it is a fantasy.

Madam Speaker, we will restore our core services so that once again they are the best in Australia—the core services of health, education, urban maintenance. Our health system is in crisis, and the cracks are now too wide for even Katy Gallagher to stay here to paper over. And many of our schools are overflowing, in the same areas where Andrew Barr in 2006 cut 23 schools as the education minister.

Madam Speaker, the maintenance of our suburbs is a disgrace. It is seen as secondary by Andrew Barr, who seldom ventures out of his ivory tower to visit the outer suburbs. But it is not secondary to us. We will restore these core services that have been neglected for over a decade.

That is my vision for everybody who lives in the outer suburbs and who needs those roads and buses fixed, not a billion dollar tram track. That is my vision, Madam Speaker, and that of my team, for all of those waiting longer than anybody else in Australia for surgery or emergency treatment. And that is the vision of my team for all of those who work hard only to pay the highest rates and taxes and bills in the country. The difference is between light rail, with its higher rates and more debt, and making Canberra the best city in the country for everybody to raise a family, to earn a living, and to get ahead.

Madam Speaker, I have the vision and I have the team. My team and I will shine a light on this government, and we will do the hard job of an opposition, as we have done for the first half of this term. And we will do it well. But more than that, we will take our positive vision for Canberra's future to the people of Canberra and we will give them hope that there is a better way.

Madam Speaker, I would like to finish today on behalf of the Canberra Liberals by saying a few words about Katy Gallagher.

Ms Gallagher: Watch out.

MR HANSON: Watch out. Firstly, I would like to recognise her 13 years of service as an MLA and as Chief Minister. I have spent much of my time in this place critiquing her performance as health minister and Chief Minister. Katy, unless you would like to hear it one more time—no, not today?—I will spare you my health stump speech, as you call it, but what I will do is forward my notes to Senator Seselja; I am sure he will make great use of those in the days to come.

Madam Speaker, I note that the former Chief Minister, Ms Gallagher, was somewhat critical of Mr Seselja when he left this place to go to the Senate. So it is very encouraging that Katy Gallagher has seen the error of her ways. She has seen that she was wrong and she has seen that Zed was so right that she decided to do exactly the same and is seeking to join him. Good luck to you. I note that there are some interesting characters up there in the Senate, Katy; they make us look quite normal.

On these occasions the normal thing is to wish people luck, but that would be a little disingenuous, given that you are moving to the Senate to contest the seat for the Labor Party. But certainly I and my team do wish you well, Katy—we do genuinely. We have all had our fights and they have been tough but I am pleased that when it has come to some important issues for our community—and I would include Mr Fluffy in that—we have had good conversations and we have worked together in this Assembly for the better interest of our community. I acknowledge that. I acknowledge your commitment to Canberra and I respect the role you have played as leader of your party.

I would also like to acknowledge your family, David and your three girls.

Ms Gallagher: Two girls and a boy.

MR HANSON: My apologies, two girls and a boy. Maybe there is another one to come; I do not know. You will have more time. We all know, Madam Speaker, the pressure that this job puts on us and the pressure that puts on our loved ones. On behalf of my team, farewell. I hope you look back on this place with fondness.

MR RATTENBURY (Molonglo), by leave: Let me start by formally acknowledging, on behalf of the ACT Greens, my support of Andrew Barr as the new Chief Minister of the ACT. Mr Barr and I yesterday formally exchanged letters agreeing to continue with the 2012 Labor-Greens parliamentary agreement, and I look forward to working with Mr Barr to continue delivery of that agreement, and stable, progressive and energetic government for the remainder of this term. I also look forward to working with Andrew because I know we share a great optimism for the future of this city and the things that can be done to make Canberra a great 21st century city.

It was not a difficult decision to offer my support for Mr Barr as the next Chief Minister. At a personal level he has demonstrated that he has the necessary leadership qualities for the territory and for the role. And it should come as no surprise that I continue to hold the view that the ALP, more so than the Canberra Liberals, deliver a policy agenda that the Greens can support, even though it is clear that we do not support the government or the ALP on absolutely every issue. Broadly, there is a closer alignment between the policies of the Greens and the Labor Party here in the ACT than there is between the Greens and the Canberra Liberals.

As an aside, I did note with some amusement the comments about whether Mr Barr has a mandate to become Chief Minister. I do, of course, note that Mr Hanson was not the leader of the Liberal Party at the last election and yet he saw fit to nominate as Chief Minister today. I am sure I am not the only one who sees the irony in that decision and I suspect it is fair to say that the Canberra community would have been greatly surprised if Mr Hanson had become Chief Minister this morning.

The Greens have a policy agenda that we put to the Canberra electorate at the last election and key parts of that agenda were translated into the parliamentary agreement that I signed with the former Chief Minister, Katy Gallagher, in 2012. I am pleased with how the agreement has progressed so far and look forward to working with the new Chief Minister to continue to deliver benefits for the people of Canberra. We are a dynamic, sustainable and progressive government while being an effective and responsible government.

Over the past two years the ACT Greens and ACT Labor have delivered one of the most stable governments in the country, despite the commentary that we sometimes see on minority governments. The parliamentary agreement has been progressed well in the first half of this term and we have delivered on the 90 per cent target for renewable energy by 2020 and have put that into legislation.

We have made substantial work towards the common ground project, which is now almost complete. We have secured the \$85 million in federal funding to clean up our lakes and waterways and we have improved animal welfare in the ACT through the passage of milestone legislation to ban caged hens and sow stalls as well as improving conditions for the sale of domestic animals. I am quite proud that this Labor-Greens government does lead the nation on flagship policy areas and that we have a shared vision of a compassionate and fair community underpinned by environmental sustainability.

