



Debates

WEEKLY HANSARD

Legislative Assembly for the ACT

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1 AUGUST 2019

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Thursday, 1 August 2019

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Thursday, 1 August 2019

MADAM SPEAKER (Ms J Burch) took the chair at 10 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.

The Hon Robert Hawke AC
Motion of condolence

MR BARR (Kurrajong—Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality, Minister for Tourism and Special Events and Minister for Trade, Industry and Investment) (10.01): I move:

That this Assembly expresses its deep sorrow at the death of the Honourable Robert James Lee Hawke AC.

It is really hard to know where to begin when it comes to talking about the life and legacy of Australia's 23rd Prime Minister, the Hon Robert James Lee Hawke. Few Australians can be said to have made such a significant contribution or left such a resounding and lasting impact on our national identity, our national psyche and of course our national economy as Bob Hawke.

His achievements and contributions in public office are numerous; his political acumen unmatched in his lifetime; his commitment to Labor beliefs and values unwavering; and his personality larger than life. He was a man of the people and, importantly, a man for the people. He was loved by his country, by his party and by his movement. He was the personification of our values and our aspirations and he truly was a legend in his own lifetime.

Much has been said about Bob's legacy since his passing on 16 May. He was, as we know, a great reformer. He oversaw some of the most significant economic reforms in Australia's history, including the floating of the Australian dollar, the opening of our economy to global trade and competition and the creation of the prices and incomes accord to combat stagflation in the early 1980s.

He was also a strong advocate for an inclusive economy that worked to benefit all Australians, regardless of their background. He introduced Medicare, legislated to introduce Australia's compulsory superannuation system, reformed family allowances to provide better support for low income and single-parent households and introduced the Sex Discrimination Act to outlaw sex discrimination in the workplace.

In the international arena, Bob never deviated from his complete rejection of injustice and always advocated for fairness and equality for all people. He was one of the great advocates for ending apartheid in South Africa and utterly rejected racism in all its forms through his entire life. And who can forget his emotional speech, part unfettered rage, part deep sorrow, after the Tiananmen Square massacre in China in 1989 and his subsequent offer of asylum to Chinese students in Australia!

Bob was also a powerful advocate for the environment. As Prime Minister, he saved Tasmania's Franklin River from damming. He banned new uranium mining in Arnhem Land. He promoted the World Heritage listing of Kakadu National Park and led an international push to protect Antarctica from mining and to preserve it as a place of peace and science.

Bob was also one of the first leaders to recognise the dangers of climate change and highlight the importance of acting to protect our planet for future generations. In the late 1980s he said:

We don't inherit the planet, we borrow it ... Global warming cannot be dismissed as just another environmental problem. It has the potential to change fundamentally, in a single lifetime, the way all nations and people live and work. Care for your planet as you would care for your children. Their tomorrows depend on our actions today.

Every Labor leader, whether at state or territory level or the national level, is aware of the legacy of achievement left by those who came before them. Bob Hawke's is perhaps the mightiest of them all. The Labor Party, and indeed the labour movement of today, has in large part been shaped by the great reforms of the Hawke-Keating years.

We continue to be a party of serious economic reform, making tough decisions because we know they are right for our nation's long-term prosperity. We continue to be a party that values inclusiveness and a strong social safety net and an economy that works for all Australians, not a select few. We continue to be a party that advocates for fairness, inclusiveness and equality for all and utterly rejects racism in all its forms. And we continue to be a party that understands the importance of protecting our environment and acting to combat global climate change. It is certainly the case that many of Labor's underlying beliefs and values today find their roots in the years of the Hawke government.

Bob Hawke was also a strong supporter of and advocate for our city, Canberra. I have often said that Canberra is a place where passionate, creative and intelligent people can make a lasting contribution to the fabric of our nation, and I think this is something Bob believed too. His former press secretary, Geoff Walsh, recalled, after Bob's death, that when people complained about Canberra he would reply, "Have you looked at the quality of policy making in our city? You could not complain about how well the nation is being served by the public service." I believe that that continues to be the case today.

In his early life Bob lived in Canberra while studying for a PhD at the ANU. Sadly his residency was cut short when he was whisked away to Melbourne to work for the Australian Council of Trade Unions. I like to think that this disappointed Bob and that his decision to run for the leadership of the Australian Labor Party and become Prime Minister of Australia was of course driven in part by his wish to return to our great city.

It is worth noting that during his prime ministership Bob chose to make Canberra and the Lodge his permanent home. I know this is something that Victorian prime ministers of both political persuasions have chosen to do, perhaps more so than Sydney-based prime ministers. And people can take from that what they will!

The minister for women and senator for the ACT in the Hawke government, Susan Ryan, recalled to the *Canberra Times* that Bob loved entertaining at the Lodge, and there are many stories of parties going well into the early morning. Of course we all know that Bob famously, or perhaps infamously, loved sunbathing around the Lodge's outdoor pool.

But beyond the Prime Minister's residence, Bob took a strong interest in our local community. He would be spotted playing golf on one of Canberra's golf courses or cricket at Manuka Oval; he was an avid supporter of the Canberra Raiders and was, for a time, their number one ticket holder. And when the Raiders won their first premiership in 1989 Bob insisted on holding the celebration party at the Lodge.

In 1984 he reinvigorated the Prime Minister's XI at Manuka Oval, and a match between the Prime Minister's XI and an international or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander team has been played every summer since 1984. It is perhaps fitting that in 1992 one of the three grandstands at Manuka Oval was named the Bob Hawke stand in recognition of his dedication and commitment to bringing international cricket to Canberra.

But his biggest influence on Canberra is of course his decision to sever our city's administrative ties with the commonwealth and to introduce self-government for the territory. There is no doubt that at that time Canberrans were reluctant about the idea but I think Bob saw in us something that at the time perhaps we did not see in ourselves: Canberra's maturity as a city and as a community and our capacity to set our own agenda and lay our own pathway for the future. All of us here in this chamber today, and those who came before us, can attribute at least in some small part our political careers to Bob Hawke.

With that, I will conclude by extending the parliamentary Labor Party's deepest sympathies and, I hope, those of all members of this Assembly to those who loved him, who were closest to him, to his extended family. We thank you for sharing him with the nation and we thank you for his very significant contribution to Canberra.

MR COE (Yerrabi—Leader of the Opposition) (10.10): I rise today on behalf of the opposition to express our condolences at the passing of former Prime Minister Bob Hawke. Robert James Lee Hawke was born on 9 December 1929 in Bordertown, South Australia, and he distinguished himself at an early age. A near-death experience in his late teens drove him to making the most out of his talents and he excelled in much of what he did.

After graduating from the University of Western Australia in 1952 with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws, Mr Hawke won a Rhodes scholarship. He commenced a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy, politics and economics but later transferred to a

Bachelor of Letters at Oxford. Later, in 1956, Mr Hawke temporarily relocated to Canberra where he accepted a scholarship to undertake doctoral studies in arbitration law at the ANU.

Throughout his youth Mr Hawke was an active member of the Labor Party and university unions. He later left his doctoral studies to work for the Australian Council of Trade Unions in Melbourne. Mr Hawke became responsible for the presentation of the ACTU's annual case for higher wages to the national wage tribunal, the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. He was very successful in that role and was elected ACTU President in 1969.

In 1973 Mr Hawke was elected the Federal President of the Labor Party and was of course very influential in that role. This afforded him credibility and authority throughout his political career. Mr Hawke was elected the member for Wills in 1980 and became Leader of the Opposition just weeks before the 1983 election, which was of course successful for the Labor Party.

No-one can deny that Bob Hawke and Paul Keating as a team had a major impact on the economic and social fabric of Australia. Under their leadership, the Australian government floated the dollar; created Medicare; deregulated much of the financial system; started the privatisation of government-owned businesses, including the Commonwealth Bank, Qantas and CSL Ltd; undertook economic reform; outlawed workplace gender discrimination; responded to the AIDS epidemic; reintroduced the higher education contribution scheme; listed the Gondwana Rainforests, the Wet Tropics of Queensland and the Uluru National Park on the World Heritage list; handed back Uluru to the traditional owners; declared *Advance Australia Fair* the official Australian national anthem and much, much, more. It was only through Bob Hawke's leadership that this was possible. While he was later deposed by his party, John Howard and Scott Morrison, I believe, are correct in describing Bob Hawke as Labor's greatest Prime Minister.

Bob Hawke was a much-loved man of the people, man of the Labor Party and man of the unions and he never forgot his roots. On how he would like to be remembered, Mr Hawke said, "As a bloke who loved his country, still does. And loves Australians and who wasn't essentially changed by high office." I believe he will be remembered as such. As is well documented, his family made considerable sacrifices during his time as a unionist and Prime Minister. And it gives cause for all of us to reflect on and give thanks to the sacrifices that all our families make in order for us to be involved in public life.

Again I extend my condolences to Bob Hawke's widow, Blanche, and to the family on the passing of this great Prime Minister.

MR RATTENBURY (Kurrajong) (10.14): I rise on behalf of the ACT Greens to express our condolences to Bob Hawke's family and, indeed, the wider Labor movement in Australia following his death on 16 May this year. Throughout my high school years Bob Hawke was a fixture; he was just there as the Prime Minister and I took it for granted. As I grew older, and certainly since his death, I have had more opportunity and perspective to reflect on his achievements and legacy.

Pre-eminent among these is that as Prime Minister he was able to introduce and shepherd through what were, by any standards, extraordinary society-wide changes. Whatever position people may have had about his reforms, particularly the major economic ones at the time and since, I suspect very few other people in Australia's political history could have pulled them off with such grace and relatively little division.

As well as having a giant intellect, Bob Hawke had a wonderful ability to bring people along with him, including the opposition at the time, on a range of key issues. Most prime ministers since, regardless of their achievements or abilities, have been more divisive figures.

As has been noted by many others, he wore his heart on his sleeve. He clearly loved Australia and wanted the best for our country and for Australians in general. The Australian people knew this. He was a marvellous communicator and could talk easily with people from any walk of life.

As well as his compassion and commitment to all Australian citizens he had a deep regard for people and for human rights across the planet. As the Chief Minister touched on, his compassionate and emotional response to the Tiananmen Square massacre where thousands of students were killed by the Chinese military just over 30 years ago is still discussed, is still remarkable and it is still strong in my memory. It is for this type of leadership that he was able to stay Prime Minister for so long, winning the Australian people over at four federal elections.

For the Greens, the very first federal election he won in 1983 is probably of most noteworthiness since it was, of course, the no-dams election. After a build-up of protests reminiscent of the Adani protests of now, Bob Brown reflected on the thousands of people who had gone to Tasmania to protest about the Franklin River being dammed, and 500 or so had gone to Risdon prison.

Bob Brown tells the story of a rally in Melbourne of 15,000-plus people in early 1983 shortly after Bob Hawke had taken the Labor leadership where Hazel Hawke famously wore no-dam earrings and Bob announced his opposition to the dam. This was a turning point, and the environment movement publicly backed and campaigned for Labor to take government. On the eve of the election in March 1983, Bob Hawke made only one commitment: no Franklin dam and compensate those affected.

Bob Hawke went on to make many more positive conservation decisions protecting rainforests, world heritage areas and Antarctica throughout the term of office, but it is the Franklin dam case that made the biggest impact to environmental politics late last century. Of course, the Franklin River is now an internationally renowned tourism destination as well as important wilderness area. The Greens acknowledge the important role that Bob Hawke, along with Graham Richardson, played in these key environmental issues. We will be discussing Landcare as our next item this morning, another legacy of this era.

Another thing well known about the former Prime Minister is that he was a no-nonsense kind of man certainly not known for self-aggrandisement. He, like Gough Whitlam before him, did not accept the appointment to the Privy Council and thus declined the title “the Right Honourable”. Being possibly the most down to earth prime minister Australia has had, not only did he not accept the appointment but he introduced legislation in the form of the Australia Act 1986, which took Australia major steps towards independence from Britain. The acts—there were two; one in Australia and one in the UK—abolished the Privy Council, amongst other things.

The Privy Council existed as a means of appeal from state supreme courts and from the High Court and was even used to bypass the High Court. This may not seem important today, but this change had a dramatic effect on the High Court’s jurisprudence, making it the final court of appeal for all Australian matters.

The act also further clarified our independence from the UK through Britain becoming a foreign power, the effect being that British nationals became ineligible to be members of our federal parliament. Of course, 33 years later we are still watching the rumblings of the ramifications of this legislation as a very live political issue.

Bob Hawke also abolished knights and dames in Australian honours in 1986. It is an interesting subsequent reflection that Prime Minister Howard did not restore them but Prime Minister Abbott did. I raise these issues largely to underline the sense that so many Australians have: Bob Hawke was a very genuine and authentic man. Despite holding the highest office in the land he maintained his ability to relate to the average Australian.

Both before and since his death, much has been written about Bob Hawke. I will quote from one of the eulogies at his memorial service:

... I only knew Bob from a distance.

But in that way, I can reflect and share with you the common remembrance and speak of the affection he inspired from millions of Australians who only knew him in this way ... It was a passionate and affectionate relationship between Bob and the Australian people.

They knew each other well.

They forgave each other’s shortcomings.

They understood each other’s virtues.

There was trust, there was faith in each other.

There was also sorrows born and joys shared, great passions, and disappointments.

Destiny was always Bob Hawke’s friend, but it was never a passive or easy relationship.

He never hid himself from us.

He let us see all of his complexity—all of it—and that's what Australian's loved about him.

Our 23rd Prime Minister was a proud and faithful son of the Labor movement, and he became one of the proud fathers of our modern Australia.

That is an excerpt from Scott Morrison's speech. It was sincere and gracious, and the respect shown in it by a member of an opposing political party speaks volumes. Bob Hawke was a prime minister for all Australians. May he rest in peace.

Question resolved in the affirmative, members standing in their places.

Landcare—30th anniversary of establishment Ministerial statement

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (10.21): I rise to speak on a significant anniversary that we have just passed that is worth noting. On 20 July 1989 the Prime Minister, the Hon Bob Hawke MP, announced 1990 a Year of Landcare and the 1990s a Decade of Landcare. In his speech, the Prime Minister asked the community to “join us in these efforts for it is only by working together that we will restore and improve our environment”.

Through the ministerial councils and standing committees, state and territory governments contributed significantly to the Australian government's overall policy and program design for the Decade of Landcare. The approach has been so successful that the decade has extended to 30 years, and it shows no sign of stopping. It has also been adopted internationally. Landcare is a grassroots movement of individuals and groups that protect, restore and sustainably manage Australia's natural environment.

It is a national network of thousands of locally-based community groups that care for natural resources. Over time, the movement has grown from locally-based community groups to encompass a broader focus on sustainable management of all of Australia's natural resource assets. Landcare now encompasses individuals and groups across the whole landscape, from coastal to urban and remote areas of Australia, with more than 6,000 community Landcare groups and many thousands of volunteers.

Landcare recognises the direct relationships between agriculture, the environment and community stewardship. It was unique in combining agricultural activities, biodiversity conservation and Aboriginal cultural heritage. The Landcare movement has developed the stewardship role of community and rural land managers and a recognition of the interconnected nature of the land and the environment. Landcare activities have raised the environmental awareness of rural land managers, leading to changes in practice to be more sustainable and sympathetic to the biodiversity values of rural lands.

The Landcare approach has also assisted in bringing greater Aboriginal cultural heritage knowledge into land management. Aboriginal caring for country is better integrated with European land management through Landcare activities. The shift in approach toward land stewardship has aided in Australia being recognised globally as having clean and green agriculture. This in turn creates a competitive advantage for the sector. An estimate of a subset of agricultural pursuits in Australia found that Landcare investments delivered in excess of \$1 billion in effort from 1988-2015.

The ACT is fortunate to have a very active community that is involved in the stewardship of natural resources. Following Landcare principles, the ACT government has created ACT NRM as the regional body responsible for overseeing the delivery of natural resource management within the ACT. ACT NRM focuses on biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

ACT NRM supports ACT rural landholders to implement sustainable farm practices and become more resilient to drought and climate change. This is through grant funding, capacity building through training and knowledge sharing initiatives, sharing new ideas through trials and demonstrations, and facilitating collaborative activities between landholders.

These activities increase biodiversity conservation on rural land while working to increase productivity. The ACT is privileged to have three community-based catchment groups that operate under the principles of Landcare. They are the Southern ACT Catchment Group, the Ginninderra Catchment Group and the Molonglo Conservation Group.

The ACT catchment groups work with volunteers, rural landholders, schools, businesses and the broader community on matters of environmental restoration, conservation and catchment management. The catchment groups are an ally of government in connecting with the communities that they serve. Equally, their ability to mobilise communities and volunteers and deliver community-based projects around public spaces and infrastructure makes them a stronger partner.

This year the ACT government is funding the catchment groups \$245,000 to engage with the community on important environmental initiatives and undertake stewardship activities. The ACT government is also funding the groups \$265,000 to deliver Waterwatch and \$75,000 to deliver Frogwatch. The ACT parks and conservation service and TCCS urban parks and places volunteer program work with the three catchment groups to support volunteer groups that undertake nature conservation works on public land.

This partnership between the local community and the ACT government enables community stewardship of public lands. There are also 20 volunteer ParkCare groups operating on the national park estate in the ACT and 34 urban Landcare groups operating within our urban reserves. Their activities are as diverse as the groups themselves and include weed control, revegetation, threat mitigation, citizen science, litter collection, urban beautification, tree maintenance, erosion control and community gardens.