Light rail is, of course, an important plank in the parliamentary agreement and I am pleased that, against the backdrop of federal job losses, this government will commence this visionary infrastructure project that actually brings new employment and economic opportunities for Canberra.

Whilst we have made substantial progress on the parliamentary agreement there are still important items to be delivered, such as issues of public transport and active travel, incentivising small-scale solar, strengthening our freedom of information legislation and a coordinated approach to reducing waste to landfill. I look forward to working with the new Chief Minister to advance these outcomes and appreciate his joint commitment to delivering them. I also look forward to my continued work with my ministerial colleagues over the next two years.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to outgoing Chief Minister Katy Gallagher for her service to the people of Canberra over the past 13 years and, more specifically, for her time as Chief Minister for the last 3½ years. Since the 2012 election I have had the opportunity to work closely with her through my ministerial roles and our shared commitment to delivering the best possible government for our city.

I hold Katy in high regard for her collaborative style, her clarity of decision making, her focus on getting the best outcomes and her personal integrity. She is hardworking and professional and she demonstrates a commitment to the people of this territory every single day. Katy, I hope you thoroughly enjoy your well-earned break over the coming months and I wish you all the best for your new journey in the federal political arena.

Leave of absence

Motion (by **Mr Corbell**) agreed to:

That leave of absence be granted to all Members for the period 12 December 2014 to 9 February 2015.

Adjournment

Motion (by **Mr Corbell**) agreed to:

That the Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 11.47 am until Tuesday, 10 February 2015, at 10 am.

Answers to questions

ACT No Waste—accounts (Question No 324)

Mr Wall asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 17 September 2014:

- (1) How many ACT No Waste account holders are there currently.
- (2) How many of the accounts identified in part (1) are in arrears.
- (3) How many accounts identified in part (2) are (a) 30-60, (b) 60 90, (c) 90-120 and (d) over 120, days overdue.
- (4) What is the value of each account identified in part (3).
- (5) Has an audit been undertaken on account processing for ACT No Waste; if so, (a) what was the result of this audit, (b) when did the audit occur, (c) who undertook the audit and (d) what recommendations for future account processing were made.

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

- (1) As at 31/08/2014 there were 308 account holders.
- (2) As at 31/08/2014 there are 107 account holders in arrears.
- (3) Some account holders have aged debts over multiple months.
 - (a) 11 accounts holders are 31-60 days past due.
 - (b) 12 account holders are 61-90 days past due.
 - (c) 2 account holders are 91-120 days past due.
 - (d) 10 account holders are 120 plus days past due.

(4)

(a) 31-60 days past due

Account	Amount (\$)
1	298.89
2	155,993.71
3	33,468.51
4	758.91
5	609.86
6	74.03
7	84.55
8	1,170.28
9	792.75
10	51.98
11	6.00

(b) 61-90 days past due

Accounts	Amount (\$)
1	92,807.68
2	692.66

Accounts	Amount (\$)
3	214,332.58
4	24,897.86
5	21,455.65
6	17,751.14
7	2,019.42
8	1,135.39
9	328.00
10	270.84
11	114.28
12	98.76

(c) 91-120 days past due

Accounts	Amount (\$)
1	21,753.12
2	1,124.68

(d) 121 plus days past due

Accounts	Amount (\$)
1	374,286.19
2	184,280.66
3	79,216.48
4	13,235.64
5	6,141.32
6	6,000.00
7	1,859.28
8	1,258.71
9	100.00
10	68.40

In the situation where the debtor is unable to meet the debt in a single payment the Directorate in certain circumstances has instigated a payment by instalment plan. Where appropriate debtors are referred to an external debt recovery agency.

- (5) There has not been a specific audit performed in relation to account processing. The accounts receivable balances form part of the annual financial statements which are audited. There is currently a whole of government debt management audit in progress. ACT NoWaste closely scrutinises its account holder's credit limits and payment performance, and account holders access to ACT NoWaste facilities can be barred in the event that agreed payment terms are not strictly complied with.

Roads—resurfacing (Question No 336)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 22 October 2014:

- (1) How many square metres of road surface have been resurfaced in (a) 2013-14 and (b) 2014-15 to date using
- (i) hotmix,
 - (ii) slurry seal and
 - (iii) chip seal.

(2) What was the cost per square metre for each of the methods above.

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

- (1)
- (a) 2013/14. resurfacing
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| (i) hotmix: | 57,944 sq. metres |
| (ii) slurry seal: | 9,360 sq.metres |
| (iii) chip seal: | 447,070 sq.metres |
- (b) 2014/15 resurfacing to 26 October 2014.
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| (i) hotmix: | nil |
| (ii) slurry seal: | nil |
| (iii) chip seal: | 138, 385 sq.metres |
- (2) Rates vary according to size of project and site conditions.
The average resurfacing costs are:
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| (i) hotmix: | \$50 to \$80 per sq.metre |
| (ii) slurry seal: | \$16 to \$20 per sq.metre |
| (iii) chip seal: | \$10 to \$15 per sq.metre |

Hospitals—visiting medical officers and staff specialists (Question No 337)

Mr Hanson asked the Minister for Health, upon notice, on 22 October 2014:

- (1) What were the annual number of Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) engaged and the total cost of employing all VMOs at The Canberra Hospital (TCH) in each of the past eight years.
- (2) What was the annual number of staff specialists (FTE) and annual cost of salaries plus superannuation of staff specialists engaged at TCH in each of the past eight years.

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

- (1) The annual number and cost of VMOs contracted by ACT Health over the past eight years is as follows:

	Number of VMOs	Total cost
2013-14	198	\$29,075,787
2012-13	191	\$25,424,613
2011-12	202	\$25,610,172
2010-11	186	\$27,688,284
2009-10	185	\$23,374,347
2008-09	184	\$22,093,138
2007-08	169	\$21,573,843
2006-07	155	\$20,323,036

- These figures do not include VMOs contracted exclusively to Calvary Health Care ACT.
- Number of VMOs is based on the number with current contracts as at the last day of each period.

(2) The annual number and cost of staff specialists employed at the Canberra Hospital over the past eight years is as follows:

	Number of staff specialists (FTE Equivalent)	Total cost (inc superannuation)
2013-14	237	\$82,497,592
2012-13	235	\$77,875,210
2011-12	218	\$70,919,825
2010-11	200	\$64,209,637
2009-10	188	\$59,990,900
2008-09	183	\$49,246,604
2007-08	157	\$42,030,991
2006-07	132	\$34,042,896

- Total cost includes all salary and allowances, plus employer superannuation contributions. It does not include private practice payments, as these are not a net cost to the Territory.
- Number of staff specialists is based on the full-time equivalent number of specialists and senior specialists employed on the last day of each period.

Note: a staff specialist FTE equals at least 40 hours per week, well in excess of the average hours worked by a VMO. The effective hourly rates as at 1 July 2013 are \$181 per hour for a staff specialist and \$238 per hour for a VMO.

Schools—CCTV installations (Question No 338)

Mr Doszpot asked the Minister for Education and Training, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) Which ACT public (a) primary schools, (b) high schools and (c) colleges currently have CCTV.
- (2) Are any schools being considered for the installation of CCTV; if so, which schools.
- (3) What criteria are used to determine whether a school would benefit from CCTV.
- (4) What is the cost per school for each installation.
- (5) Is there a standard design or can schools select their own.
- (6) How are contracts awarded.
- (7) Is there a preferred contractor list.

- (8) What is the funding arrangement for such installations, ie, is it (a) an individual school expense or (b) a Directorate expense.

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

- 1) The following schools currently have CCTV at their school for use in monitoring students when they are receiving first aid:
 - a) Primary Schools - Aranda Primary School, Fadden Primary School, Giralang Primary School, Latham Primary School, Macgregor Primary School and Mt Rogers Primary School
 - b) High Schools – Lyneham High School and UC High School Kaleen
 - c) Colleges – nil.

The Active Leisure Centre at Erindale College has a number of cameras throughout the facility. Gungahlin College has some CCTV controlled by CIT which shares the college site.

- 2) No.
- 3) This is determined on a case by case basis.
- 4) This information is not available.
- 5) No.
- 6) Contracts are awarded using the ACT Government procurement processes.
- 7) No.
- 8) Schools that currently use CCTV have paid for their own installation.

Schools—fencing (Question No 339)

Mr Doszpot asked the Minister for Education and Training, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) Which ACT public (a) primary schools, (b) high schools and (c) colleges currently have fenced perimeters.
- (2) What is the cost per school for each perimeter fence.
- (3) Is there a standard design or can schools select their own.
- (4) How are contracts for fencing awarded.
- (5) Is there a preferred contractor list.
- (6) What is the funding arrangement for fencing, ie, is it (a) an individual school expense or (b) a Directorate expense.

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

1)

a) Primary Schools:

Bonython Primary	Gordon Primary	Ngunnawal Primary
Calwell Primary	Gowrie Primary	North Ainslie Primary
Campbell Primary	Hughes Primary	Palmerston Primary
Charles Conder Primary	Latham Primary	Red Hill Primary
Charnwood Dunlop Primary	Lyneham Primary	Richardson Primary
Duffy Primary	Macgregor Primary	Taylor Primary
Evatt Primary	Macquarie Primary	Theodore Primary
Fadden Primary	Maribyrnong Primary	Torrens Primary
Florey Primary	Monash Primary	Wanniassa Hills Primary
Fraser Primary	Mt Rogers Primary	
Gilmore Primary	Neville Bonner Primary	

b) High Schools:

Belconnen High School	Lyneham High School
Calwell High School	Melrose High School
Canberra High School	Mt Stromlo High School
Lanyon High School	

c) Colleges:

Canberra College	UC Lake Ginninderra College
Erindale College	Lake Tuggeranong College
Gungahlin College	Narrabundah College

d) Preschool/Kindergarten to Year 10 (P/K-10):

Amaroo School P-10	Harrison School P-10	Telopea Park School K-10
Caroline Chisholm School P-10	Kingsford Smith School P-10	Wanniassa School P-10
Gold Creek School P-10	Namadgi School P-10	

e) Senior Secondary School (7-12):

Melba Copland Secondary School

f) Early Childhood Schools (ECS):

Franklin ECS	Lyons ECS	O'Connor Co-operative School
Isabella Plains ECS	Narrabundah ECS	Southern Cross ECS

g) Specialist Schools:

Malkara School	The Woden School
Cranleigh School	Black Mountain School

Security fences are being installed at three schools under the 2014-15 program –Arawang, Mawson and Yarralumla Primary Schools.