It is interesting to note that 30 years on from the announcement of Landcare, the Hon Bob Hawke's granddaughter Sophie Taylor-Price has just been announced as Landcare Australia's Landcare Ambassador. I ask you all to join me in marking this significant anniversary. I present the following paper:

30th Anniversary of the establishment of Landcare—Ministerial statement,
1 August 2019.

I move:

That the Assembly take note of the paper.

MS LAWDER (Brindabella) (10.27): I would like to add a few words to acknowledge the 30th anniversary of Landcare. It is a significant anniversary, although Victoria may argue that it is the 33rd year of Landcare as it was established in Victoria in 1986. The idea was developed by the National Farmers Federation and the Australian Conservation Foundation. They pitched the idea to then Prime Minister Bob Hawke. They had hoped originally to get 300 Landcare groups established in the first decade; they reached over 2,000 in that time and today there are over 5,400 groups right across Australia.

In the ACT we have a number of very active subgroups under the three catchment groups: Ginninderra Catchment Group was the first to be established 20 years ago, followed by the Southern ACT Catchment Group and the Molonglo Catchment Group. The chair of ACT Landcare is Dr Maxine Cooper. I would like to acknowledge her work, the work of previous chairs and all those who have been involved in the running of Landcare in the ACT.

Recently, in evidence to estimates, Dr Cooper said that the groups were concerned at the constant erosion of their funding base. For example, there is no longer funding for water education. Other states such as New South Wales appear to be far more generous in their support for local Landcare groups. That is why recently the Canberra Liberals committed to provide over \$2 million over four years to ensure certainty of funding and continuity of projects for Landcare and the catchment groups.

We have committed to exactly what they asked for: \$130,000 annually for each group, unlike this government, which has offered them \$90,000 each year, and the government offers only annual funding and tells them in about May whether they are going to get funded again for the following year. This means quite a lot of uncertainty for those groups. It is difficult to plan projects and work on such short time frames. It is also difficult sometimes to retain key staff if they feel that their position may be no longer funded.

Frogwatch, Waterwatch, Junior Landcare and dozens of projects relating to woodlands and wetlands come under the banner of Landcare. Landcare works with farmers, local communities and many groups to restore native vegetation. This is all evidence of the quiet but absolutely vital work that Landcare volunteers do each year, all year round.

I once again congratulate them on their commitment. I congratulate them on their 30th anniversary. We hope that they will continue to be funded. Certainly, they can be assured that the Canberra Liberals value their contribution and have committed funding for them.

MR RATTENBURY (Kurrajong) (10.31): I would also like to put on the record the ACT Greens' support and thanks for Landcare and congratulate Landcare on their 30th anniversary. Landcare is indeed a valuable organisation. It has made an incredible difference to our natural environment over the past 30 years. Minister Gentleman has talked about the important role that former Prime Minister Bob Hawke had in the foundation of Landcare.

It is also important to note the involvement of NGOs. Thirty years ago Rick Farley from the National Farmers Federation and Phillip Toyne, who was the head of the Australian Conservation Foundation, collaborated to form Landcare. At the time, it did seem fairly revolutionary because these groups had not really worked together before. Today, of course, Landcare is an organisation that is founded on the hard work of volunteers who, as the name suggests, care deeply about the land and the natural environment in Australia.

In the ACT, we also have the ParkCare initiative, which in some way overlaps with Landcare. The ParkCare program grew from a pilot bush regeneration program in 1989 with one group and 13 volunteers working in Canberra Nature Park to 13 groups and 400 volunteers by 1992. There are around 35 ParkCare groups working in parks and reserves across urban and rural ACT today.

Every year in the ACT, these volunteers give more than 20,000 hours of their time to managing and caring for ACT parks and reserves. They undertake activities such as planting, weed and erosion control, and research and monitoring. We have some great local groups looking after specific nature reserves, groups like Friends of Black Mountain, Friends of Aranda Bushland or Cooleman Ridge Park Care Group.

If you visit these areas and enjoy the fact that they are well cared for and not overrun with weeds, make sure you spare a thought for the hardworking volunteers. Landcare and ParkCare work can sometimes be a hard, strenuous activity. Anyone who has done weeding will know it can be tough. Apparently, weeding takes up almost half of the volunteer work hours undertaken by ParkCare groups in the ACT. On behalf of the ACT's natural environment, but also on behalf of our own knees and lower backs, we should thank these volunteers for their great efforts.

Volunteers also run many of the guided walks and activities in ACT nature reserves. In this way, they also play an important role in community education, helping people to learn about and experience the joys of nature. I also want to mention that these great volunteer groups do some fantastic work on improving and rehabilitating our woodland and grassland ecosystems, which are important ecosystems to care for and preserve.

One of the great things about Landcare and ParkCare is the opportunities it gives for people to be part of the community, to share knowledge, and to meet new people while giving something back. I think that this is probably what the volunteers appreciate about being involved in both Landcare and ParkCare.

Lastly, I want to note that uncertain funding for these organisations remains a problem. They could definitely benefit from guaranteed, clear funding. Funding that is not guaranteed may vary year to year. It makes it hard to retain good staff. Environmental restoration work is not a quick fix. It takes sustained effort. For that reason, we need a sustained funding commitment to Landcare and like programs so that we can ensure Landcare's success for the next 30 years.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Public Sector Management Amendment Bill 2019

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

Title read by Clerk.

MR BARR (Kurrajong—Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality, Minister for Tourism and Special Events and Minister for Trade, Industry and Investment) (10.35): I move:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

The ACT public service is known for its agility, responsiveness and innovation in delivering government priorities. If the government is to deliver on its objectives and to provide the best possible services to the community, it is vital that the legislation which establishes the public sector and the public service continues to be relevant, up to date, and consistent in its practices.

The amendments contained in the Public Sector Management Amendment Bill 2019 will strengthen the existing ACT public service employment framework and provide greater alignment with the existing employment framework to ensure that the legislation operates effectively.

As part of the recent bargaining process for new enterprise agreements, the government has agreed to provide contact details of new employees to relevant unions. It is important to note that the provision for allowing for the release of this information is already contained in the new enterprise agreements. A number of these have been voted up by the majority of ACT public servants and have been approved by the Fair Work Commission, while other enterprise agreements are in the process of being balloted or are pending approval by the commission. Whilst enterprise agreements prevail over any territory law to the extent of any inconsistency, it is the government's view that this method is not preferred as a basis for the ongoing provision of information. As a result, a section has been included in the amendment bill to authorise the sharing of new starter information with the relevant unions.

The human rights implications of such an amendment were extensively considered and safeguards have been implemented to ensure that an individual's right to privacy is not unnecessarily infringed upon. New starters will have the opportunity to opt out from their information being provided to the relevant union through the new starter pack.

In providing this information to the relevant unions, the territory will inform the unions of their privacy obligations in order to ensure that information disclosed is handled and protected in accordance with privacy legislation. As registered organisations, relevant unions are subject to the commonwealth Privacy Act 1988 and Australian privacy principles.

The amendment will not apply to existing employees; it will apply only to new ones.

The bill amends the definition of employee under the Long Service Leave Act 1976 to clarify that it does not apply to an ACT public employee. Amendments to the Public Sector Management Act in 2011 inadvertently removed the provision that prevented application of the Long Service Leave Act for ACT public employees. However, the Long Service Leave Act has never applied to ACTPS employees. Current practice also reflects that the public sector management standards of 2006—the repealed standards—and the enterprise agreements have been applied in calculating long service leave entitlements. The intention of the amendment to the Long Service Leave Act is to clarify that fact.

Public sector management standards and enterprise agreements provide superior long service leave entitlements in all but a small number of circumstances to those under the Long Service Leave Act. The particular circumstances relate to where an officer who has completed at least five years of service but less than seven years: the officer is entitled to a pro-rata payment in lieu of accrued long service leave where their employment is terminated by the employer for reasons other than incapacity, illness, retirement or redundancy or for a reason other than the person's serious and wilful misconduct, such as termination for underperformance. The Legislation Act 2001 protects the entitlement if there is any detriment caused to a current employee by this amendment. No current or future public servants will be worse off from the proposed long service leave amendments.

To further support these arrangements, the government will introduce amendments to the public sector management standards of 2016 that will sit alongside and complement the provisions of the repealed standards in these limited circumstances to ensure that there is no detriment to either a current or future employee as a result of these amendments. The amendments will allow for the consistent and correct management and application of long service leave entitlements whilst also protecting employee rights.

Other amendments contained within the bill are minor and technical in nature. A definition has been inserted to clarify the meaning of permanent resident in terms of an eligible person for employment. A permanent resident means a person who holds a permanent visa under the commonwealth Migration Act 1958 or a New Zealand

citizen who holds a special category visa under the same act. The requirement to be either an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia to be eligible for permanency within the ACT public service has been in effect for many years. Due to some amendments to the Public Sector Management Act in 2016, there has been some uncertainty around these eligibility requirements. The proposed amendment removes any doubt as to whether a New Zealand citizen with a special category visa is captured within the meaning of permanent resident.

Lastly, the amendment bill removes several erroneous notes about the application of the merit principle throughout the act. Notes contained within a piece of legislation are purely explanatory and do not become part of the legislation itself. Omitting the notes in relation to the merit and equity principle will remove ambiguity in its application and will also make it clear that short-term transfers without a formal merit process may be undertaken in certain circumstances. The merit and equity principle under section 27 of the Public Sector Management Act still applies for appointments and promotions within the ACT public service.

The amendments entirely refine and clarify practices that are already taking place within the ACT public service. I commend the legislation to the Assembly.

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

Planning and Development (Community Concessional Leases) Amendment Bill 2019

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

Title read by Clerk.

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (10.42): I move:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to present the Planning and Development (Community Concessional Leases) Amendment Bill 2019. The bill establishes a more transparent and accountable framework for the identification and release of land to not-for-profit community organisations in the territory.

Currently, concessional land for lower order community uses such as scout halls, places of worship and men's sheds is available on a reactive first come first served basis. The community direct sale mechanism within the Planning and Development Act 2007 and the Planning and Development Regulation 2008, as experience shows, creates an uneven playing field for community organisations, often favouring larger, well-resourced organisations over smaller grassroots operators and compromising community benefits.

The community direct sale regime was originally conceived as a means of attracting people and community organisations to establish themselves at a time in our capital's history when land was plentiful and our population was just emerging. However, this current process is out of step with our city's current circumstances and what the community expects as regards equity and transparency. The government knows that the community places tremendous social value on land demarcated for community purposes. The government is committed to ensuring that land for community uses for organisations that are not able to purchase land at full market value continues to be available as our city grows.

Canberra has experienced strong population growth in recent years and this is forecast to continue. Consequently, there is an increasing pressure on the availability of land and facilities for community organisations as the territory's population continues to grow. The mandate to consider more strategically how sites are used relative to the needs of all of our community has never been more apparent. Managing growth in a manner that is ambitious, equitable, sustainable and inclusive creates a range of challenges and opportunities for government and, as demonstrated time and time again, we are up to the task. As the Chief Minister eloquently expressed in his 2018 statement of ambition:

In embracing and building the Canberra of the future, Canberrans have made it clear that they want this to be a city for all, whatever their race, background, or identity.

Equity and inclusion are cornerstones of the ACT Government, and reflect the values of Canberrans.

The reforms in this bill reinforce the government's commitment to these values, through showing leadership in our approach to fostering a transparent and equitable system of community infrastructure and the efficient use of land. In general terms, the new policy framework established in the bill governs the approach taken to investigate the identity of land for release; the processes and requirements for the release of land; the method by which the successful proponent is sought, assessed and identified; the mechanism by which the land is granted; and the ongoing provision of whole-of-community benefits.

Chiefly, the new policy framework seeks to align identified need with community land releases in recognition of the importance of maintaining a diverse range of community services across the territory.

The new framework established by this bill is in addition to proactive identification and alignment of community need with land availability, and provides more equitable access to land for new community organisations and those without existing land holdings in the ACT. The framework promotes the innovative and collaborative provision of a diverse range of community services by encouraging different organisations to collaborate, collocate and share facilities. For community organisations, there will be greater certainty about the timing of land release and the opportunities and constraints on each site that is offered, with the formulation of an indicative community land release schedule. The government will continue to provide

concessions on the purchase price of land to community organisations in recognition of the social value they will deliver to the community through their use of the land.

The government recognises the importance of striking a balance between the well-established models of obtaining the highest monetary return for land and fostering opportunities for community organisations that offer services with ongoing non-monetary benefits that build social capital and cohesion.

The bill aligns with the ACT planning strategy's livability and accessibility agenda to deliver social infrastructure that meets community needs and supports strong communities. The bill further demonstrates the importance of ensuring that every Canberran has good access to community facilities and opportunities for social interaction, which is a key feature of livable, inclusive and resilient communities. It recognises the critical role that community infrastructure plays in fulfilling the social and cultural needs of individuals, families and service providers.

This bill and its supporting policy framework will play a vital role in delivering on these themes, particularly with respect to supporting compact and efficient growth, diversity and livability to ensure that land continues to deliver community benefits and social value into the long term. This bill is another example of the government's proactive, strategic and inclusive approach, fostering the community sector in the ACT in a manner that benefits the whole community. I commend the bill to the Assembly.

Debate (on motion by **Mrs Dunne**) adjourned to the next sitting.

Freedom of Information Amendment Bill 2019

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

Title read by Clerk.

MR RAMSAY (Ginninderra—Attorney-General, Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events, Minister for Building Quality Improvement, Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, Minister for Government Services and Procurement and Minister for Seniors and Veterans) (10.48): I move:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

The Freedom of Information Act 2016 came into effect on 1 January 2018. The act brought about important changes to increase the transparency and accountability of our ACT government by promoting disclosure of government information where this is in the public interest. The act also requires the proactive publication of documents through open access provisions.

The act established a new regime for processing access applications, with new statutory time frames and requirements for analysis of competing public interest factors in decision-making. The act also gives the ACT Ombudsman statutory

functions, including reviewing access decisions, dealing with complaints and determining requests for extensions of time.

It is clear that the new Freedom of Information Act is already achieving positive results. The ACT Ombudsman reported that in the first six months of operation of the new act there was an increase in applications of approximately 20 per cent. There has also been a small decrease in decisions by agencies refusing access.

It is also clear that our freedom of information regime is valued by our Canberra community. In a recent survey of ACT residents conducted as part of national research by the Association of Information Access Commissioners, 90 per cent of respondents said that it was very important or quite important to have the right to access information held by the ACT government. The survey found that 77 per cent of respondents were aware of their rights to access government information under our freedom of information laws. While only 15 per cent had actually sought information from the ACT government, almost 80 per cent of those applicants were successful in obtaining some or all of the information they were seeking.

As part of the implementation of the new act, the Justice and Community Safety Directorate established a freedom of information working group, with representatives from all directorates. Feedback from the working group is that there is strong support across government for the new act and the culture of increased transparency and accountability that it is intended to foster.

Nevertheless, while the evidence is that the new act is working well, the increase in demand has led to a significantly increased workload for agencies. This reflects the more detailed analysis and reasoning required to be articulated in decisions, and a range of new administrative requirements in the act.

It is important that we ensure that our freedom of information regime is sustainable over time. Processing resources need to be used as efficiently as possible to achieve the best results for applicants. The working group has identified areas where the Freedom of Information Act could be improved to increase the efficiency of processing and provide greater flexibility for agencies to manage increased workloads under the act. The Ombudsman has also requested amendments to the act to address administrative issues, particularly relating to the processing of review applications by his office.

This bill is intended to improve the processes in the act to seek access to documents and have relevant decisions review, with a view to providing greater flexibility in managing workflows.

Changes that improve the efficiency of the framework make the FOI Act work better for applicants, the public sector and the Canberra community. Importantly, the amendments relate to process and do not affect the scope of disclosure required under the scheme, or the transparency and accountability of government that the scheme promotes.

The amendments include provisions to pause processing time frames where a respondent agency is not able to contact the applicant to clarify the scope of the application, and to allow the matter to be closed where an agency has made reasonable attempts to contact the applicant but has not been able to contact them for a period of over three months.

These provisions are intended to avoid wasted processing effort where the scope of the request is unclear, or contact details are no longer current, so there is no way to deliver the documents to the applicant. Closing an application in these circumstances will not disadvantage an applicant, as a new application can be lodged at any time.

The amendments will also allow more flexibility for the ACT Ombudsman to grant extensions of time to allow agencies to process applications where there are exceptional circumstances. This will allow agencies time to systematically process very large and complex applications which would otherwise require an unreasonable diversion of resources. The extension may be subject to conditions and ongoing oversight by the Ombudsman to ensure that agencies are processing applications efficiently.

The bill also provides that the Ombudsman may seek to resolve a review application informally for a period of up to 30 days before proceeding to formal review. This will allow the Ombudsman to focus on seeking a practical and timely outcome for the applicant through negotiation wherever possible. For example, it may be possible for the Ombudsman to work with the applicant and respondent agency to identify the key documents sought by an applicant and to reach agreement that these be provided immediately, rather than reviewing all documents within scope.

Other amendments provide that processing can be suspended if a fee is payable and has not yet been paid, and that an application may be closed if the information sought has already been provided to the applicant informally.

This bill serves an important function in ensuring that our freedom of information regime will be effective and sustainable into the future. It will reduce the increased administrative burden associated with the new FOI Act and avoid government agencies spending time and resources in ways which do not assist applicants or serve the public interest. It does this while carefully preserving the pro-disclosure approach of the Freedom of Information Act and the high level of accountability and transparency that the act provides.