- 2) The average cost per lineal meter is \$250.00 (excluding GST). However, this cost will vary depending on the total length of the fence, the number of gates, the surface topography and the market competitiveness at the time of tendering.
- 3) The Directorate has a standard design for perimeter fences at ACT public schools. However, each school is able to nominate an alternative colour. There are variations to the design of some fences, such as new schools which reflect the overall design of the school and for heritage listed schools.
- 4) The school fencing contracts are tendered and awarded in accordance with the ACT Procurement Guidelines.
- 5) The Directorate does not have a preferred contractor list.
- 6) The perimeter fences at new schools are funded from the project capital works budget. New fences at existing schools are funded centrally by the Education and Training Directorate.

Teachers—statistics (Question No 340)

Mr Doszpot asked the Minister for Education and Training, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) What is the average number of hours per week teachers in ACT Government schools spend in (a) face-to-face classroom teaching, (b) playground supervision, (c) other non-administrative functions and (d) administrative and other non-teaching functions.
- (2) What are the comparative statistics in relation to part (1) for non-government, independent and Catholic school teachers.
- (3) What are the comparative national statistics in relation to parts (1) and (2).
- (4) What is the nature of the administrative and other non-teaching functions.
- (5) Does the Government have a policy in relation to the work expectations for ACT government school teachers; if so, what is it; if not, why not and when will the policy be developed.

- (6) Has the Government sought and received advice as to the impact of working hours on teachers' work/life balance; if so, what is it; if not, why not and when will the Government seek that advice.

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

- (1) The average number of hours per week teachers in ACT Government schools spend in

- a) face-to-face classroom teaching

Section P of the ACTPS *Education and Training (Teaching Staff) Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014* (Enterprise Agreement) specifies maximum face-to-face teaching hours per week for the different teacher classifications in primary and secondary schools.

Classification	Preschool and primary	High school and college
Classroom Teacher	max 21 hours 30 minutes	max 19 hours*
Classroom Teacher in first year of teaching experience	max 20 hours	max 18 hours*
Executive Teacher (School Leader C)	max 16 hours	max 12 hours
Executive Teacher (Professional Practice)	max 21 hours 30 minutes	max 19 hours*
Deputy Principal (School Leader B)	max 8 hours	max 8 hours
Principal (School Leader A)	No teaching load requirement	No teaching load requirement

*averaged over the teaching year

- b) playground supervision
 c) other non-administrative functions
 d) administrative and other non-teaching functions

Arrangements in respect of playground duty supervision and other non-teaching requirements and functions are not specified in the Enterprise Agreement and are set by each school on the basis of their staffing provisions and operational needs.

- (2) What are the comparative statistics in relation to part (1) for non-government, independent and Catholic school teachers?
 Face-to-face teaching hours for Catholic school teachers are 21 hours 45 minutes per week in primary schools and 20 hours per week in secondary schools. Each independent school determines working conditions for teachers, including face-to-face teaching hours and extra-curricular requirements.

- (3) What are the comparative national statistics in relation to parts (1) and (2)?

Maximum face-to-face teaching hours per week for government school teachers are as follows:

State/territory	Primary	Secondary
ACT	21h 30m	19h
NSW	21h 45m	20h 40m
VIC	22h 30m	20h
QLD	22h 10m	22h 40m
WA	22h	21h 20m
SA	22h 30m	21h
TAS	22h	20h
NT	24h 10m	21h 20m

(4) What is the nature of the administrative and other non-teaching functions?

Face-to-face teaching means regular rostered teaching sessions in a documented approved course of study for which the teacher has primary responsibility for education delivery and includes sessions of direct student instruction rostered or required by the principal.

The professional role and regular pattern of work of a teacher includes attendance at staff meetings, faculty meetings, parent/teacher interviews and other required professional or school activities, in addition to hours of face-to-face teaching, preparation time, rostered supervision and professional learning.

(5) Does the Government have a policy in relation to the work expectations for ACT government school teachers; if so, what is it; if not, why not and when will the policy be developed.

Expectations for ACT government school teachers are set out in the enterprise agreement, negotiated and agreed with teaching staff representatives, including the Australian Education Union-ACT Branch (AEU).

The Government is currently bargaining with the AEU for a new enterprise agreement covering government school teachers and school leaders.

(6) Has the Government sought and received advice as to the impact of working hours on teachers' work/life balance; if so, what is it; if not, why not and when will the Government seek that advice.

The Government recognises the need to provide sufficient support and flexibility at the workplace to assist employees in achieving work and life balance.

Teaching is not a nine-to-three job and teachers are remunerated for the total performance of their role as professionals, not simply for hours spent in the classroom. In recognition of the broad range of professional duties, the pattern of required hours of attendance is negotiated at the school level on an individual or collective basis.

School leadership and all teachers have responsibility to review and monitor workload at the school to ensure equitable distribution of tasks and maintenance of a healthy and productive workplace.

Capital Metro Agency—patronage (Question No 341)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Capital Metro, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

In relation to the patronage figures released by the Capital Metro Agency, what is the current assumption for the amount of people, who in 2021, will catch Capital Metro after (a) walking to a Capital Metro stop, (b) cycling to a Capital Metro stop, (c) driving to a Capital Metro stop and (d) catching a bus to a Capital Metro stop.

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

- (1) Note: The patronage modelling does not differentiate between those walking and cycling to a Capital Metro stop, therefore these two access modes are combined.

Access Mode to Capital Metro Stop	Estimated Daily Passengers in 2021
Walking & Cycling	10,800
Car	1,500
Bus	2,800
TOTAL	15,100

Capital Metro Agency—staffing (Question No 342)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Capital Metro, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) What is the current staffing profile at the Capital Metro Agency, according to the employment categories of (a) permanent full-time staff, (b) permanent part-time staff, (c) temporary full-time staff, (d) temporary part-time staff and (e) casual staff.
- (2) What are the total weekly wages, including superannuation, for the staff identified in each of part (1).
- (3) From 1 July 2014, what is the total amount of expenses incurred by the Capital Metro Agency.
- (4) What is the current balance of the Capital Metro Agency's cash or cash equivalents.
- (5) For the value listed in part (4), how is this figure broken down between (a) cash and (b) cash equivalents.

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

- (1) As per pay report 9 covering the period 9 to 22 October 2014, the staffing profile is as follows:
 - (a) 19

- (b) 0
 - (c) 0
 - (d) 0
 - (e) 0
- (2) \$57,160.
- (3) The total of payments made from 1 July 2014 to 29 October was \$6,567,319.21.
- (4) The closing cash at bank balance on 28 October 2014 was \$2,317,902.22.
- (5) It is all cash at bank.
-

**Capital Metro Agency—productions
(Question No 343)**

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Capital Metro, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) What was the individual cost of producing and disseminating the following videos placed on the ACT Government's YouTube account:
- (a) The Passenger Experience,
 - (b) Capital Metro, an Integrated System,
 - (c) Safety, Security and Accessibility of Capital Metro,
 - (d) Capital Metro, Bringing People Together,
 - (e) How will the ACT Cater for Future Growth,
 - (f) Benefits of City Living,
 - (g) New Capital Metro Fly-Through,
 - (h) What is a PPP and
 - (i) Highlights of the Capital Metro Agency Industry Briefing.

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

- (1) The cost to produce the videos are as follows (all figures include GST):
- (a) \$ 2,750.00;
 - (b) \$ 793.98;
 - (c) \$ 793.98;
 - (d) \$ 793.98;
 - (e) \$ 793.98;
 - (f) \$ 793.98;
 - (g) \$68,195.60;
 - (h) \$ 2,750.00; and
 - (i) \$ 2,750.00.

There was no cost associated with the dissemination of the videos.

Environment and Planning Directorate—expenses (Question No 344)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Planning, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

Since 1 July 2014, what is the total amount of expenses incurred by the Environment and Planning Directorate in relation to the ‘ACT Light Rail Master Plan (Feasibility)’ as highlighted on page 209 of Budget Paper No.3 in the 2014/15 ACT Budget.

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

The total amount of expenses incurred in relation to the ‘ACT Light Rail Master Plan (Feasibility)’ since 1 July 2014 is \$195,660.

Roads—accidents (Question No 345)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 23 October 2014 (*redirected to the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services*):

- (1) From 1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014 what was the number of (a) road fatalities, (b) road collisions causing injury and (c) reported road collisions that occurred on Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue.
- (2) From 1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014 what was the number of (a) road fatalities, (b) road collisions causing injury and (c) reported road collisions that occurred on Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue and involved an ACTION bus.

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

- (1) In relation to crashes on Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue respectively, table 1 provides data on reported crashes occurring from 1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014 inclusive.

1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014 - all crashes	Fatal crashes	Injury crashes	Property Damage only	Total crashes
Flemington Road (Federal Highway intersection to Kate Crace St/Hibberson St intersection)	0	7	65	72
Northbourne Avenue (Barton Hwy/Federal Highway intersection to Vernon Circle)	1	25	251	277

- (2) In relation to crashes involving ACTION buses on Flemington Road and Northbourne Avenue respectively, table 2 provides data on reported crashes from 1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014 inclusive.

1 October 2013 to 1 October 2014- ACTION bus crashes	Fatal crashes	Injury crashes	Property damage only	Total ACTION bus crashes
Flemington Road	0	1	1	2
Northbourne Avenue	0	1	8	9

The crash history report for tables 1 and 2 was generated on 24 October 2014.

Territory and Municipal Services Directorate—expenses (Question No 346)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 23 October 2014:

- (1) Since 1 July 2014, what is the total amount of expenses incurred by the Territory and Municipal Services Directorate in relation to the ‘Civic to Gungahlin Corridor Improvements’ as highlighted on page 145 of Budget Paper No.3.
- (2) For the expenses incurred in part (1), what work has been completed.

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

- (1) At the end of October 2014 \$105,207.75 has been spent on the Civic to Gungahlin Corridor Improvements project.
- (2) This expenditure has been associated with the progression of scoping studies and designs including;
 - City and Northbourne Avenue Urban Design Framework
 - Gungahlin Drive Intersection upgrades design (Sandford Street and Well Station Drive)
 - Northbourne Corridor Utilities Masterplan
 - Dickson Bus Interchange design

Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm—costs (Question No 348)

Mr Wall asked the Minister for Health, upon notice, on 28 October 2014:

What is the breakdown of total costs associated with the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm project to date.

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

The total cost associated with the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm project to date is \$2.242 million, which includes:

- land purchase - \$1.4 million
- planning and design of building and site structures - \$0.520k
- planning and design of ICT requirements - \$0.025k
- Model of Care, heritage, archaeology studies and insurance and work health safety inspections - \$0.297k.

Further funding has been allocated from the Health Infrastructure Program project Clinical Services Redevelopment-Phase 3 for site remediation of which \$49,785 has been spent as at September 2014.