I commend the bill to the Assembly.

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

Administration and Procedure—Standing Committee Report 12

Debate resumed from 6 June 2019, on motion by **Mr Wall**:

That the report be noted.

MR WALL (Brindabella) (10.56), in reply: I alluded when I moved the motion that the report be adopted to the fact that it was the opposition's intent to bring back an amendment calling for the report to be adopted. But given that on Tuesday the minister presented the government's response to the committee's report, that move now seems redundant.

I will take the opportunity to make a few comments on the opposition's first cut of thinking, having read the government's response to this inquiry. It raises a number of concerns. From a brief discussion with members of the crossbench this morning, they share many of the same concerns.

It is actually quite galling that in the first four pages of the response we find more of a lesson on the separation of powers and the role of ministers and members of this place. I thought most of us understood what our jobs were. It actually fails to address the issue that prompted the inquiry by admin and procedure in the first instance.

Whilst the minister's response to the committee inquiry states that they will agree in principle to one of the recommendations that was made and agree with the other, when you read the text that accompanies it, very little is changing. There is actually no appetite to change the visitation process for members of this place or members of the federal parliament visiting ACT government schools.

At a time when we are seeing significant issues in our schools, particularly around violence perpetrated against teachers and amongst students, and whilst there are significant questions around the performance of our schools in an academic sense, you would think that the government would be wanting to shine a light on the work that is being done in our public education system and showcase the successes rather than just shutting down any opportunity for members of this place to visit schools.

I should probably correct myself there. It is not to shut down the opportunity for all members of this place to visit schools; it is just those of the opposition. The minister's conclusion was:

Non-executive members of the government may, from time to time, accompany or represent ministers at events that occur in government schools. This is a legitimate part of the responsibility of government members in promoting government policy, programs or financial investments.

It seems that it is okay for members of the government to use public schools as a platform for promoting the work they are doing but for members of the opposition to get to know what are central hubs of our community in our electorates is not up for grabs; it is not an opportunity that is being extended, unless, as the minister's response says, you happen to be the shadow minister, and even then access to schools is extremely difficult.

The second recommendation was:

The Committee recommends that ACT Government schools be free to invite any Member of the Legislative Assembly to public events held at that school.

The government's response was:

Government schools are already free to invite members of the public to events, for example fetes, citizenship ceremonies, fundraisers and open days held at the school. Events like graduations and sports days are not open to the general public, and therefore access to these events by members will depend on the circumstances of the event.

As has been the practice under previous ministers—and I should probably offer some commendation to previous education ministers Mr Rattenbury and Ms Burch, the current Speaker, in their time in the portfolio—whilst the opposition did not always see eye to eye with the policy, when requests were made for visits, they were accommodated in a forthright manner, and they were always accommodated in the right spirit. That is not the case currently.

The opposition will be keen to see whether the work that has been done thus far actually changes the minister's approach to this, because largely it is up to the way the minister interprets the guidelines. Certainly, the JACS guideline, which was alluded to in the admin and procedure report, operates quite effectively. The only reason that the minister, in that sense, could deny a visit is for operational reasons. When you are visiting places such as correctional facilities, that is a fair consideration; likewise, in schools, if there is testing going on, exams or other significant events, I do not think that anyone in this place would have an issue with being told, "That's not a suitable day, here's an alternative date that might suit." But that has not been the practice thus far. Likewise, opportunities to attend graduation ceremonies or special cultural days held by schools have also ceased to exist.

The opposition will be watching very carefully to see whether or not there is a change in the approach to visits to public schools, and we will reserve the right to bring this matter back at a future date if required. Overwhelmingly, we are very disappointed by the lecture that was given in the government's response to the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure report on school visits.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Economic Development and Tourism—Standing Committee Report 6

MR HANSON (Murrumbidgee) (11.01): I present the following report:

Economic Development and Tourism—Standing Committee—Report 6—*Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT*, dated 25 July 2019, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings

I move:

That the report be noted.

This is the sixth report of the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism. On 1 November 2018 the Assembly resolved that the committee inquire into and report on drone delivery systems in the ACT no later than the last sitting week of 2019. I note we got in early. The committee received 151 submissions, held three public hearings and heard from 26 witnesses from a range of stakeholders.

The Assembly placed this issue before the committee because of concerns raised by residents of Bonython about the impact of the Wing drone delivery trials. During the course of the inquiry Wing concluded its trial in Bonython and began operations out of Mitchell.

The report examines the history of the trials and looks at the major concerns raised by residents: safety, noise, privacy and the impact upon domestic animals and wildlife. The report looks at the complex regulatory environment governing drones, and the committee has made four recommendations.

The committee was resigned to having a limited ability to address residents' concerns as the primary regulatory power lay with the commonwealth. Following evidence from the community pointing to a misinterpretation of the existing aviation regulations, the committee wrote to the federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development asking for clarification. This correspondence prompted an acknowledgement from the minister and his department that they had been wrongly interpreting the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018 and that these regulations in fact govern drone operations.

The Department for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development has announced a review intended to be completed by the end of the year to determine the appropriate scope and breadth of future noise regulation in consultation with government, industry and community stakeholders. Minister Ramsay has already written to the committee indicating that the ACT government will make a comprehensive submission to this review.

The committee considers this review to be a significant outcome that provides the Canberra community with an opportunity to shape future drone delivery operations in the ACT. On behalf of the committee I thank all witnesses and submitters for their contributions to this inquiry. I commend again my secretary, Hamish Finlay, for his excellent work and both the advice to me as chair and support to other members of the committee. I commend the report to the Assembly.

Question resolved in the affirmative

Public Accounts—Standing Committee Report 7

MRS DUNNE (Ginninderra) (11.05): I present the following report:

Public Accounts—Standing Committee—Report 7—*Inquiry into Auditor-General's Report No 1 of 2017*, dated 1 August 2019, together with a copy of the extracts of the relevant minutes of proceedings.

I move:

That the report be noted.

This report on Auditor-General's Report No 1 of 2017 into WorkSafe's management of its regulatory responsibilities for the demolition of loose-fill asbestos contaminated houses is a very important report in relation to government processes in the work health and safety area. WorkSafe was charged with the responsibility for regulating work safety for the Mr Fluffy loose-fill asbestos insulation eradication scheme, one of the biggest projects ever conducted in the territory. As CFMEU representatives told us, it was worth a billion dollars and yet the approach to regulation was ad hoc and on the fly. That is not right by any reasonable standards.

Testimony to the committee and materials in the Auditor-General's report showed us that in regulating the scheme WorkSafe was unable to capture experience from the coalface and disseminate it in useful ways. Key documents intended to guide regulators and contractors were begun but never finished, updated or promulgated and were not available to support people in the field. As a result there was a worrying lack of consistency from site to site. In some cases there were reports of incidents where there was serious risk of harm and persistent questions over the adequacy of the regulator's response.

Important questions also emerged on the degree to which WorkSafe inspectors are able to exercise the discretion accorded then in the Work Health and Safety Act to issue notices immediately that there is an immediate risk. It appears that the processes provided for in the act have been subverted by an administrative direction that all notices be reviewed by a panel before they are issued. This issue in particular needs urgent attention.

In defending its approach to regulating the scheme the regulator told us that practical imperatives made it impossible to create proper documentary frameworks for the scheme and that given the time and resources constraints it was not possible to do practical regulatory work and provide a documentary framework at the same time. However, in truth, it is impossible to discharge complex obligations without some kind of documentary framework both to support consistency and to factor in information arising from practical experience. The excuse put forward by the regulator does not stand up to scrutiny.

Complex programs need an efficient documentary framework in order to run and to defend actions taken under the scheme. If it is not built into programs from the start it is not going to happen. Unfortunately, this and a number of other matters under our consideration show that the government agencies have not got this message. They should anticipate that scrutiny will be applied at some point in the future, yet lack of documentation is proof positive that they do not anticipate this. This needs to change across the ACT government, otherwise there will be future reports from the public accounts committee highlighting a consistent lack of documentation.

I commend the report to the Assembly. I thank members of the committee who worked on this; it was a little slow coming out because of the changes in the public accounts committee last year. I thank Dr Lloyd, the able secretary of the committee, for the work he does in supporting us.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Visitor

MADAM ASSISTANT SPEAKER (Ms Cody): Before moving to our next order of business I take a moment to recognise former member Wayne Berry in the gallery.

Environment and Transport and City Services—Standing Committee

Statement by chair

MS ORR (Yerrabi) (11.09): Pursuant to standing order 246A I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services relating to petition 16-19. The petition was received by the Assembly on 4 June 2019 and referred to the committee under standing order 99A.

As signatories to petition 16-19, 664 residents of the ACT sought to draw to the attention of the Assembly the potential burden to ACT ratepayers of the cross-border agreement for the provision of essential services by the ACT government to the residential development in the Parkwood area of New South Wales. The petitioners noted that gorges in the area “contribute to dynamic bushfire propagation which is not yet covered by the Australian Bushfire Standard” and claimed that the “buffer zones around the urban area will not adequately protect the ecology, the history or the residents”.

The petition called on the Assembly:

... to reject any cross-border proposal before further independent, definitive research establishes effective buffer zones to better protect biodiversity and aboriginal heritage, and to ensure the safety of residents from catastrophic bushfire events.

While acknowledging the importance of the matters raised in the petition, at this time the committee has decided not to inquire further into the matters raised in petition 16-19.

Statement by chair

MS ORR (Yerrabi) (11.11): Pursuant to standing order 246A I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services relating to the out-of-order petition on bus route 54. The petition was received by the Assembly on 14 August 2018 and referred to the committee by resolution of the Assembly.

The signatories to the petition sought to draw to the attention of the Assembly the impact the removal of bus route 54 would have on the residents of Gungahlin. The petition claimed that it would:

... not be an improvement to the bus service to remove our direct link to Belconnen and instead, to require us to travel to Gungahlin first, then change to another bus for Belconnen.

The petition further noted that the removal of bus route 54 would cause difficulties for older residents, requiring them to:

... walk nearly a kilometre from Crace central to a bus stop in Gundaroo Drive to catch a more direct link to Belconnen.

The committee sought a response from the minister to the out-of-order petition on 10 September 2018, which it received on 19 June 2019. The minister's response noted the following:

... the planned routes through Crace have been modified to link directly with Rapid Route 8 on Gundaroo Drive. Routes 23 and 24 will service the stop on Gundaroo Drive before and after travelling through Crace. This change in direction removes the need to walk from Crace or travel to Gungahlin to connect with the route to and from Belconnen.

The minister's response further noted:

Transport Canberra and City Services will continue to carefully monitor all feedback received regarding the new bus network so that we can assess how the network as a whole is functioning over time.

The committee will not be inquiring further into the matters raised in the out-of-order petition on bus route 54.

Statement by chair

MS ORR (Yerrabi) (11.13): Pursuant to standing order 246A I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services relating to petition 4-19. The petition was received by the Assembly on 13 February 2019 and referred to the committee under standing order 99A. As signatories to petition 4-19, 533 residents of the ACT sought to draw to the attention of the Assembly "the lack of a bus service linking students from Fairbairn ACT to their Priority Enrolment Schools in Campbell".

The committee notes that, in her response to the petition on 14 May 2019, the Minister for Transport and City Services confirmed that due to the small number of students using the Fairbairn Park service the new network did not include a school bus service for Fairbairn Park. However, the minister also gave assurances that the feedback provided in the petition:

... will be shared with Transport Canberra and City Services for consideration as part of the development of any future changes to services and timetables.

The committee will not be inquiring further into the matters raised in petition 4-19.

Executive business—precedence

Ordered that executive business be called on.

Planning and Development (Design Review Panel) Amendment Bill 2019

Debate resumed from 16 May 2019, on motion by **Mr Gentleman**:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

MR WALL (Brindabella) (11.15): I will be speaking to this bill on behalf of the opposition given that Mr Parton is absent from the Assembly today.

The legislation seeks to enshrine into legislation the use of a design review panel. The panels have been in operation since 2017 in conjunction with the National Capital Authority for projects that have significance and cross over to national precincts. The bill also seeks to broaden the use of the design review panel to encompass developments along town centres that are deemed significant and deals with a threshold development proposal for buildings and developments which are over five storeys in height.

A few issues have been raised with the opposition about this bill, particularly by those in industry, around some fix-ups that should have been included in the bill but have not been. We as the opposition, and also the industry, are going to be keeping a very close watching eye on how they operate in practice going forward. They specifically relate to no clarification or certainty around whose advice or decisions are binding.

There have been issues with proposals that have gone through the design and review panel in its interim phase where the design and review panel has made recommendations to change the design of a building. These designs are often aesthetic and in many instances have had detrimental impacts on the viability of projects. But as those changes have been incorporated into the plans and then submitted to the territory for the development application process, they have been rejected because the changes were no longer then consistent with the Territory Plan. Industry is significantly concerned that they will go to significant lengths to submit their designs to the design review panel only to be given feedback, do the right thing and incorporate that feedback then be knocked back at the development application stage because those changes have made the design inconsistent with the Territory Plan.

There needs to be further clarity around whether or not the design review panel advice is only advisory or if it is binding and required to be adhered to in order for approval to be granted; and, in instances where there is an inconsistency, whose decision is final. It is a worrying place to be placing industry in.

The opposition also has concern about the additional administrative burden that this places on our planning system. These changes will do very little in improving building quality but go a great way to adding additional red tape and processing times to construction projects. Coupled with what is already one of the most complicated planning systems in the country, one that is unnecessarily long, ambiguous and technical, it places further restrictions on the development industry achieving a good built form.

Coupled with this minister's dismal performance in keeping development application and processing times under control, the adding of another layer of assessment only seeks to drag out the time it takes to get projects approved. When we are hearing of major projects taking in excess of 12 months to get a development application approved, that is of significant concern. It is not just the time it takes to get the administrative approval process done, but the flow-on effects that that has.

A company that is engaged in building seeks to commence one project and then, at the completion of that, commence the next one, keeping a consistent flow. When there are significant gaps between projects, we see people with the expertise and the specialty skills that are used on those projects being without work. I do not think that any of us in this place want an outcome of additional regulatory burden on industry to be people losing their jobs.

That is what this minister is facing. That is what he is staring down the barrel at. The exorbitant processing times for applications—blowing out beyond 90 days as an average, and on many major projects in excess of 12 months—are seeing an impact on jobs in the local industry. They are the jobs of people who are employed directly by construction and development firms but also of those who are employed by subcontractors and their affiliated trades. This has flow-on consequences throughout the entire economy and is something that we should be very mindful of before we simply throw more processes, more approvals and more reviews into the pipeline for getting projects up and running.

Whilst the principle of the design review panel is sound, and I think everyone in Canberra would like to see a better quality of the built form, the concern is that this is going to be done at the expense of efficiency in the industry. That has flow-on effects, as I have said, for jobs and also for cost. We are all hypervigilant about the impact of housing affordability, and rightly so as it has spiralled out of control in some areas of the ACT in recent years under this government. More should be done to reduce that. More regulation and more compliance seek to add cost. That cost ultimately has to be borne by someone. At the end of the day, it is going to be the purchaser of the property.

As I said, the opposition will be cautiously supporting this legislation today, noting that there are some uncertainty issues around the advice provided by the design review panel currently and that those fixes have not been incorporated into this legislation. Also, we will be looking at the addition to the red tape that is placed on business in the construction industry for compliance with these changes and what impact that has on the time it takes to get a project up and running and to get people on the ground working.

MS LE COUTEUR (Murrumbidgee) (11.21): The Greens will be supporting this bill and will support the government amendment when it is moved.

I was very pleased to hear Mr Wall say that the opposition supported at least the intent behind the bill, the design idea. The design review panel is a good initiative. All of us hear lots of complaints about the quality of development in Canberra. I am sure every MLA has been earbashed by many people about various buildings. They will be different buildings depending on where we live, but nonetheless the theme is very clear: Canberra people would like higher quality development; they would like development which looks better, which respects the public realm, and which is just better built.

I could go on at some length as to the various problems with Canberra development, but one thing is clear: the design review panel is a good way of lifting design quality. It is not something that is new and radical, except in the ACT. It is something that is done in other jurisdictions. It works there and so it is something that we should try.

This bill is a milestone for the panel. It is enshrining it in legislation. As we are all aware, the panel started as an opt-in trial. If you wanted to, you could get the panel to have a look at your development if it was a particularly big and exciting one. It started without legislation. The bill provides for legal backing for full operation. It becomes a referral entity.

I will talk about Mr Gentleman's amendment. I am basically totally in agreement with it. After Mr Gentleman's amendment was circulated and we had a look at it, we thought that there was a problem, because it said that the mandatory pre-application is limited to buildings of five storeys or more in town centres and central areas only. As a member for Murrumbidgee rather than a member for Molonglo, I know that outside town centres and central areas there is a lot of development with buildings that are five storeys or more. Taller buildings are being allowed in what have been traditionally suburban areas.

Without the amendment, the bill misses out areas which are now in a position where they can have five-storey buildings, for example, Weston group centre, Mawson group centre, Curtin group centre, and John Gorton Drive in Molonglo Valley. I point out that Curtin group centre and John Gorton Drive currently have plans for buildings that are five storeys or more than five storeys. Mr Gentleman's amendment corrects this so that the design review panel can look at anything over five storeys. I thank Mr Gentleman and his office for their constructive approach to solving what has become a minor drafting problem. Thank you very much.