Planning—development applications (Question No 349)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Planning, upon notice, on 29 October 2014:

- (1) For the (a) 2010-11, (b) 2011-12, (c) 2012-13, (d) 2013-14 and (e) 2014-15 to date financial years; (i) how many Development Applications (DAs) have been lodged, (ii) what percentage of DAs were decided within the statutory timeframe, (iii) what was the average time taken to decide a DA and (iv) what was the median days taken to decide a DA .
- (2) For the (a) 2010-11, (b) 2011-12, (c) 2012-13, (d) 2013-14 and (e) 2014-15 to date financial years how many DAs have been lodged for (i) single residential development, upon notice— renovations, (ii) single residential development—new homes, (iii) multi residential developments, (iv) mixed use developments and (v) other developments.
- (3) For the (a) 2010-11, (b) 2011-12, (c) 2012-13, (d) 2013-14 and (e) 2014-15 to date financial years; (i) how many DAs were lodged for lease variations, (ii) what was the total amount paid in lease variation charges (LVC), (iii) what was the (A) average, (B) minimum and (C) maximum amount paid in LVC and (iv) how many variations were granted a (A) 25%, (B) 50% and (C) 75% remission of the LVC.

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

Question (1)

The answer to Mr Coe's question is as follows:

Year	Lodged	Determined	Decided Within Statutory Timeframe (%)	Average Days Taken to Decide	Median Days Taken to Decide
2010-2011	1320	1290	74	45	30
2011-2012	1136	1245	72	52	30
2012-2013	1207	1161	76	44	30
2013-2014	1119	1105	72	48	32
2014-31/10/2014	406	314	75	45	30

Question (2)

The answer to Mr Coe's question is as follows:

Year	Total Lodged	Single Residential Developments ⁽¹⁾	Multi Residential Developments	Mixed Use Developments	Other Developments
2010-2011	1320	565	182	222	351
2011-2012	1136	561	110	146	319
2012-2013	1207	637	135	142	293
2013-2014	1119	599	106	72	342
2014-31/10/2014	406	194	54	57	101

⁽¹⁾ The Directorate is unable to report on single residential new homes, separate to single residential renovations.

Question (3)

The answer to Mr Coe's question regarding the number of development applications lodged for lease variations is published in the following table in the Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate's Annual Report 2013-14, p. 40 as follows:

Development applications with lease variation components between 2007 and 2014₁

DAs	2007–08	2008–09	2009–10	2010–11 ₂	2011–12	2012–13	2013–14	Average
Lodged	196	224	279	271	111	165	104	192
Approved	202	203	204	272	236	139	103	194

1 These figures include all DAs with a lease variation component

2 2010–11 (50% stimulus) and 2011–12 (introduction of LVC)

Receipts

- ⁽¹⁾ The Directorate's accounting procedures do not separate payments made under LVC from payments made under CUC.
- ⁽²⁾ All figures are published in the relevant Directorate's Annual Report.
- ⁽³⁾ LVC came into effect on 1 July 2011. Therefore no LVC was paid in 2010-11.

The answers to Mr Coe's question regarding receipts are as follows:

Year	Amount ⁽¹⁾	Comment ⁽²⁾
2010-2011	\$11.292 million ⁽³⁾	Note 39 Fees and Fines p.89
2011-2012	\$8.733 million	Note 40 Fees and Fines p.97
2012-2013	\$15.456 million	Note 41 Fees and Fines p.105
2013-2014	\$14.203 million	Note 39 Fees and Fines p.201
2014-2015 YTD September Quarter	-	To be determined

EPD does not record average figures for LVC. There are two different types of chargeable variation. A s276E chargeable variation which is codified and a s277 chargeable variation which is assessed by valuation. Each lease variation has its own individual characteristics.

Year	Minimum LVC	Maximum LVC ⁽¹⁾ \$
2010-2011 ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A
2011-2012	Nil	187,500
2012-2013	Nil	155,000
2013-2014	Nil	7.515 million
2014-2015 (YTD – Sept)	Nil	714,000

⁽¹⁾ Figures do not include payments made under Change of Use Charge

⁽²⁾ LVC did not come into effect until 2011-12.

LVC Remissions by Instrument

Year	25%	50%	75%
2010-2011	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011-2012	1	0	1
2012-2013	2	0	1
2013-2014	3	0	0
2014-2015 (YTD – Sept)	0	1	0

ACTION bus service—patronage (Question No 350)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

- (1) From 1 September 2014, what is the total number of ACTION passenger boardings.
- (2) For the figure listed in part (1), how is this broken down by (a) cash fares, (b) MyWay fares, (c) student fares and (d) concession travel.

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

- (1) For the period 1 September – 26 October 2014, the total number of ACTION passenger boardings was 2,770,645.
- (2) The total number of ACTION passenger boardings for this period can be broken down as follows:

Type of Ticket	Passenger Type	No. of Boarding Passengers
Cash fares	Adult	71,455
	Concession	184,912
	Transfer	160,557
MyWay	Adult	1,003,028
	Over 70	94,226
	Pensioner	138,903
	Senior	74,598
	Student	606,655
	Student Transport Program	45,513
	Tertiary	390,798

**ACTION bus service—patronage
(Question No 351)**

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

- (1) From 1 September 2014, what are the top 20 patronised ACTION routes based on average daily boardings.
- (2) For the routes listed in part (1), what is the average daily boarding of each route.
- (3) For the routes listed in part (1), what is the percentage of boardings broken by (a) cash fares, (b) MyWay fares, (c) student fares and (d) concession travel.