I have one suggestion about something that it appears could not be done within the current framework of the Planning and Development Act. I thought that it would be a good idea for ACTPLA to be able to direct proposals to the new panel at the pre-application stage. After all, five storeys is one threshold, but there could be some other threshold which means that the development, while not so tall, is, for some other reason, deserving of a more serious look by the design review panel. This is something, I gather, that cannot be done in any easy way through the current Planning

and Development Act. Hopefully, this will be one of the whole raft of issues that will be considered as part of the Territory Plan review.

In conclusion, thank you very much, Minister Gentleman. I am glad to see something which will, hopefully, make a positive difference to the quality of development in the ACT.

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (11.26), in reply: I am pleased to close debate on the Planning and Development (Design Review Panel) Amendment Bill 2019. The bill seeks to establish a single independent design review panel process for significant development proposals at the pre-development application stage. I want to reiterate that in light of comments that we have heard earlier today in regard to DA decision time lines.

Establishing this process is the result of consistent feedback from our community for the need to achieve a high standard of design for the buildings and public spaces across our city. It is also an action in my 2015 statement of planning intent. The design review panel process has been operating in an interim function since late 2017 and has reviewed more than 20 significant projects. Over this time I am pleased to report that many successes have been achieved on projects in the city centre, in our town centres and in our other key locations across the city.

For example, the first project to be presented to the interim panel was the Manuka Oval media centre. Several of the interim panel's recommendations were employed by the project architects to enhance the design and functionality of this building. Through this collaborative design approach, the Manuka Oval media centre was recently acknowledged for its high standard of design, receiving a commendation award in the 2019 ACT Architecture Awards.

While the interim panel has been successful, there is currently no statutory or regulatory requirement for development proposals to be presented to the panel or that the panel's advice be formally considered through the development application process. This bill seeks to address this. The bill offers a clear and structured process to support industry and decision-makers to deliver high quality, well-designed developments and public spaces.

I also draw your attention to the government amendments to this bill. The government amendments change the key threshold for prescribed developments required to consult with the design review panel. A prescribed development will now be defined as a building that is five storeys and above. Such buildings are increasingly found across various parts of our city.

The original text of the bill limited this to certain parts of Canberra, but the government believes that this could be more appropriately applied across our entire city. There may come a time in the future when five storeys is considered a part of the

normal Canberra landscape and we would, of course, consult with the community in considering whether to raise the height limit in the future.

The bill also seeks to provide the Minister for Planning and Land Management with the authority to refer projects to the design review panel as required. This is primarily for proposals that do not meet the prescribed development threshold but are considered to be of economic, social or environmental significance for the city.

While the bill proposes requirements for consultation with the design review panel, it also allows for a proponent to self-refer a development proposal to the design review panel. Allowing proponents to self-refer is an important part of the bill that will encourage those proponents who are outside the prescribed development thresholds, but who are seeking expert and independent advice, to enhance the design outcomes for their proposed development.

Finally, the bill proposes an amendment to the Planning and Development Act 2007 to ensure that the design review panel's independent advice must be considered by the Planning and Land Authority during the development assessment processes. This is an important step in the design review panel process to ensure that a design review panel's advice is addressed during the assessment of a development application.

In this regard, the bill proposes that a development approval must not be given if the proponent has not satisfactorily responded to the design review panel's advice. In the case that a proponent seeks to amend a development application, the bill offers the ability for the Planning and Land Authority to seek further design advice from the panel.

In conclusion, establishing a single design review panel process in the ACT will allow for greater potential to attract the best urban planning practitioners and designs from across Australia to contribute to better design outcomes for significant development proposals. It also provides a structured process that will complement and add value to the local design industry and the pre-application advice provided by government. I look forward to seeing the enhanced design across our growing city.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill agreed to in principle.

Detail stage

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (11.32): Pursuant to standing order 182A(b), I seek leave to move amendments to this bill that are minor and technical in nature together.

Leave granted.

MR GENTLEMAN: I move amendments Nos 1 to 3 circulated in my name together and table a supplementary explanatory statement to the government amendments [*See schedule 1 at page 2643*].

Amendments agreed to.

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

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

Debate resumed from 16 May 2019, on motion by **Mr Ramsay**:

That this bill be agreed to in principle.

MR HANSON (Murrumbidgee) (11.33): The Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 is an omnibus bill that introduces a range of changes related to organised crime, drugs legislation, firearms and family violence. In summary the bill: creates a statutory authority and process in the Bail Act 1992 for a police officer to enter a premises to effect an arrest when a person has failed or is going to fail to comply with a condition of their bail; gives effect to the equitable sharing arrangements as agreed under the intergovernmental agreement on the national cooperative scheme on unexplained wealth; clarifies the original policy intent for the definitions of “choke”, “strangle” and “suffocate” in the Crimes Act; provides that the sale and consumption of low THC hemp seeds as food will not be subject to criminal offences; allows police officers at or above the rank of sergeant to take oaths or affirmations for affidavits of service in family and personal violence proceedings; and removes from a number of offences under the Firearms Act 1996 the element that a person is not authorised interstate to possess or use the firearm or ammunition in question and instead introduces a defence which would require the defendant to provide proof that they were authorised interstate.

The Canberra Liberals support the intent of the changes in this legislation and we will support the bill. However, the legal profession has raised concerns about how this bill has been drafted and potential unintended consequences. Of the concerns raised since tabling, the Bar Association have made a formal submission against the changes to the Bail Act. The bar give careful consideration to important areas of law, such as the appropriate limits of police power to arrest for an alleged breach of a bail condition having regard to the Human Rights Act. The submission also gives practical examples and case studies which are, as the Bar Association states, a salutary reminder of what can result when arrest occurs.

The bar also notes that the proposed ACT provision is different to the equivalent section of the New South Wales legislation. I understand that the government has received this detailed submission. I am not aware if they have responded but it is

certainly incumbent on them to do so. Perhaps the Attorney-General will speak to that in his response.

The Law Society has raised a variety of other concerns. Their issues are around changes to definitions of “strangulation” and the fact that as drafted they believe the change could be applied in a way that is effectively retrospective. Similarly, a change to a provision in the Firearms Act could have a retrospective effect.

They also note that some of the assertions made in the explanatory statement of the bill are incorrect, and that any retrospective application of criminal liability would in fact be a breach of section 25 of the Human Rights Act. They have also made formal submissions to the government on these matters, and the Attorney-General may respond to those in his speech.

It is certainly important when drafting laws such as this that important legal principles such as those raised by the Bar Association and the Law Society are listened to carefully and responded to appropriately. I have been provided with the response provided by the government to the Law Society so I note that the matter has been responded to, but I am not saying that the Law Society necessarily agrees with that response.

I thank the legal profession for their submissions in this regard and raising these important matters which the opposition take very seriously. We will always be concerned by any matter that may touch on retrospectivity for criminal matters.

I also thank the Attorney-General’s office who provided my office with a briefing on this bill. I again acknowledge the hard work of Ian Hagan in my office in dealing with this matter and taking those briefings.

The consistent policy of the Canberra Liberals is to support laws which give police practical powers to combat organised crime and which support the victims of domestic violence. Noting the concerns I have made about the submissions of the Bar Association and Law Society it is my view that that is the intent of these laws, and we support this legislation.

MR RATTENBURY (Kurrajong) (11.38): As noted, the bill changes the operation of bail; gives effects to the intergovernmental agreement on the national cooperative scheme on unexplained wealth, clarifies the original policy intent for the definitions of “choke”, “strangle” and “suffocate” in the Crimes Act; allows the sale and consumption of low THC hemp seeds; allows certain police officers to take oaths or affirmations for affidavits of service in family and personal violence proceedings; and changes the onus of proof from a number of offences under the Firearms Act. I will speak briefly to a couple of these items.

I acknowledge the complexity of undertaking any amendments to the issue of bail and the operations of police. As described clearly in the explanatory statement, the amendments demonstrably engage several human rights. I recognise that these matters have been discussed in both the recent High Court matter and also directly with the ACT Human Rights Commission.

While I support these amendments I express the Greens' position that there may be value in coming years for a broader review of the Bail Act and also to reconfirm our commitment to ensuring that the ACT is recognised as a leader in the area of human rights recognition and implementation.

I understand that recently the ACT committed to introducing amendments to insert the equitable sharing arrangements contained in the intergovernmental agreement into the Confiscation of Criminal Assets Act 2003, and we support the fact that the bill gives effect to the equitable sharing arrangements.

I also welcome the amendments that clarify the original policy intent for the definitions of “choke”, “strangle” and “suffocate” in the Crimes Act. International studies have clearly shown that experience of non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for the homicide of women, underscoring the need to screen for non-fatal strangulation when assessing abused women in emergency department settings. This fact has legislative policy and practice implications for the ACT. We strongly support the government work to date in the area of family violence and its continued efforts to refine and improve. This is an important affirmation of the Assembly's intention in further clarifying this definition under the act.

The bill's amendments in relation to hemp seeds or cannabis food products to be sold as food to be eaten seem to be common sense, self-explanatory and reflective of the wide range of these types of products that have populated the isle of grocery, health food and fitness stores for some time.

The last item I mention is in relation to the Firearms Act 1996. I am happy to support these amendments, however I use this opportunity to express our longstanding concerns regarding the lack of a national firearms register. While this is primarily a matter for the commonwealth it is an obvious gap in law enforcement's ability to easily and simply track the movements of weapons and owners. I support the bill before the Assembly.

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (11.41): I am pleased to support the Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2018. The legislation supports the government's commitment to improve access to justice for our community, create efficiencies and reduce wait times in the justice process.

As the Attorney-General has outlined, the Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill is an omnibus bill amending the Crimes (Child Sex Offenders) Act, the Crimes (Surveillance Devices) Act, the Crimes Act, the Drugs of Dependence Act, the Confiscation of Criminal Assets Act, the Magistrates Court Act, the Supreme Court Act and the Legislation Act. It makes minor, technical and commonsense amendments to modernise, simplify and clarify these pieces of legislation. The combined effect of these amendments is to improve the efficiency and operation of the criminal justice system in the ACT, an idea I am sure we all agree with.

The government aims to ensure that all ACT legislation is up to date and consistent. To this end the bill will amend the Crimes (Child Sex Offenders) Act to clarify that warrants are issued by a magistrate rather than the court to eliminate inconsistencies. This amendment responds to an issue raised by a member of our judiciary about the construction of the warrant regime in the ACT. The act falls within my portfolio responsibility.

Sexual crimes committed against children have profound consequences for the victim, their family and our community. These crimes warrant the specific monitoring and reporting measures imposed by the child sex offenders register, which requires offenders to keep police informed of personal information. An important measure under the act is the ability for the police to apply for a warrant to enter and search premises occupied by a registered child sex offender. The warrant may be applied for in circumstances where the registered offender has incorrectly reported their personal details or has breached an order prohibiting particular conduct, such as being a certain distance from a school zone or living at a particular place with a child.

The concern which led to this amendment being proposed is that this warrant process differs from other warrant schemes created under other ACT legislation as it empowers the Magistrates Court to issue a warrant rather than a magistrate or issuing officer in their personal capacity as a designated person. That may trigger the unusual procedural requirements in respect of applications, such as filing and serving the application and conducting the proceedings in open court.

This has the potential to jeopardise the safety of children and the protection of the community as it may delay the time for the warrant to be issued or may provide time for an offender to destroy any evidence. While I am advised that it appears that this has not arisen as a practical issue in an application for a warrant to date, addressing it in this bill will prevent it becoming a live issue in the future.

For these reasons an amendment to change the language in the act is critical to ensure that police are able to seamlessly apply for warrants in time-critical circumstances. This amendment will also ensure consistency with other warrant regimes, and I commend the amendment to the Assembly.

The bill also provides powers to an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court to issue warrants under a range of acts. This measure will enhance administrative efficiency as it will increase the pool of judges able to issue warrants and perform duty functions over weekend and holiday periods. It will improve the efficiencies of the Supreme Court and assist the court to flexibly manage its case load. It will also improve timeliness for law enforcement agencies applying for warrants. This is a commonsense approach aligned with recent amendments widening the role of an associate judge.

We also see minor and technical amendments contained in the bill to extend existing mechanisms for transferring backup and related charges with an indictable matter committed to the Supreme Court. Under the Magistrates Court Act a magistrate is able to commit an accused person charged with an indictable offence for trial on an application by the person and with the consent of the prosecution.

This increases the efficiency of the Magistrates Court by allowing magistrates to attend to other priority matters and speeds up the committal process. The change addresses the lack of express powers to transfer related summary charges with the indictable charge. This will ensure better outcomes for an accused person to reduce lengthy and costly legal proceedings in both courts.

The bill also increases the value of penalty units used to define the amount payable for fines for offences. It is very important that the value of penalty units is maintained over time to ensure that penalties keep up with inflation and remain an effective tool for us to deter crime. Appropriate penalties are a central element of an effective justice system.

Tackling crime and improving community safety are top priorities for this government. The increase in the value of the penalty unit from \$150 to \$160 for an individual and \$750 to \$810 for a corporation will ensure that financial penalties remain an effective punishment and deterrent to the commission of ACT offences.

In conclusion the bill contains a range of procedural and efficiency reforms proposed by the judiciary and other justice stakeholders to improve the way that the ACT justice system operates. It is a demonstration of how this government is committed to responding to issues raised by stakeholders. These amendments highlight yet again the outstanding commitment of this government to improving our justice system and access to justice for the ACT community. I encourage all to support the important changes in the bill.

MR RAMSAY (Ginninderra—Attorney-General, Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events, Minister for Building Quality Improvement, Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, Minister for Government Services and Procurement and Minister for Seniors and Veterans) (11.47), in reply: The Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 is an important omnibus bill proposing amendments to disrupt organised crime, protect vulnerable people in our community and ensure that our criminal justice system continues to function efficiently.

I thank all members for their contributions to the debate today. I am pleased that this matter is one that is receiving support throughout the chamber. As noted by Mr Hanson, there has been a significant amount of conversation regarding the provisions. I can assure the Assembly that my directorate has met with the Bar Association regarding the bill, including regarding the submission from the association at a number of meetings of the Bar Association council. The views of the profession, ACT Policing, the DPP and the broader community have all been carefully considered by government in regard to this bill.

Since 2010 the ACT government has taken a methodical, measured and evidence-based approach to introducing amendments to target, disrupt and prosecute criminal gang members. The amendments have been diverse and far reaching, including the establishment of crime scene powers, anti-fortification laws and specific offences that target the conduct of criminal gangs, such as the offence of drive-by shooting.

The government is also considering a range of other measures that will assist law enforcement's ability to target these criminals. In particular, the ACT government has committed to the establishment of ACT-specific laws to strip unexplained wealth from people suspected of being involved in serious crime, including those involved with criminal gangs. These new powers will complement existing confiscation of criminal assets laws in the ACT by deterring people from engaging in criminal activity and depriving people of their criminal profits.

The government's promise to Canberra is that we will support our police and the criminal justice system in ways that are practical and proven to prevent crime and keep our community safe. That is what the amendments in today's bill are intended to do.

The bill facilitates prosecutions for unauthorised possession or use of a firearm by removing the burden on the prosecution to prove that a defendant does not hold a licence or permit issued by any other state or territory. As you can imagine, Madam Assistant Speaker, obtaining information from every other state and territory to prove that a defendant does not hold a licence or permit in that state or territory causes delays and burdens that can make prosecutions unnecessarily cumbersome. The bill eliminates that burden on investigators and the prosecution, and instead places a legal burden on defendants to prove that they were authorised to use or possess a firearm by an interstate licence or permit. This amendment will increase the ACT's ability to effectively pursue those who unlawfully possess firearms, including those connected with criminal gangs.

The amendments to the Bail Act 1992 provide appropriate statutory authority to a police officer when arresting a person in relation to a failure to comply with a condition of their bail in response to the decision in Andrews and Thomson.

The new sections do not alter the power of police to arrest without warrant; rather, the amendments provide a framework for entering premises when that arrest power is enlivened. The new framework provides that when a person to be arrested is on private premises, the police officer is to gain consensual entry, or justify their entry as necessary and reasonable. The framework is designed to provide for the appropriate process to enter a dwelling house when a person who can be lawfully arrested is inside.

Entry without consent is available only for a person on bail for relevant offences as defined in the Crimes Act, and when justified as reasonable and necessary. Additionally, entry during night hours is restricted unless justified on the basis of a risk to evidence or that it would not be practicable to arrest at a later time.

The bill also establishes the necessary machinery for the equitable sharing of proceeds under the national cooperative scheme on unexplained wealth. The national scheme is a key national measure to deprive criminals of their wealth and prevent reinvestment in crime, which will have an impact on criminal gangs. The equitable sharing arrangements provide the machinery for the distribution of proceeds among participants in an unexplained wealth action. We will continue to work with police,

prosecutors and our courts to ensure that they have the tools they need to uncover and prosecute organised crime.

The bill takes two important measures to support and protect the rights of family violence victims. Firstly, the bill restores the original intended meanings of “choke”, “strangle” and “suffocate” under the Crimes Act 1900. These meanings were recently interpreted narrowly in the case of *R v Green* to require proof that the victim’s breathing had stopped. Medical evidence clearly shows that life-threatening complications can flow from choking, strangulation and suffocation even when breath is not completely stopped. In a family violence context, non-fatal strangulation is very strongly associated with later attempted or completed homicide. These amendments will restore the intention of the terms as originally enacted to ensure that perpetrators of family and personal violence do not escape justice.

I specifically note the concerns that have been raised by the Law Society and echoed by the opposition about this change. It is important that core legal principles like retrospectivity of legislation are carefully considered, and I welcome their constructive engagement. In this case it is the government’s view that we are responding to an unanticipated technical interpretation, and that no new crime is being created. It was always the intention of the Assembly to criminalise the behaviour that we are describing. Today’s amendments will mean that people who commit this heinous act of domestic violence are held accountable, as the Assembly has always intended.

Secondly, the bill allows police officers at or above the rank of sergeant to take affidavits of service from other police officers in family and personal violence proceedings. This is in response to the procedural difficulty associated with finding a suitably qualified person before whom an affidavit of service can be sworn or affirmed. This will assist in removing procedural delays and reducing trauma for family and personal violence proceedings.

The bill makes other important amendments to ensure the efficient and fair operation of the ACT justice system. The bill provides that the sale and consumption of low-THC hemp seeds will not be subject to drug-related offences. The decriminalisation of the sale and consumption of low-THC hemp seeds as food recognises that they are a harmless and nutritious food. The amendment reflects the 2017 decision by the Australian and New Zealand Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation to amend the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code to allow the sale of low-THC hemp seeds as food.

A consequential amendment is made to the Road Transport (Alcohol and Drugs) Act 1977 to remove the offence of mistake of fact from being pursued based on a claim that the presence of THC in a person’s oral fluid or blood resulted from the consumption of a cannabis food product. Hemp foods contain no or very low levels of THC, the psychoactive chemical compound normally found in cannabis. Therefore, if THC is found in an oral fluid or blood test, it will not be because the person has consumed a cannabis food product.

The bill is evidence of the ACT government's commitment to working with the community and law enforcement to deliver a fair and efficient criminal justice system. I commend the bill to the Assembly.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill agreed to in principle.

Leave granted to dispense with the detail stage.

Bill agreed to.

Sitting suspended from 11.56 am to 2 pm.

Questions without notice Cabinet—transparency

MR COE: My question is to the Chief Minister. Why is it that you and none of your cabinet have disclosed your ministerial diaries in accordance with section 23 of the Freedom of Information Act 2016?

MR BARR: Ministers disclose their ministerial diaries quarterly, and they go online on an ACT government website. I believe that the publishing of those takes place a few weeks after the end of the quarterly period and that if the ones for the latest quarter are not yet online, they will be within a matter of days.

MR COE: Chief Minister, why is it that the last diary published for you is October to December of 2018 and the first two quarters of this year have not been published in accordance with your own legislation?

MR BARR: I will check as to why. I have certainly been through the process of clearing those particular quarterly reports and they should be online.

Children and young people—service delivery

MS LE COUTEUR: My question is to the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, and relates to Premier Youthworks. Minister, following the collapse of Premier Youthworks, will the government reconsider the use of for-profit organisations to deliver critical human services for children and young people experiencing trauma and neglect who cannot live at home?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Le Couteur for the question. It is fair to say that it is extremely unlikely that Premier Youthworks will be replaced within the ACT Together consortium by a for-profit provider.

MS LE COUTEUR: Minister, how will you ensure that the children and young people currently in residential care provided by Premier Youthworks will not experience interruptions to their support during the transition to a different provider?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Le Couteur for the supplementary question. Barnardos Australia is the leader for the ACT Together consortium and Barnardos has assured the Community Services Directorate that it will step in and ensure continuity of support for the children and young people in residential care. That is our primary consideration: the safety and wellbeing of the children and young people.

We are also considering the needs of the staff who work at Premier Youthworks, 125 staff based in the ACT. For children and young people in residential care the continuity of support by staff they know and trust is an important part of their care. Barnardos and the Community Services Directorate are working directly with each of the staff, particularly those who provide frontline support for children and young people, to support a transition to ACT Together where that is appropriate but also to support them to identify where the need is.

As I said, the safety and care of young people are priorities for the Community Services Directorate, Barnardos and the rest of the ACT Together consortium. That is our number one priority in managing this transition. I have absolutely no doubt that the Community Services Directorate and ACT Together will manage this transition well. The Community Services Directorate has considerable experience in managing transitions in support for vulnerable people and it is well prepared for this work.

Development—Red Hill

MS LAWDER: My question is to the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development. Minister, has construction work stopped on the site of the former Red Hill flats, and if so why?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I am taking the question as Minister for Urban Renewal. I thank Ms Lawder for the question. It is the case that construction work has stopped on the Red Hill flats site. There was some contamination identified on that site. The site had previously been given a clearance certificate but there was some additional contamination identified on that site. That is something that is currently being worked through with the Suburban Land Agency and Stockland as the purchaser of the site. Yes, it is the case that construction at this time has ceased.

MS LAWDER: Minister, what soil testing and rectification works were done on the site of the former Red Hill flats prior to the sale of the site to developers by the government?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Lawder for the supplementary. As I indicated, a clearance certificate for that site was issued prior to the sale going ahead; that of course required testing and remediation of the site.

MISS C BURCH: Minister, what do you say to the local businesses that have increased their staffing in anticipation of construction worker patronage but instead have seen work stalled while dust storms plague the area?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Miss Burch for her supplementary question. I would say that construction work is always subject to contingencies and uncertainties. We have seen that in a number of construction projects around the city over a space of time. Of course, we are working as fast as we can, through the Suburban Land Agency and the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, to resolve the situation to ensure that construction can get back underway.

Of course, as a local member for Kurrajong I have spent a lot of time in Red Hill. I have paid very close attention to the estate development plan, the work that the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate did with the community to ensure that a really excellent outcome will be delivered on that site. I am confident that that will be the case.

Transport Canberra—patronage

MR GUPTA: My question is to the Minister for Transport and City Services. Minister, can you update the Assembly on patronage on the new Transport Canberra network?

MR STEEL: I thank Mr Gupta for his question and note his advocacy at the 2016 election in relation to building a better public transport system for Canberra.

I am very proud to report that, as a result of our new public transport network, which offers more direct services more often, we are seeing more Canberrans making the choice to get out of their cars and use public transport. Our new public transport system is keeping Canberrans connected, and in the eight weeks since the end of the free travel period there have been 2.3 million journeys recorded on bus and light rail services in Canberra. This is a great figure. It means that journeys on public transport are around 8.5 per cent higher over the first eight weeks since the end of the free travel period compared with the same period last year.

Canberrans are increasingly opting to use our public transport network for their commute to and from work. This is evident in the number of people making the switch to public transport, which is easing congestion on our roads and reducing harmful emissions.

Before the introduction of the new network we undertook extensive consultation with the community and heard that Canberrans wanted bus trips to be faster and buses to arrive more often, and we delivered that by creating a hub and spoke model based around 10 rapid services, and which includes the light rail. As I highlighted yesterday, Julie from Conder has seen her commute time cut by 30 minutes as she is able to access a more direct bus service from her home, which means that she does not need to change buses in Woden. She is just one of thousands of Canberrans who are seeing improvements in their public transport commute times.

While I am still working to ensure that our public transport is the most effective and efficient that it can be, I acknowledge that there have been some problems along the way as the new network rolls out. The new network has made some significant

inroads, however, into ensuring that Canberrans are more connected and can access a public transport network that is more frequent and has more services.

MR GUPTA: Minister, how does the journey planner make it even easier for people to plan their public transport trip?

MR STEEL: I thank Mr Gupta for the supplementary. The new Transport Canberra journey planner that was rolled out with the new network has been a huge success, with one million people planning their journeys online with the planner. I have used the planner myself to get around.

During the consultation period on the new public transport network, Canberrans told us that they wanted easier access to trip-planning tools that would help them plan their journey quickly and on the go. As part of the network changes, Transport Canberra delivered a new journey planner that allows Canberrans to plan their journey in the comfort of their own home or on the go while they are out and about using our public transport system. It is designed to ensure that people have a better, more connected experience and to ensure that parts of our integrated public transport network can be accessed. Commuters can choose from multiple journey modes including bus, light rail, bicycles and walking or certain modes of transit that they prefer. This information is all available on the journey planner website. I urge all Canberrans to get involved and use the planning tool to make sure that they can get around.

MS LE COUTEUR: Minister, when will you update the real-time bus information to actually be real time? I do not know what it is at present, but as a practical user I can tell you it is not real time.

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

Children and young people—foster care

MRS KIKKERT: My question is to the Minister for Children, Youth and Families. Minister, how many Canberra children are currently on a waiting list for a stable foster care placement?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Mrs Kikkert for the question, but I am not sure that it really reflects the way that foster care placements work. When children come into care, my understanding is that currently no children come straight into residential care prior to being placed in a family placement unless there is a particular reason for that young person to come into residential care. This is different from the way it works in some other jurisdictions.

When emergency action is taken and a young person is removed at short notice from their birth family, they will go into what is called an emergency placement. But that does not necessarily mean that they are going to be waiting for a permanent foster care placement. That may be a short-term placement before they are restored home to their family, if that is the appropriate course of action if supports can be put in place for the family, or they may transition to another foster care placement. But describing

it as a waiting list is not an accurate description of the way that children and young people experience that support.

MRS KIKKERT: How many of these children are currently in a residential group home?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I believe I just answered that question.

MRS DUNNE: Minister, what is your plan to make sure that the territory has enough foster carers so that children do not have to be kept on waiting lists?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Mrs Dunne for the supplementary. I have already noted that there is really not a thing called a waiting list for foster care and we are not seeing young people in residential care because we do not have sufficient foster care placements. We have in fact seen an increase in the number of foster carers.

ACT Together has been very successful in recruiting foster carers, and in the last snapshot report that I tabled in the Assembly earlier this year—April, from my best recollection, was when I tabled it—I think I said, when tabling that report, that we had not seen a single foster carer leave the system over the period of that report, which was to the end of December 2018. Actually ACT Together has had a very good record of both recruiting and retaining foster carers in our system, and I want to put on record the ACT government's appreciation of the very important work that both foster and kinship carers do.

That is an important point. Many young people who come into care may be in a short-term foster placement while an appropriate kinship care placement is identified. That is our preferred form of support for children and young people so that they remain connected to their family and their community.

All these can be quite complex issues but both foster and kinship carers are the backbone of our out of home care system. They do very important work supporting some of the most vulnerable children and young people in our community, and I am sure that everyone in the Assembly joins me in thanking them very much for that work.

Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—NAIDOC Week

MS CHEYNE: Can the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs update the Assembly on local activities and celebrations held during NAIDOC Week 2019?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Cheyne for the question. NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July, as I am sure everyone here knows, to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year in the ACT, NAIDOC Week was extremely successful with more than 40 NAIDOC events held across the territory

This year the community came together to participate in arts and cultural workshops, school-based activities, sporting events like the NAIDOC golf day and the APS NAIDOC touch football carnival, and community celebrations such as the Gugan Gulwan NAIDOC youth awards.

I was privileged to join the community at some of these events across the week including: the community art exhibition at Community Services #1 featuring work from detainees at the AMC; the NAIDOC family day; the flag raising ceremony; the NAIDOC luncheon; and community celebrations in Woden town square.

As always, a highlight of the week's activities was the ACT NAIDOC awards and ball, which the ACT government is proud to support. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate award winners: Person of the Year, Garth O'Connell and Elder of the Year, Anthony Longbottom. I also congratulate all the other incredible award winners: Patrick Vann, Tash Newell, Bradley J Moggridge, Kara Mallon, Wayne "Buddy" Martin, Tjillari Justice Aboriginal Corporation, Rondelle Seden, Kristi Lee, Zoe Billerwell, Dhani Gilbert, Papunya Connors and Albert Barker. Congratulations to all of them on their achievements. I also acknowledge all those recognised by their community in being nominated for an award.

I was also honoured again to have the opportunity to raise the ACT flag alongside Genevieve Jacobs raising the Australian flag, Selina Walker raising the Aboriginal flag and Auntie Lydia George raising the Torres Strait Islander flag at the Assembly's flag raising ceremony.

MS CHEYNE: Minister, how was the ACT represented nationally during NAIDOC Week?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Cheyne for the supplementary. Every year the national NAIDOC awards ceremony is held in a nominated city as a focal point of national NAIDOC Week. This year, Canberra was proud to host this annual event. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the ACT NAIDOC committee in bidding to make Canberra the focus city for 2019. I would also like to acknowledge the national NAIDOC committee and their role in organising the week-long NAIDOC celebrations, including the national NAIDOC awards.

The national NAIDOC awards ceremony recognises the outstanding contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make to improve the lives of their communities and beyond, to promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in the wider community, or through the excellence they have shown in their chosen field. The national event is televised and drew attention to Canberra as the focus city. I heard people on the night saying that it was the best ever.

The national event also drew attention to this year's theme, "Voice. Treaty. Truth", chosen to build on the momentum from the Uluru statement from the heart. The awards and live telecasts highlight national winners and give us the opportunity to learn of their journey and their inspirational stories and to pay tribute to their achievements.

The ACT was again represented among the national award winners, with this year's female elder of the year being Aunty Thelma Weston. Aunty Thelma has worked as a health worker at Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal health and community service for the past 10 years and, at 83 years of age, continues to work on the needle exchange program, supporting some of the most vulnerable people in her community. Aunty Thelma has been a dedicated advocate for improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health outcomes and is doing Canberra proud as well as her people, the Meriam people of the Torres Strait. Congratulations to Aunty Thelma on this well-deserved recognition for her work in the community.

It was a real privilege to be in the room with so many people making such valuable contributions to the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

MS CODY: Minister, how did the ACT community respond to the 2019 theme, "Voice. Treaty. Truth"?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Cody for the supplementary question. The 2019 NAIDOC theme invites us all to engage in an important conversation about recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's unique place in Australian history and society, both in the past and today, and a desire for meaningful agreements such as treaties and truthful telling of our shared history.

This theme was embraced by the Canberra community and prompted many important conversations, including about treaty for the ACT. The government believes that the path towards a treaty must be guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and particularly the traditional custodians of the land. We will work with the traditional custodians and the broader ACT community on treaty and support a joint understanding of the opportunity for and implications of a treaty process for the ACT.

During NAIDOC Week I had the pleasure of attending an ACT NAIDOC luncheon co-hosted by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, the elected voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Canberra. At the luncheon Jeff McMullen AM, award-winning journalist, author and filmmaker, hosted a conversation about recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their aspirations for self-determination.

This conversation with Aunty Roslyn Brown, co-chair of the United Ngunnawal Elders Council, and Richard Frankland, singer-songwriter, playwright and filmmaker, provided an insight into what treaty means, drawing on the example of Victoria's journey in establishing a treaty and offering some reflections on what our own path to a treaty might look like.

This year's theme and the events held across the week enabled celebration as well as conversations, and importantly enabled truth telling led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the community.

I note as an example the NAIDOC event at Dickson College which has been reported on today. As part of a school assembly a group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander students, with the support of teachers, engaged with the NAIDOC theme, showing a short film by Briggs about how the national anthem reinforces the dominant perspective of our nation's history. It is critical that we embrace these sometimes difficult opportunities and conversations. *(Time expired.)*

Alexander Maconochie Centre—accommodation pressure

MRS JONES: My question is to the minister for corrections. It is in relation to the ongoing population pressures at the AMC. Minister, how many detainees are currently housed in the AMC?

MR RATTENBURY: I do not have an exact figure for today but the last report I received it was under 450.

MRS JONES: Minister, have you developed contingency plans for beds if the population exceeds the capacity of 511 detainees?

MR RATTENBURY: As I am sure you are aware, Corrective Services does not have a choice whether it receives detainees. We will always ensure that we have the capacity to receive the detainees that the courts send to Corrective Services.

MR HANSON: Minister, what are those plans and how will detainees be accommodated should the population exceed operational capacity? Will you be forced to use triple-bunking or roll-away beds?

MR RATTENBURY: There is a range of possible scenarios. At the moment we obviously do have capacity. As members are well aware, we put in place a number of strategies to seek to reduce the number of people being sent to the AMC through a range of justice reinvestment programs. I am happy to go into lengthy detail with members if they wish as there is quite a lot of work going on in that space. Of course, the government has started planning for an expansion of the AMC through the development of the rehabilitation centre outside the perimeter. This was funded in this year's budget and planning work on that is now well underway.

Hospitals—discharge policy

MRS DUNNE: My question is to the Minister for Health. Minister, ACT Health claims, according to its documentation, to be the safest healthcare system in Australia, delivering high quality, person-centred care. Yet on 3 July the media reported that hospitals were discharging patients and giving them swags because there was nowhere for them to stay. Minister, why have our public hospitals been discharging patients into homelessness?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I will have to come back to Mrs Dunne and the Assembly. I will take that question on notice. I do not believe that it is hospital practice to discharge people into homelessness but I will come back on that particular issue.

I would say, in terms of the quality of care that our hospitals and health services provide, that in fact the Canberra Hospital and public health services across the ACT

provide a very high quality of care for patients and I do not think that it is helpful to constantly be putting a narrative out in the public domain that questions the quality of care provided by clinicians, nurses and all staff across our hospital system.

MRS DUNNE: Minister, does discharging people into homelessness align with ACT Health's aim of providing the safest healthcare system in the country?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: No.

MS LAWDER: Minister, what is your plan to ensure that patients are never discharged into homelessness?