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

Route ⁽¹⁾	Daily Average ⁽²⁾	Cash Fares ^{(3)(a)}	MyWay ^{(3)(b)}	Student Fares ^{(3)(c)}	Concession Travel ^{(3)(d)}
300	4,389	15%	85%	32%	25%
200	3,897	14%	86%	31%	20%
313	3,624	16%	84%	32%	33%
343	3,493	16%	84%	33%	39%
2	2,256	18%	82%	26%	30%
3	2,024	18%	82%	27%	27%
319	1,556	12%	88%	34%	19%
39	1,534	16%	84%	26%	26%
318	1,482	12%	88%	31%	20%
40	1,481	12%	88%	37%	23%
5	1,438	21%	79%	25%	34%
315	1,433	12%	88%	30%	18%
314	1,410	13%	87%	30%	21%
4	1,293	19%	81%	28%	32%
7	1,264	16%	84%	40%	26%
30	1,193	14%	86%	36%	22%
1	1,160	19%	81%	23%	29%
250	1,047	13%	87%	49%	20%
56	919	15%	85%	28%	22%
57	778	12%	88%	35%	17%

*Data counted for period 1 September to 26 October 2014

**ACTION bus service—patronage
(Question No 352)**

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

- (1) Can the Minister provide an overall breakdown of patronage and farebox revenue for ACTION services in the weeks (a) 1 September to 7 September 2014, (b) 8 September to 14 September 2014, (c) 15 September to 21 September 2014, (d) 29 September to 5 October 2014, (e) 6 October to 12 October 2014, (f) 13 October to 19 October 2014 and (g) 20 October to 26 October 2014.

- (2) Can the Minister provide a breakdown of patronage and revenue by route and by number for ACTION services in the weeks (a) 1 September to 7 September 2014, (b) 8 September to 14 September 2014, (c) 15 September to 21 September 2014, (d) 29 September to 5 October 2014, (e) 6 October to 12 October 2014, (f) 13 October to 19 October 2014 and (g) 20 October to 26 October 2014.

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

- (1) Below is the overall breakdown of patronage and farebox revenue for ACTION services in the weeks requested by the Member.

Period	Total Patronage	Total Farebox Revenue
(a) 1 September - 7 September 2014	320,741	\$ 450,902.40
(b) 8 September - 14 September 2014	316,572	\$ 446,049.85
(c) 15 September - 21 September 2014	322,318	\$ 448,139.32
(d) 29 September - 5 October 2014	255,103	\$ 369,335.08
(e) 6 October - 12 October 2014	260,377	\$ 388,058.75
(f) 13 October - 19 October 2014	331,711	\$ 472,657.31
(g) 20 October - 26 October 2014	338,622	\$ 464,266.03

- (2) The attached spreadsheet shows the breakdown of patronage and revenue by route and by number for ACTION services in the weeks requested by the Member.

(Attachment available from the Chamber Support Office)

ACTION bus service—network (Question No 353)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

What is the marginal cost of operating an additional ACTION bus in the network.

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

The marginal cost of operating an additional ACTION bus in the network is \$145,843.00 per annum. This covers driver, parts and material costs but does not include corporate overheads or the actual capital cost of the bus (approximately \$500k) or bus depreciation expenses.

Transport—light rail (Question No 354)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Capital Metro, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

With regard to the Capital Metro project when will the (a) services be inspected, (b) trees be removed, (c) services be relocated, (d) preparatory civil works begin and (e) tracks be laid for each of the median on

(i) Hibberson Street between Gungahlin Place and Hinder Street, (ii) Hibberson Street between Hinder Street and Kate Crace Street, (iii) Flemington Road between Kate Crace Street and Manning Clark Crescent, (iv) Flemington Road between Manning Clark Crescent and Mapleton Avenue, (v) Flemington Road between Mapleton Avenue and Nullabor Avenue, (vi) Flemington Road between Nullabor Avenue and Well Station Drive, (vii) Flemington Road between Well Station Drive and Lysaght Street, (viii) Flemington Road between Lysaght Street and Sandford Street, (ix) Flemington Road between Sandford Street and Randwick Road, (x) Flemington Road between Randwick Road and The Federal Highway, (xi) The Federal Highway between Flemington Road and Phillip Avenue, (xii) The Federal Highway between Phillip Avenue and Swindon Street, (xiii) The Federal Highway between Swindon Street and Antill Street, (xiv) Northbourne Avenue between Antill Street and Murdoch Street, (xv) Northbourne Avenue between Murdoch Street and Morphett Street, (xvi) Northbourne Avenue between Morphett Street Wakefield Avenue, (xvii) Northbourne Avenue between Wakefield Avenue and Condamine Street, (xviii) Northbourne Avenue between Condamine Street and Green Street, (xix) Northbourne Avenue between Green Street and Masson Street, (xx) Northbourne Avenue between Masson Street and Gould Street, (xxi) Northbourne Avenue between Gould Street and McKay Street, (xxii) Northbourne Avenue between McKay Street and Cooyong Street, (xxiii) Northbourne Avenue between Cooyong Street and Rudd Street and (xxiv) Northbourne Avenue between Rudd Street and Alinga Street.

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

1. The contractual arrangement within a Public Private Partnership environment dictates that the responsibility of the timing and management of these activities will lie with the successful tendering proponent. Therefore, the planning and scheduling of the numerous and various aspects contained in this question will be dependent upon the agreed program supplied by the proponent.

Sport—ICC Cricket World Cup (Question No 355)

Mr Doszpot asked the Minister for Tourism and Events, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

- In each of the upcoming ICC Cricket World Cup matches being staged in Canberra
- (a) how many tickets are available in each category,
 - (b) in each category in part (a), how many have been sold,
 - (c) what is the total value of tickets sold to date,
 - (d) what portion of ticket revenue does the ACT Government or ACT Cricket receive,
 - (e) what is the total ACT Government investment to secure these events and
 - (f) what costs will the Government incur in hosting these events.

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

- (a) This information is subject to a confidentiality clause as part of the contract between the International Cricket Council Cricket World Cup 2015 Local Organising Committee and the ACT Government. Under this clause, this information cannot be disclosed to third parties.
- (b) See answer to 1) (a) above.
- (c) See answer to 1) (a) above.

- (d) See answer to 1) (a) above.
- (e) \$2.225 million.
- (f) In addition to the \$2.225 million, Government will spend approximately \$275,000 to support venue preparations, human resources, security and marketing.

Sport—AFC Asian Cup Australia (Question No 356)

Mr Doszpot asked the Minister for Tourism and Events, upon notice, on 30 October 2014:

In each of the upcoming AFC Asian Cup Australia matches being staged in Canberra

- (a) how many tickets are available in each category,
- (b) in each category in part (a), how many have been sold,
- (c) what is the total value of tickets sold to date,
- (d) what portion of ticket revenue does the ACT Government or Capital Football receive,
- (e) what is the total ACT Government investment to secure these events and
- (f) what costs will the Government incur in hosting these events.

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

- 1)
 - (a) This information is subject to a confidentiality clause as part of the Master Funding agreements between the AFC Asian Cup 2015 Local Organising Committee (LOC) and all participating jurisdictions. Under this clause, this information cannot be disclosed to third parties.
 - (b) See answer to 1) (a) above.
 - (c) See answer to 1) (a) above.
 - (d) See answer to 1) (a) above.
 - (e) \$3.47 million.
 - (f) In addition to the \$3.47 million Government will spend approximately \$583,000 to support human resources and marketing.

Questions without notice taken on notice

Brian Hennessy Rehabilitation Centre—closure

Ms Gallagher (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Jones on Thursday, 23 October 2014*): The average length of stay (ALOS) for the total 30 residents at Brian Hennessy Rehabilitation Centre (BHRC) is 1129 days (or 37 months).

The ALOS for BHRC residents is significantly influenced by 11 residents, who have resided at BHRC for over three years due to the high degree of psychosocial disability and level of support required, as opposed to being actively engaged in a rehabilitation program.

If these 11 outliers are excluded, the ALOS for the other 19 residents at BHRC is 529 days (or 17 months).

Skywhale—flights

Ms Gallagher (*in reply to a question and a supplementary questions by Mr Smyth and Mrs Jones on Wednesday, 29 October 2014*): Global Ballooning negotiated a community rate for a number of community events, including for appearances at the Canberra Glassworks and the University of Canberra. The rate was applicable on the condition that volunteers were mobilised to provide support to Global Ballooning with balloon inflation and deflation, and crowd management.

The standard rate for an appearance of The Skywhale is \$3500. The rate negotiated by Global Ballooning for the Canberra Glassworks was \$1860 and \$1800 for the University of Canberra.

Global Ballooning offered a special appearance rate of \$1860 to the Ainslie Arts Centre and Tuggeranong Arts Centre on the condition that volunteers were available to support Global Ballooning at the appearance. The appearance at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre was cancelled on the day due to unfavourable weather conditions.

Global Ballooning charged the Tuggeranong Arts Centre a fee for a cancelled appearance. This fee was \$465.30 to cover the pilot's time (on site for three hours) and use of equipment.

Roads—resurfacing

Mr Rattenbury (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mr Coe on Tuesday, 21 October 2014*): The target for territorial roads was met or exceeded in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2010-11 and the target for municipal roads was met in 2007-08.

Environmental upgrade agreement program

Mr Corbell (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Lawder on Wednesday, 29 October 2014*):

(1) The advice provided by the directorate in April of this year, following on from consultation with various councils in New South Wales and Victoria who have implemented environmental upgrade agreements (EUA's), was that the value of implementing an EUA program in the ACT is limited due to:

- the large proportion of Government buildings who do not pay rates and have Commonwealth efficiency mechanisms and commitments;
- the comparatively smaller size of Canberra's CBD (and low number of large commercial buildings) to other jurisdictions, thus the program would be unlikely to yield more than 2 to 4 agreements within a 3 year period;
- establishing and administering the program would require a budget bid for a program officer for 2-3 years, and with advice from other jurisdictions indicating up to two years of ground work before agreements were signed, the considerable use of resources is likely to result in minimal action.

The directorate is continuing to explore options of administering this program in a cost effective and resourceful way, possibly cost sharing an EUA officer for both the ACT and South-East NSW or streamlining the process through lessons learned in other jurisdictions.

(2) The establishment of an ACT EUA program would require a budget bid for approximately \$500,000 to employ a SOG C Officer for three years with some project funding included. A substantial period of this time would be spent in coordinating amendments to new legislation, program development and recruitment of potential buildings.

Budget—deficit

Mr Barr (*in reply to a question and supplementary questions by Mr Smyth and Ms Lawder on Wednesday, 26 November 2014*): Net Debt is calculated as the sum of deposits held, advances received and borrowings, less the sum of cash and deposits, advances paid, investments, loans and placements with superannuation investments added back.

The deposits held, advances received and borrowings variance is \$59 million comprising:

- an increase in deposits held (these being Public Trading Enterprise investment deposits with the Territory Banking Account) of \$28 million reflecting the underlying agency investment and liquidity requirements; and
- an increase in borrowings of \$31 million due in the main to the overdraft position of an agency transactional banking account which is used to temporarily fund payments relating to the Territory's Infrastructure Program.

The cash and deposits, advances paid, investments, loans and placements (excluding *superannuation investments*) variance of minus \$155 million reflects lower cash at bank and lower general government investment holdings resulting from underlying transactional cash flow activity during the quarter.