MS STEPHEN-SMITH: I thank Ms Lawder for the supplementary. I think I may not have thanked Mrs Dunne for her question; so I thank her for that as well and for raising this very important issue. It is important that Canberra Health Services works with other parts of government to ensure that, on discharge, patients and consumers have the support they need to return to safe environments.

Indeed, I am not going to take the premise of the question that Canberra Hospital is discharging people into homelessness on face value. I will provide some further information to the Assembly. But what I can assure Ms Lawder and Mrs Dunne is that I will look into this matter and ensure that Canberra Health Services is working across government to ensure that people are getting the support they need on discharge.

Transport Canberra—weekend bus services

MISS C BURCH: My question is to the minister for transport: which ACT government bus services will not be operating as scheduled this weekend?

MR STEEL: I thank the member for her question. As I advised the community yesterday, it is important that they check the NXTBUS app around 90 minutes before their journey to make sure they know if the services are coming. That information is provided through the app.

MISS C BURCH: Minister, will you publish a list of bus services today that will not be operating this coming weekend?

MR STEEL: No.

MRS JONES: Why not?

MR STEEL: Because that is not how the system operates.

Justice—drug and alcohol court

MS CODY: My question is to the Attorney-General. How will the appointment of the ACT's first drug and alcohol court judge help make Canberra safer as a community?

MR RAMSAY: I thank Ms Cody for the question and for her interest in this important area of restorative justice and therapeutic justice.

The appointment of the Chief Magistrate, Lorraine Walker, to lead our new drug and alcohol court means that this new service will begin with a wealth of local knowledge and experience. As the Chief Magistrate, Ms Walker has been a leader in focusing on youth justice and therapeutic jurisprudence.

The new initiative will require leadership and coordination across a full range of services in our justice and health systems. The community sector, police, lawyers, corrections and health staff will all have an important role to play. Her Honour's passion for bringing in restorative justice and a restorative approach to the court will help to foster the right culture for success.

In developing the model that we have in the ACT, the government has also looked closely at other jurisdictions. A key message that came through was that the commitment and the experience of the judiciary are absolutely crucial to a drug court that successfully treats addiction. I personally saw this in play in the Parramatta Drug Court, where Judge Roger Dive's commitment and leadership bring together a host of legal, social and health services. It was very clear that judicial leadership is a critical component in a successful drug court.

Breaking the cycle of addiction will lead to reduced crime and stronger individuals, stronger families and a stronger community. We are very fortunate that here in the ACT we have an excellent judiciary with the skills, experience and commitment to our community to make this new program a strong success.

MS CODY: Minister, can you detail the resources the government has provided to help the new court and the new judge succeed in reducing recidivism?

MR RAMSAY: I thank Ms Cody for the supplementary question. The government has invested \$6.83 million over 3½ years in 2018-19 to support the drug and alcohol court. That funding is supporting corrections, health and legal professionals to prepare and implement a first-rate justice service in Canberra. I anticipate that the court will begin sitting by the end of this year, and the recent appointments and the policy development work represent important milestones towards a very successful start.

Our new Supreme Court building is another important component. In addition to the state-of-the art facilities to support vulnerable witnesses and victims of crime, the new building will have onsite urinalysis facilities. The government's investment in this important new service has capitalised on our outstanding local expertise.

We are very privileged to have as our Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Her Honour Helen Murrell, who presided over the first New South Wales drug court. Her leadership of the Supreme Court working group has been instrumental in crafting this policy. Of course, in selecting the acting judge who will preside we looked at our local bench for expertise in therapeutic justice, and we found a strong leader in Chief Magistrate Walker.

Through our values, our expert public service and our strong local judiciary we will deliver a successful program to rehabilitate people with dependencies and reduce crime.

MR PETTERSSON: How does the new drug and alcohol court support the government's broader aim of making Canberra a restorative city?

MR RAMSAY: I thank Mr Pettersson for the supplementary question. The government believes that the justice system can be and should be restorative and rehabilitative. That means that our court system should support people to repair the harm that they have caused through offending and also restore their relationships with the community. Those principles hold true across criminal justice, civil disputes and all of the ways that our laws provide a framework for behaviour and interactions.

Restorative approaches help make our community whole again after a conflict, a crime or a loss. Holding people responsible for crime can happen whilst simultaneously addressing the underlying causes of their behaviour and fostering strong rehabilitation into the community.

The ACT drug and alcohol court will engage with people whose crimes are primarily the result of drug addiction. It is a form of therapeutic justice. Therapeutic justice is focused on how to help people live better lives as fully participating members of society. This means having a criminal process that is solution focused and that is measured by how it changes future behaviour.

In creating the new drug and alcohol court and across the diverse range of services that we deliver, this government is and will remain people focused and progressive.

Planning—master plans

MR MILLIGAN: My question is to the Minister for Planning and Land Management. Minister, at a meeting for community groups and stakeholders on 29 July, planning officials stated that “master plans no longer have standing” and that “there would be no master plan for Manuka Oval”. Is this the position of the government?

MR GENTLEMAN: I thank Mr Milligan for his question. The government is committed, of course, to meaningful and relevant community engagement on planning matters, including for Manuka. In 2016, the government committed to a community panel to inform the development for the Manuka Oval precinct. After the completion of the Manuka media centre, the government has been clear that there will be no further redevelopment in Manuka Circle or the Manuka Oval beyond the current plan for the oval.

My decision to refuse an application to deconcessionalise the lease over the Canberra Services Club site reinforces the government commitment to protecting Manuka Circle from further development. The Chief Minister and I outlined our commitment to Manuka in letters to Inner South Community Council representatives in November last year and again in June this year.

As you have heard, a stakeholder panel met on 29 July to discuss how the community in the area would like to be consulted in the ACT planning review and to identify the planning matters important to the inner south community. Invitations were sent out to inner south residents groups—

Mr Coe: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

MADAM SPEAKER: Resume your seat, please, minister.

Mr Coe: Madam Speaker, on relevance, the question was specifically about there being no master plan for Manuka Oval and is this the position of the government? He has not addressed whether there would be no master plan for Manuka Oval.

Mrs Dunne: It is a yes/no answer.

MADAM SPEAKER: You may be seeking a yes/no answer but I cannot direct the minister to do that. He has spent over a minute speaking about planning around Manuka. You have time left, minister.

MR GENTLEMAN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In relation to the interruption, there is, of course, a master plan already for Manuka. But what we are doing is further work with the inner south community and the Manuka community to ensure that we can embed their views in the planning review for the whole of the ACT but in particular regarding their interest in Manuka itself.

MR MILLIGAN: Minister, do the 25 master plans already endorsed by the government no longer have standing, based on comments by planning officials?

MR GENTLEMAN: Master plans are an integral part of planning for the future of Canberra. What they do is guide the way we plan for the future and then the authoritative opportunities come after that with changes to the Territory Plan in Territory Plan variations. They are, of course, the key component in authorising changes to the Territory Plan. Those master plans have done a lot of work for the ACT. Master planning will continue across the territory but it is a guide for planning for the ACT.

MISS C BURCH: Minister, why has the government broken the Chief Minister's previous commitment in this place to develop a new master plan for Manuka Oval?

MR GENTLEMAN: I do not agree with the premise of the question. Indeed, we have been working very hard with the Manuka groups and have committed to making sure they are embedded in the ACT planning review.

Government—space policy

MR PETTERSSON: My question is to the Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries. Minister, how did the ACT government help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the moon landing? And how will the minister be celebrating his birthday today?

MR GENTLEMAN: I thank Mr Pettersson for his interest in celebrating the history of Canberra. The weekend of 20 and 21 July was a significant occasion for humankind. It marked 50 years since humans first set foot on the moon: a gigantic leap forward for scientific endeavour, one that inspired generations to come. I am very pleased that Ms Lawder was involved in the celebrations; she played a key role in enjoying the celebrations.

Fifty years on, we continue to seek to inspire the next generation into STEM fields, particularly young women. Canberra Moon Week played an important role in doing just that. This government partnered with a range of institutions, such as the ANU, CSIRO and NASA, to help mark the occasion. Events spanned talks from the next generation of NASA scientists plotting to put humans again on the moon—and then onto Mars—to fireside chats with local Ngunnawal elder Wally Bell.

Opposition members interjecting—

MADAM SPEAKER: Members, please.

MR GENTLEMAN: More than 85 per cent of the Canberra Moon Week events were either full or at 90 per cent capacity, and they had attendees from every state and territory in Australia, with some families travelling from Melbourne, regional New South Wales and the Northern Territory to attend various events and activities as part of Canberra Moon Week.

Canberra Moon Week built on our Heritage Festival earlier in the year, along with events at the Enlighten Festival. Events will continue in the program for Floriade.

MADAM SPEAKER: Before I call Mr Pettersson for his supp, can I ask members on my left to please—

Mrs Jones: stop entertaining ourselves.

MADAM SPEAKER: That would be a start. Mr Pettersson.

MR PETTERSSON: Minister, what role did Canberra play in helping humans set foot on the moon?

MR GENTLEMAN: Without Canberra we would not have been able to see those first pictures of Neil Armstrong's historic steps on the moon. I acknowledge particularly the trackers, the teams at the tracking stations in our territory, who helped bring about these images and of course confirmed that Apollo 11 had landed on the moon. As the American Ambassador acknowledged during the celebrations:

They showed the world the power of the possible—what big dreams, unrelenting effort, and pure grit could accomplish.

Through these events, which the government supported, we were able to acknowledge and thank the trackers for their work. It was a pleasure to be able to join them when

NASA presented the trackers with a plaque that incorporated the Australian flag that had flown in outer space.

To ensure that the historical significance of the Honeysuckle Creek tracking station is not lost, the government has installed new signage. It commemorates the role of the station in the moon landing and, more broadly, in the Apollo missions, the Voyager and Pioneer journeys. The signs also celebrate the Ngunnawal people's connection to country and the stars.

MS ORR: Minister, how is Canberra building on the leadership in space?

MR GENTLEMAN: It is an excellent question from Ms Orr. As I have said before, Canberra is the space capital; and we are. The moon landing anniversary highlighted our leadership 50 years ago. It also reminded us of the leadership that this government has taken in developing what has become the first space strategy from any state or territory. This helped to drive the national conversation in forming the Australian Space Agency.

Our leadership has also helped to further our city's reputation in this important area, worth some \$420 billion per annum globally. UNSW Canberra and ANU have significant and complementary space assets. There are local companies such as Geoplex and Geospatial Intelligence, along with significant space research organisations such as Geoscience Australia, CSIRO, the Space Environment Research Centre and the Deep Space Communication Complex.

Canberra also hosts multinational companies with major space capabilities, such as Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Airbus Defence and Space. More recently, a new cooperative research centre for smart satellite technologies and analytics was announced, with \$110 million of committed cash funding.

As we reflect on 50 years since landing on the moon, we should be proud of the city's leadership and work together to expand and create more jobs in this important sector.

Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—Boomanulla Oval

MR HANSON: Coming back down to earth, Madam Speaker—

MADAM SPEAKER: Resume your seat, Mr Hanson. You have had a great lot of fun and made some snide undertone comments about the connection that Mr Gentleman had to this event. Fifty years we celebrated, and I am sure that you would have not had that amount of laughter if Margaret Reid had had the floor talking about her connection. You have the floor with your substantive question.

MR HANSON: Was that just commentary, Madam Speaker? What was that?

MADAM SPEAKER: It was asking you to behave during question time and to keep your comments in order.

MR HANSON: The comments that that side of the chamber were all laughing at? Are they the ones you are talking about?

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr Hanson, do not test me.

MR HANSON: Okay, Madam Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. Minister, you have made the commitment on many occasions that Boomanulla Oval will be run for and by the Indigenous community. Why is the ACT government running this important community asset?

MADAM SPEAKER: Minister Berry, you are taking that question?

MS BERRY: Yes, Madam Speaker. It falls into my portfolio area of responsibility of sport and recreation. The ACT government along with the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs have been working very closely with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, including the elected body, to work on a pathway forward to return Boomanulla Oval to Aboriginal ownership and management.

As we work through that process the government will be managing the booking system of Boomanulla Oval with a very strong desire to return it to Aboriginal and Torres Strait ownership and management.

MR HANSON: What has been the usage of the oval since it reopened on 25 May this year?

MS BERRY: I do not have that detail with me so I will have to get that information and bring it back to the Assembly for members. I know that the formal opening of the oval has been well received by a very excited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, and particularly by the Boomanulla Raiders Rugby League teams, who are able to call that oval their home ground again.

There is still some work to do on that site. There is also lots of work to be done to bring that site to a place where it can still maintain that strong spiritual and cultural heritage that is so important not just to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community but to everyone in the ACT community. As I said, we will continue to work with the elected body and the community about how we return that to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander management.

MR MILLIGAN: Minister, what role has the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs played in giving advice as to the model under which you would hand back Boomanulla Oval to the Indigenous community?

MS BERRY: Rachel Stephen-Smith, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs minister, and I both work very closely hand in hand with the Elected Body and with the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs to work on what that model will actually look like.

Environment—sustainability initiatives

MS ORR: My question is to the Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability. Minister, could you please update the Assembly on the implementation strategy for a re-usable coffee cup zone trial in Gungahlin, and how businesses such as Atlas, Frankies at Forde and Sunday in Canberra have been consulted?

MR RATTENBURY: Members will recall that the Assembly recently passed a motion, sponsored by Ms Orr, seeking some developments in this space. Since that time my directorate, the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, has been undertaking research, particularly including with Marrickville Council, to gain an understanding of how a coffee cup scheme could work in the ACT. We have been working particularly with Marrickville Council because they have completed a program design and have procured a contractor, with their scheme commencing on 30 July, just a couple of days ago. We are taking the opportunity to use the work they have already done to give us some insights into how this might work in Canberra.

Marrickville have been very generous. They have shared valuable knowledge with us on the range of coffee cup schemes currently available in the market. Our research has revealed that there are a number of service providers, I suppose you would call them—businesses—that have schemes available, obviously at a particular price, and we are looking at how suitable they might be for the ACT, looking at the lessons learned by Marrickville in particular but also other jurisdictions around Australia.

The sorts of questions that come up in this research are about the cost model, and whether there should be no up-front cost or subscriptions for businesses and/or patrons. There is the ability to return the cup to any participating business Canberra-wide or potentially right across the region, and how far geographically we would spread the scheme. There is the ability to top up the initial allocation of coffee cups to a business if they run low, although the experience has been that most people have continued to use their cups and there has not been a lot of leakage from the system as such. These are the sorts of issues that EPSDD have been working on, and we hope to be able to have further updates on the potential for a scheme in the ACT very shortly.

MS ORR: Minister, what other initiatives such as the straws suck campaign are currently in place to help businesses cut down on plastic and single-use items?

MR RATTENBURY: This part of the directorate has been quite busy. The straws suck campaign was launched in May 2018. It encourages Canberra businesses and patrons to rethink their use of single-use plastic straws and reduce the ACT's contribution to the 10 million plastic straws that are estimated to be used in Australia every single day. This is a product that we think we can replace and we encourage people to think whether they really need them.

There are currently 77 businesses and schools in the ACT signed up to the campaign, which I think is a great start. Community members can also sign up to this pledge as part of their Actsmart online eco challenge, also taking that piece of individual action.

As I think I have said in this place before, I acknowledge that straws make up a small percentage of the plastic waste problem. However, this campaign opens the opportunity for a conversation with people about considering single-use plastics. It is one that is easy to replace and one that, for most people, is not a necessary item. I think this campaign not only has a practical impact but a deeper impact on people thinking whether they need single-use plastics and how they might take steps to avoid using them.

I am encouraged by the start of this campaign. I encourage more businesses to sign up and, for people who are still going to businesses using plastic straws, have that conversation with them and encourage them to get in contact with Actsmart who can help businesses go through the process of finding alternatives.

MR GUPTA: Minister, what wider sustainability initiatives have recently been recognised?

MR RATTENBURY: Welcome to the Assembly, Mr Gupta, and thank you for my first question from you since you came here.

This is an opportunity to tell the Assembly about some particularly good work that has been happening at the Canberra Hospital. The Canberra Hospital is a recent accreditation under the Actsmart business recycling program. Under the program, the hospital has made great strides. It has used monthly staff newsletters, the intranet, desktop wallpaper and digital screens to promote sustainability messages.

The hospital has implemented a “bring your own cup” campaign which has reduced the 42,000 disposable coffee cups previously used each year at the hospital. It introduced the organics “feed me” machine back in December 2017. Microorganisms break down the food into a fine liquid which is able to go down the sewer and is processed at the Icon Water treatment plant. In its first year of use, the hospital diverted over 28 tonnes of food waste from landfill using the system.

Also, in the past year the waste streams that have been diverted from landfill have significantly increased, including co-mingled recycling, up by 29 per cent; paper and cardboard recycling, up by nearly 10 per cent; and organic waste diversion, up by a massive 81 per cent.

So we have seen a significant effort at the Canberra Hospital. The hospital is now thinking about the steps it can take to further reduce single-use plastics in all areas of the hospital. Anybody who has spent any time in the health system knows that it is an area primed for the use of single-use plastics and disposable products. It is great to see our staff having a think about how they can reduce the environmental footprint of the hospital. I thank them for their creativity and commitment in that space.

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

Supplementary answer to question without notice

Alexander Maconochie Centre—accommodation pressure

MR RATTENBURY: Earlier I was asked about the current numbers at the AMC. Since then I have checked, and the muster last night was 452.

Personal explanation

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (2.50): Madam Speaker, I rise to correct the record. Due to an administrative error in my office, my remarks in the earlier debate on the Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 did not relate to the provisions in the bill, rather to changes that have already occurred. I apologise to the Assembly.

Leave of absence

Motion (by **Mrs Jones**) agreed to:

That leave of absence be granted to Mr Parton for this sitting for family reasons.

Papers

Mr Gentleman presented the following papers:

Future of Education—Implementation plan, dated August 2019.

Auditor-General's Report No 3/2018—Tender for the sale of Block 30 (formerly Block 20) Section 34 Dickson—Implementation progress statement.

Legislation Act, pursuant to section 64—Nature Conservation Act—Nature Conservation (Molonglo River Reserve) Reserve Management Plan 2019—Disallowable Instrument DI2019-192 (LR, 26 July 2019), together with its explanatory statement.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Act, pursuant to subsection 10B(3)—ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body—Report on the outcomes of the ATSIEB Hearings 2018—Eighth Report to the ACT Government—Government response, dated August 2019.

Out of Home Care Strategy 2015-2020—*A Step Up for Our Kids—One Step Can Make a Lifetime of Difference*—Final Report for the mid-Strategy evaluation, dated 28 May 2019.

Future of education—implementation plan

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on

Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (2.51): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Future of Education—Implementation plan.

MS BERRY (Ginninderra—Deputy Chief Minister, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Women) (2.51): In February this year I gave the Assembly an update on how the ACT government is implementing the future of education strategy. At that time, I foreshadowed the release of the first implementation plan, which I am pleased to share with you today. The future of education strategy sets out the ACT government's commitment to delivering the best possible education for Canberra's students, empowering teachers and learning professionals to thrive and work with school communities to ensure the best possible outcome for families.

This first implementation plan leads the ACT education system towards this long-term vision through a cohesive portfolio of work for the next 18 months, with clear actions and commitments. This first plan is focused on building the capability of the education sector at large and directs activity within the government sector.

Non-government schools will engage in their own way, including through agreed cross-sectoral activity relating to actions under the national schools reform agreement. This first plan presents six priorities which give shape to the commitments made within the strategy. It lays out the government's actions—clear, tangible actions and activities—that respond to the extensive community consultation that shaped the future of education strategy in the first place.

The plan is also informed by robust research and evidence of what is needed to provide every child with a great education, which was also expressed in the future of education research report. The six priorities in the government's implementation plan are set within the future of education strategy's four foundations: to place students at the centre of their learning; empower teachers, school leaders and other professionals to meet the learning needs of all students; build strong communities for learning; and strengthen systems to focus on equality and equity with quality.

I turn first to priority 1, strengthening inclusive education. The ACT government's first priority of strengthening inclusive education speaks to the very core of the strategy, which is an acknowledgement of human diversity among students. Every student has a right to a great education, irrespective of their circumstances. Every student has the right to feel welcome, respected, supported and valued.

The government is clearly committed to inclusive education. Through the initiatives outlined with this implementation plan, the government is ensuring that the right programs, services and solutions are in place to respond to the individual needs of each and every student at the point when they need it.

The ACT government is also building strong and safe communities of learning in partnership with parents and the community. Through this plan, the government is building on its \$5.3 million investment to ensure that all schools provide inclusive environments with safe, calming spaces to support students with complex needs.

The government is also providing alternative programs and options for students at risk of disengaging from secondary school. The clear and specific areas of activity and investment outlined in this plan will enrich the learning journey of all students, regardless of background and vulnerability.

Priority 2 is giving students more of a say. The ACT government heard time and time again from the community conversation that the education system should recognise students as individuals with their own unique passions and interests. In response, the government's second priority is giving students more of a say in their learning and in the decisions that impact them.

The government's long-term intent for the future of education is to create an education system that is personalised for each child where they tread their own path based on their own interests, knowledge and skills. The activities outlined in the implementation plan reflect this aspiration, with initiatives that are connecting young people to their learning and driving student agency.

Students will be empowered to co-construct their learning opportunities, drawing on integrated technologies and evidence-informed approaches that provide choice in what, how, when and where they learn. The ACT government understands that there are many pathways for students to succeed. This plan brings together a range of opportunities, such as streamlining vocational education and training, exploring opportunities for cross-institutional study, and accelerated pathways for students in partnership with the University of Canberra to ensure that the right pathway is available to meet each student's need. The government's recent investment of \$5.7 million to establish an academy of future skills also stands as a clear example of the real, tangible actions that this government is taking to invest in what matters most: the future of the ACT's children.

Priority 3 is to support a workforce for the future. Through this implementation plan, the ACT government will continue to invest in empowering teachers. Teachers change lives, which is represented clearly in the third priority of supporting a workforce for the future. The implementation plan provides a clear commitment to supporting our educators throughout all stages of their career. This starts during pre-service training, with a focus on ensuring the right mix of academic and practical skills needed for the classroom and continues through systemic induction for new teachers that ensures that supports are in place the moment they arrive in the classroom, all the way to strengthening school leadership capabilities at a system scale.

A highlighted example is a revised principal career structure designed to facilitate enhanced career pathways and placement of skilled, experience principals in schools where they are most needed to drive improved student outcomes. At the same time, there is a focus on principal wellbeing and laying the foundations for the best practice

relating to physical and mental health to meet the complexities that principals face every day. Again, the activities laid out in the implementation plan are clear, tangible and targeted on what the ACT government heard from its extensive consultation, and is therefore committed to in its investment.

Priorities four and five relate to community schools and giving young people the best start. This is a core foundation of the future of education. That is to provide strong communities for learning. This underpins the fourth and fifth priorities of implementation. The fourth priority, community schools, is about recognising our schools as hubs of the community and an integral part of a broader human services system that takes a holistic view of students and their needs, as well as the needs of their families.

The implementation plan in the first phase will focus on forging innovative partnerships, which recognises the importance of the government's interdependent agencies and the relationships needed for success. This includes partnerships between early childhood providers, community and government agencies and primary schools, where the government is ensuring that young children zero to eight have the strongest possible start to their education journey.

Giving young people the best start is the fifth priority. Members will recall the work the ACT government is doing to develop the ACT's first early childhood strategy. This work is critical to the future of education. It is critical because it focuses on creating a foundation for lifelong learning, critical because it increases access to high-quality early childhood education and care experiences, particularly for children experiencing disadvantage.

The implementation plan highlights clear, specific activity to support the ACT government's commitment to work towards a goal of providing universal free early childhood education for three-year-old children. This work is important, and will help create a fairer early childhood education and care system in the ACT.

I draw your attention, Madam Speaker, to the sixth and final priority: focus the system on what matters most. The initiatives within this priority will create the enabling system conditions needed in the first phase in order to deliver on the government's 10-year vision for the future of education. Through this priority, the ACT government is investing in teachers as researchers to improve research rigour and evidence-informed teaching practice through strengthened links with tertiary institutions and post-graduate scholarships.

The government will also focus system and school improvements on educational equity and invest in future schools for a growing city. The ACT government's investment in schools is not only about population growth. It is also about planning for the infrastructure needed to support learners of the future.

The government's first phase implementation plan for the future of education sets a clear precedent of tangible action and investment from a government committed to providing the very best opportunities for that ACT's children and young people. The 10-year road map will continue to be supported by rolling implementation plans

throughout the remaining phases of the program. I look forward to sharing the many achievements of our education system over the coming years.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body report—government response

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (3.01): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body Act—ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body—Report on the outcomes of the ATSIEB Hearings 2018—Eighth Report to the ACT Government—Government response.

MS STEPHEN-SMITH (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Minister for Disability, Minister for Employment and Workplace Safety, Minister for Health, Minister for Urban Renewal) (3.01): I am pleased to have this opportunity to speak to the government response to the 2018 ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body hearings outcomes report. The elected body was established in 2008 to provide the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community with a democratically elected voice to advise the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs on the views and any issues of concern to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the ACT.

The ACT government response covers the eighth Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body hearings held on 14 and 15 March 2018, the first hearings of the fourth elected body. The current elected body provided the report to government on 18 December 2018 and I tabled the report in the Assembly in February this year.

The elected body has an important role in monitoring and reporting on the services, programs and outcomes delivered by ACT government directorates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the ACT. The elected body's hearing process is critical to enabling this role to be undertaken.

Directors-general of all ACT government directorates were called to take questions from the elected body on their respective directorates' spending and decision-making in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. All directorates provided input to the government response on the initiatives being delivered to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the community.

The report on the outcomes of the elected body hearings 2018 contains 31 recommendations. Some of these were for all directorates to respond to, whilst others were for individual directorates and agencies. The ACT government has agreed

to 23 of the recommendations, agreed in principle to a further five recommendations and noted three. The ACT Public Service Strategic Board Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Subcommittee and the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Inter-directorate Committee will monitor the implementation of the report's recommendations.

The 2018 hearing was the last hearing under the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2015-2018. The report and recommendations from the hearings highlighted the need to ensure that cultural competence, self-determination and economic impact were focus areas in the subsequent agreement. I am pleased that this is reflected in the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander agreement 2019-2028 that was signed in February this year. The action plans under the new agreement capture many of the recommendations in the hearing report and, accordingly, the actions set out in the government response.

I highlight several of the initiatives that are being progressed under the agreement which respond to the elected body's recommendations. The elected body's fifth whole-of-government recommendation calls on all directorates and agencies to take opportunities to support the emergence of new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-controlled service providers in the territory. This recommendation is reflected in the agreement in the significant focus area of economic participation that aims to provide equal access to employment and growth in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and community services organisations which drive economic development actions within their communities. The government response outlines several of the initiatives that seek to deliver on this aim.

The ACT government recently launched an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander procurement policy which initiates a cultural change for ACT government agencies to reduce some of the barriers to government procurement encountered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enterprises. The ATSIPP commenced on 1 July 2019 and it aims to make it easier for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enterprises in the Canberra region to compete for work with the ACT government. Directorates will be required to identify and act upon opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander enterprises in their procurement activities. In recognition of the important role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-controlled organisations in delivering positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, funding totalling \$100,000 over four years provides seed funding grants for new and emerging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-controlled organisations.

The second recommendation, to the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, calls on the ACT government to provide additional resources to support the recruitment, retention and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT public service. In line with the ACT government's commitment to maximising opportunities for employment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people under the agreement's economic participation action plan we have funded the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander career development and retention program and instigated the new ACTPS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership program to develop leadership capability and

career progression within the ACTPS. The 2019-20 ACT budget also invests in several initiatives set out in the government response.

Recommendation 12, to the Community Services Directorate, calls on the ACT government to implement all the recommendations of the Our Booris, Our Way steering committee. The work that the Our Booris, Our Way steering committee is doing is leading to real improvements for both children and young people in the child protection system and the system as a whole. I thank the steering committee and the wider team for their ongoing commitment and hard work, which is clearly underpinned by the principle of self-determination.

Through this year's ACT budget, the government will invest \$1.74 million to continue implementing recommendations of the Our Booris, Our Way review. Specifically, the investment will support training and workforce development to increase the cultural proficiency of staff and the implementation of the national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child placement principles within policy, practice and training. It will also support the continuation of family group conferencing through cultural support and mentoring. As a further recognition of the importance of strong families and the principles of self-determination, the ACT government will also establish an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy and practice co-design forum to develop early support measures for families and children, developed and led by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

The 2019-20 ACT budget also invested \$300,000 for the development of a culturally appropriate residential service supporting drug and alcohol rehabilitation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the ACT to complement the existing services, including the Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm. This investment is in line with recommendation 23, to the ACT Health Directorate, which recommended that the directorate develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-specific clinical drug and alcohol rehabilitation services that are culturally appropriate and responsive to individual, family and community needs.

The ACT government will fund Winnunga Nimmityjah to co-design the delivery of the dedicated Aboriginal residential rehabilitation facility, in partnership with a specialist Aboriginal alcohol and drug service provider. ACT Health will partner in this work, including identifying potential locations that provide access to other health and emergency services.

Finally, I highlight the work being progressed which responds to recommendation 6, to the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. The elected body recommended that CMTEDD take all steps necessary to ensure that the Boomanulla Oval development is expedited and that the oval is returned to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community control and management. The ACT government remains committed to working with community to return Boomanulla Oval to community control. An important part of this will be a project on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led governance in the ACT. This work, instigated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, will look at future options for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander management and governance, including for Boomanulla Oval and the cultural centre.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of the ACT have a voice in the elected body. I thank the elected body for their continued support and frank and fearless advice provided to our government in working towards achieving equitable outcomes and tangible outcomes for the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. I look forward to continuing the positive partnership with the elected body to address the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans and to build on the strengths of the community to have the opportunity to share their knowledge, as the community has the answers.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

A step up for our kids—final report for the mid-strategy evaluation

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (3.10): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Out of Home Care Strategy 2015-2020—*A Step Up for Our Kids—One Step Can Make a Lifetime of Difference*—Final Report for the mid-Strategy evaluation.

MS STEPHEN-SMITH (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Minister for Disability, Minister for Employment and Workplace Safety, Minister for Health, Minister for Urban Renewal) (3.10): We are now in the fourth year of a five-year program of reform to the out of home care sector in the ACT through the out of home care strategy 2015-2020, *A step up for our kids: one step can make a lifetime of difference*. The number one priority under *A step up for our kids* is keeping families together where it is safe to do so. We are delivering on this through a range of initiatives that focus on preventing children and young people entering care and the reunification of children and young people in care with their birth families. Where a safe return home is not possible, the focus shifts to ensuring that the child or young person is settled into a permanent alternative family home as quickly as possible.

I am pleased to advise that KPMG has now completed the mid-strategy evaluation, and I would like to thank members for the opportunity to speak to the mid-strategy evaluation report today. The mid-strategy evaluation report confirms that the impact of individual reforms is still developing. It includes a range of findings that reflect that the evaluation was undertaken at the midpoint of a significant reform that will take time to mature.

Importantly, the evaluation largely considers data for 2016-17 and 2017-18 compared with the baseline of 2015-16. Where measures are captured at the end of the calendar year, the report uses 2016 data as a baseline, and looks at data from 2017 and the first six months of 2018 for comparison. In some cases where numbers are too small to report for these years, data from financial year 2011-12 onwards has been included for analysis.

The mid-strategy evaluation report tells us that overall the level of stability provided for children and young people in care has either remained the same or improved since the implementation of the strategy. For those children exiting care after 12 months, 61 per cent in 2016-17 had one or two placements. The number of children aged under 11 years being placed in residential care continued to decrease through the implementation of the strategy to 2017-18. There were no new children aged under 11 years placed in residential care during 2017-18. The report shows an increase in the number of children remaining at home three months after completing prevention services. It also indicates that further work is required to keep children and young people at home six and 12 months after engagement with reunification programs.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are over-represented at every stage of the child protection and out of home care system. The proportion of children and young people in care who are placed with extended family, their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has remained stable since the introduction of A step up for our kids. The number of new carers approved each year remained stable. There are more active kinship carer households than foster carer households. This is consistent with the intent of both the strategy and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child placement principle.

Whilst the evaluation report identifies that there has been a steady increase in the number of kinship carers and placements with kin as an alternative to placement with foster carers, which is consistent with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child placement principle, there is clearly more work to do to reduce the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people coming into care.

I am pleased to say that all agencies funded under the strategy support the Our Booris, Our Way review and look forward to receiving the steering committee's final report and recommendations. They believe, as I do, that the establishment of the review and delivery of its interim recommendations are important steps to self-determination and meaningful change.

As I have noted, the data contained in the report is up to 30 June 2018. The operational data in more recent quarterly snapshot reports is showing some promising signs, with the rate of new entries coming into care slowing and the proportion of new entries for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people falling. Sixty-nine new carers were approved in 2018-19, and there are currently 70 children and young people being supported through prevention services, which is higher than in past years.

As members are aware, the strategy represents a significant investment in the future of our most vulnerable children and young people. The report allows the Community Services Directorate and its partners to consider how the implementation of the reforms can be strengthened moving forward.

The commitment to long-term generational change can only be achieved through a collaborative and sustained effort. While we are in the process of managing a change in the ACT Together consortium due to the recent announcement by Premier Youthworks that it will cease providing residential care services in the ACT as of

14 August 2019, our commitment to the principles of A step up remains firm. As the ACT Together consortium leader, Barnardos will ensure continuity of support for the children and young people who are currently in residential care supported by Premier Youthworks.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of the Premier Youthworks staff, who work with some of the most vulnerable and complex young people in our community. I have met a number of these staff and have always been impressed by how well they know the young people in their care, and how thoughtful they are about the supports the young people need to live their best lives, often in challenging situations.

In the medium term, another organisation will join the ACT Together consortium. This presents an opportunity to build on the work done to date and to explore new opportunities to deliver targeted, therapeutic and trauma informed residential care.

Our partners in the implementation of A step up for our kids—Barnardos, OzChild and the Australian Childhood Foundation, within ACT Together; Uniting; Karinya House; the Create Foundation; Carers ACT; and the Red Cross birth family advocacy service—understand that each organisation has a crucial part to play in the overall success of the reforms.

I would like to assure members that as we enter the last 16 months of the strategy, the directorate will continue to work with its partners to facilitate a renewed effort on permanency, prevention and reunification outcomes. The 2019-20 budget, in addition to providing more operational funding for out of home care, includes funding to support the development of the next stage of the reforms. I look forward to continuing to update the Assembly on this important work to ensure that children and young people in care grow up strong, safe and connected to family, community and culture.

Debate (on motion by **Mrs Kikkert**) adjourned to the next sitting.

Nature Conservation (Molonglo River Reserve) Reserve Management Plan 2019

MR GENTLEMAN (Brindabella—Manager of Government Business, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Minister for Police and Emergency Services and Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries) (3.17): Pursuant to standing order 211, I move:

That the Assembly take note of the following paper:

Nature Conservation Act—Nature Conservation (Molonglo River Reserve)
Reserve Management Plan 2019—Disallowable Instrument DI2019-192,
together with its explanatory statement.

The Molonglo River Reserve Management Plan 2019 has been prepared in accordance with chapter 8 of the Nature Conservation Act 2014. I am pleased to present the final plan to the Legislative Assembly today.

The Molonglo River Reserve is public land under the Territory Plan. It is reserved for the purpose of conserving the natural environment and the public use of the area for recreation, education and research. The plan will guide management and recreation use of the Molonglo River Reserve over the next 10 years.

Before I talk about the plan I would like to provide some history of the area that now makes up the Molonglo River Reserve. Aboriginal people have moved through this landscape for tens of thousands of years. The river corridor provided an important source of water, food and camp sites, and a route through the region for ceremonial purposes. Today the river reserve remains a significant place in Aboriginal stories and cultural practices. Numerous sites along the reserve retain evidence of Aboriginal occupation.

The Molonglo River was first encountered by Europeans in the 1820s near the present Lake Burley Griffin. The adjacent grassy plains and access to good water made it attractive for sheep grazing and it began to be settled by pastoralists from about 1823. Following acquisition of the land that formed the ACT in 1911, land in rural areas was not immediately required and it was leased to landholders. Land along the river corridor still contains remnants from the pastoral era occupation.

Urban infrastructure, such as the sludge ponds for the Weston Creek sewerage works, is located along the river corridor slopes and now requires remediation. The sludge ponds were redundant after the lower Molonglo water treatment control centre was developed downstream in 1978. The entire river corridor became a formal part of Canberra's open space system in the 1970s.

Substantial areas of land near Mount Stromlo were established as pine forests from the 1920s to provide construction timber for the growing city. Over the following decades these pine forests and their trail networks became an important recreation resource for walkers, runners, cyclists, horse riders and rally people. Severe bushfires in 2001 and 2003 led to the government reconsidering maintaining pine plantations on Canberra's vulnerable north-western margins.

Memories of this recreational land use are still strong and Stromlo Forest Park is being developed to provide recreation opportunities similar to those that existed in the Stromlo pine forest. New trails are being developed to provide connections from residential areas to Stromlo Forest Park, the arboretum, along the river corridor, and to the wider Canberra network of recreational trails, including the centenary trail and the bicentennial national trail.

With this history in mind, I would like to bring members back to the Molonglo River Reserve as it is today. It is Canberra's newest reserve—approximately 1,280 hectares in area and 23 kilometres long. It extends from the Scrivener Dam in the central part of Canberra to the Murrumbidgee River at the foothills of the mountain ranges to the west.

The river corridor provides a scenic centrepiece to the developing suburbs of the Molonglo Valley, where most residents will live less than a kilometre from the river.

The meandering river landscape includes some spectacular scenery, from deeply incised gorges to quiet pools, rocky riverbeds and rapids. This varied river landscape supports a diversity of aquatic life and rich deposits of faunal fossils. The rich diversity of species in the reserve includes 92 bird species, five native fish and crayfish species, and more than 200 plant species.

Kama woodland is part of the reserve and is one of Australia's best examples of the critically endangered box-gum woodland ecological community. The rocky slopes near the river corridor provide habitat for the largest remaining population in Australia of the nationally threatened species, the pink-tailed worm-lizard. The reserve also contains natural temperate grasslands, a threatened ecological community. The grassland and woodland communities provide habitat for the threatened swift and superb parrots.

The Molonglo River Reserve provides an important wildlife corridor. It connects some of the northern Canberra Nature Park reserves to the Murrumbidgee River corridor and the northern mountain landscape beyond. More than 75 per cent of bird species recorded in the ACT use the river landscape at some time. The Molonglo and Murrumbidgee river corridors together have a higher diversity and abundance of raptors than any other place in the ACT region.

Our vision for the area is that the Molonglo River Reserve will be our treasured natural "front yard". Its river and gorges and rich biodiversity provide a variety of conservation, research, recreational and educational experiences for all Canberrans to enjoy.

Over the next 10 years the plan will guide land management and recreational use for the Molonglo River Reserve. High-use recreation will be concentrated in two special purpose reserves and we will manage the remaining areas for natural and cultural heritage and biodiversity. We will maintain and enhance threatened species populations, maintain species diversity, and improve aquatic and river health. It is important that we continue to work closely with the local community and foster mutual responsibility for the ongoing care of the reserve. The plan identifies a range of policies and actions to help us to achieve this.

It is important to reduce the risk of wildfire and to protect the suburbs and the fire-sensitive species and ecological communities. The plan balances fire asset protection with ecological values. The plan is consistent with the ACT strategic bushfire management plan 2014-19, which establishes fire fuel management and asset protection zones.

I strongly believe in the importance of meaningful community engagement. The preparation of the draft plan was a collaborative exercise between the community and government. A community reference group was formed comprising recreational user groups, environmental groups and land users. The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate was represented on the Molonglo River park coordination committee and the committee has reviewed all versions of the draft plan.

The Nature Conservation Act 2014 requires the land custodian, the ACT parks and conservation service, to prepare a draft reserve management plan and to consult with the Conservator of Flora and Fauna and the planning and land authority on its preparation. The conservator and the planning and land authority have been consulted and support the plan.

The draft plan was available for public comment for six weeks in February 2018. Twenty-one submissions were received, with the majority indicating general support for the plan. All comments were considered in finalising this plan and a report on consultation was prepared and is available on the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate website.

I would like to thank all of those organisations and individuals who made valuable contributions during consultation. Their contributions have helped to ensure that the plan meets the needs of the environment and the community.

The plan and the report on consultation were referred to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services on 1 May this year. The committee advised me on 6 May that they would not be conducting an inquiry into the plan. On 23 May the committee recommended that I approve the plan. The plan will be made available on the EPSDD website, the your say and legislation register websites from today, and printed copies will be available on request.

A current draft variation to the Territory Plan, DV360, proposes that the public land overlays in the Territory Plan are consistent with the zoning indicated in the reserve management plan. This will make the entire length of the river corridor public land nature reserve, with the exception of the two areas of special purpose reserve that will allow for more intensive recreation.

The Molonglo Valley will eventually be home to 55,000 new residents. This new reserve management plan provides valuable information to the community on the many natural, cultural and social values of the reserve. It outlines management actions to protect these values, particularly our threatened species and ecological communities, and a wide variety of other plant and animal species that call the reserve home. The plan also provides guidance for the new residents, along with the rest of Canberra, on appropriate recreational use of the reserve.

The urban development of the Molonglo Valley came with the requirement to protect matters of national environmental significance—NES. A new NES plan was prepared in 2011 to protect box-gum woodland, natural temperate grassland and habitat for the pink-tailed worm-lizard, swift parrot and superb parrot. This reserve management plan meets the obligations outlined in the NES plan.

The government has already made a significant investment in restoring the natural environment of the reserve and habitat for the species within it. We are committed to ongoing investment for the continuation of this important work and to provide recreational facilities in the reserve for existing and future residents of the area.

In closing, I thank those who have made contributions to the development of the plan and who are working closely with government to restore this unique and highly valued landscape.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Essential services—public ownership

Discussion of matter of public importance

MADAM SPEAKER: I have received letters from Ms Cheyne, Ms Cody, Mr Coe, Mr Gupta, Mrs Kikkert, Ms Le Couteur, Mr Milligan, Ms Orr, Mr Parton and Mr Pettersson proposing that matters of public importance be submitted to the Assembly. In accordance with standing order 79, I have determined that the matter proposed by Mr Pettersson be submitted to the Assembly for discussion, namely:

The importance of ACT essential services remaining in public hands.

MR PETTERSSON (Yerrabi) (3.28): At a time when essential services and the public service are increasingly coming under attack from the federal Liberal government it is more important than ever that we highlight the significant role that our government must play in providing these services. Essential services like education, health care, transport and emergency services are all integral parts of the ACT community and part of what has made Canberra the city it is today. These are all services that most of us can agree are called essential for a reason. They are all things our community would not function without and are things any good government has an obligation to provide.

Privatisation of essential services in Australia has a dangerous history that we should look to not repeat in many aspects here in the ACT. Put simply, the privatisation of essential services leads to companies prioritising profit over service delivery. We are lucky that many public services have not been privatised in the ACT, and we need to make sure it stays that way.

Canberra is a proud public service town and Canberrans should be proud that many of our essential services have remained in public hands. Keeping these services in public hands is key to protecting them. Recently—and this is a wonderful accomplishment of this government—we have taken the fantastic step of bringing ACT school cleaners in house, employing them directly through the ACT government in order to protect their wages, employment conditions and jobs. Without the strong culture we see in the ACT of protecting essential services from privatisation this step would never have been possible.

We should also be proud of our fantastic, publicly owned CIT. Any moves to privatise CIT will result in significant price increases and a reduction in course offerings. We can guarantee that these services will never be privatised by the Labor government. We recognise the value of a government-run CIT in skilling up the workforce of the future.

CIT and vocational training play a key role in the ACT economy. Nationally we have seen the negative impacts that privatisation of the VET sector can have with low quality qualifications and excessive student debts to name a few. Students have been trapped by slick sales teams with enticing offers and ended up with worthless degrees or no pathways to real jobs. CIT is an integral part of Canberra's tertiary education sector and the ACT economy and we cannot allow it to be privatised.

We also recognise the importance of public transport staying in public hands to increase the accessibility and liveability of this growing city. We should be proud to have these fantastic and well-funded services at our doorstep and should never see them as just an opportunity to make profit. Public ownership ensures that these services are delivered where they are needed most, not just where they are most profitable. They are so much more than that; they are an integral part of the Canberra community economy and lifestyle.

Another key essential service the ACT government is prioritising is the provision of public health care. This is one of the most basic essential services, the privatisation of which is strongly condemned across Australia. The public provision of essential services such as health care ensure that those who may not be able to afford to pay can still access them.

With the decreasing trend in private health insurance participation it is more important than ever that the government continue to invest in this essential service to guarantee the accessibility of health care to all our community. That is why this government is building more nurse led walk-in centres and investing more in our health system.

These essential services should not be run with profit as the primary motive, as is the case under privatisation. They are called essential services for a reason: they are essential to a well-functioning community regardless of their profit margin. To run these services in a for-profit manner completely undermines the core principle that the role of the government is to provide basic services to its constituents.

Improvements to the healthcare system are not and should not be governed by how much profit something is likely to make. Further, the federal Liberal government's outsourcing of the public service by bringing in contractors and consultants is deeply problematic in Canberra. Our community has a proud history of working in the public service and this outsourcing undermines that work.

The continued outsourcing of public service work is detrimental to our workforce in both the short and long term, resulting in a lack of upskilling, training and institutional knowledge being passed on. The long-term ramifications of this outsourcing of what should be an essential public service are extremely troubling.

The ACT has a number of significant essential services that have remained in public hands. From CIT to the provision of transport to our world-class healthcare system, Canberra's community and economy are centred around the public provision of essential services. This government is committed to continuing to provide these public services where they are needed most rather than where they are most profitable. We

recognise that the future of this public service city relies on the strong public provision of essential services.

MS ORR (Yerrabi) (3.34): I am pleased to speak on the importance of ACT essential services remaining in public hands. Canberrans value the essential services that keep our city running. Our public transport network helps us move around our city. Our city services workers keep our city clean and tidy and protect our natural environment. Our CIT educates thousands of Canberrans and provides them with job opportunities in secure, skilled work. Our public servants work hard to deliver government services and support Canberrans every day. Our nurses and doctors provide us with quality public health care at our hospitals and walk-in centres. These essential services are vital to the life of the territory and this Barr government is committed to supporting them.

In my own electorate of Yerrabi our record investments in public transport and free public health care are valued by the entire community. Light rail has enlivened our town centre, and more people across Gungahlin are now choosing to travel on the new network. Our light rail and buses provide convenient, reliable and accessible transport options to keep Gungahlin connected to the region and other parts of Canberra.

It is not just the passengers who value our public transport network. Transport Canberra employs over 1,000 people in a variety of roles within the agency. These workers are employed to provide an essential service to the community and they are supported by this government to do so. Under the Barr Labor government these workers can be confident that their jobs will never be cut, sold off or outsourced, unlike what we see from Liberal governments in other jurisdictions.

Since its opening last year Gungahlin's nurse-led walk-in centre has continued to provide free, high quality public health care to local people when they need it. Constituents have told me time and again that they are very happy to have a free public health care service in our region that is accessible for them and their families. As the fastest growing area in Canberra, Gungahlin relies on strong government investment in health, and I am proud this government can guarantee that we will always deliver that.

Although our government is committed to keeping essential services in public hands there is some doubt about what those opposite might do if they were elected. We know Liberal governments across the country are obsessed with privatising essential services. We have seen it in New South Wales with transport and electricity assets outsourced and sold off. We have seen it in South Australia with the recently elected Liberal government's plans to privatise Adelaide's trains and trams. We saw the former Western Australian government try to privatise Western Power, and it took the McGowan Labor government to be elected to stop this sell off.

Unfortunately, the list of Liberal privatisation agendas goes on and on, which is why it is fair to ask what the Canberra Liberals have planned if they were ever to be elected into government. As a former public servant I know how brutal a Liberal government can be in slashing the public service; I have spoken in the Assembly before about how my job was cut overnight under the Abbott government.

I have previously shared stories from public servants and the Community Public Sector Union about the experiences they have faced with cuts and outsourcing from the Liberals. Earlier this year, just two days before the May federal election, we heard the coalition government announce their plans to cut \$1.5 billion from the public service. These plans will see thousands of jobs lost to private contractors and consultants. This is another sign that the Liberals and Nationals are obsessed with privatising public services instead of investing in them and the people who work to deliver them.

In contrast to this dangerous obsession with privatisation and sell-offs, this Labor government values the essential services that support the life of our city. In the ACT our essential services are owned by the public for the public. Our Chief Minister has made the guarantee to Canberrans that a Labor government will always keep these services in public hands.

We will continue to invest in our buses and light rail. We will continue to invest in the city services that keep our city clean. We will continue to invest in and protect CIT now and into the future. Ultimately we are the only party of government in this city that values the importance of our essential services. I stand by ACT Labor's guarantee, and people in my electorate can be assured that I will always fight any plans the opposition or anyone else may put forward to sell off our services.

MR COE (Yerrabi—Leader of the Opposition) (3.39): The Canberra Liberals of course believe that it is absolutely vital that essential services are in public hands and are delivered well. I am not exactly sure of the genesis of this particular attack on the Canberra Liberals. I know there are some discussions taking place in the Labor Party, but what relevance or application that has for the Canberra Liberals is beyond me.

There is a bit of a hypocrisy with regard to what is being put forward today from the government that in the past year outsourced hundreds of operations to John James Hospital. This is the government that frequently outsources training to unions rather than CIT or in-house providers. This is a government that has used its own development agencies, particularly the former LDA and the SLA, to gouge Canberrans whilst it has been private operators, especially in Googong and the Village Building Company, that have provided much cheaper products than ACT government entities.

Of course it is the same government led by Andrew Barr who said that privatising or licensing ACTION was up for consideration. You can see that clearly in the transcript of a hearing in December 2014. Mr Rattenbury was the transport minister at the time and I put it to him that the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr had said this about the future of ACTION:

We are contemplating significant change in relation to ACTION buses as part of our overhaul of public transport.

When I asked the Chief Minister whether he meant licensing or privatising he responded:

That is under some consideration, yes.

The only people talking about privatising ACTION buses is the Australian Labor Party ACT branch and the Chief Minister.

This is the government that also opted for a PPP model for light rail with an embedded finance rate of about six per cent rather than borrowing at more like 2 or 2½ per cent and taking control of it right away. Why were they so desperate to get an international consortium to run the light rail for 20 years? How is that possibly consistent with the matter of public importance we have today: the importance of essential services remaining in public hands. Why are they going for a PPP model with the courts if they believe essential services should remain in public hands? Is light rail not an essential service? Is the Supreme Court not an essential service? Are operations in our public health system not essential? Is training in WH&S and other services not essential?

There is real hypocrisy here. It is all very well for those opposite to grandstand at their Labor Party conference but they cannot come in here and say that it is the fault of the Liberals. Have a look at your own cabinet. The backbench in this Assembly is disinclined to hold their own cabinet to account. They would rather throw grenades at the Liberals about outsourcing rather than hold their own cabinet to account.

Why is it that so many operations were outsourced to John James Hospital and not done at TCH? They were public patients done at Calvary John James. Why is it that so much training is outsourced to the unions rather than being done at CIT? Why is it that we have PPPs for light rail and the courts when they could easily have been traditional construction contracts then taking over the management?

There are all sorts of inconsistencies with this argument. If those opposite are serious about this they will rule out any more PPPs, particularly those that include operation. They will also hold their own Chief Minister to account for what he said in December of 2014, that they are contemplating significant change in relation to ACTION buses as part of an overhaul of public transport. I asked if he meant licensing or privatising, and he said that is under some consideration. The problems are much closer to home.

MS BERRY (Ginninderra—Deputy Chief Minister, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Sport and Recreation and Minister for Women) (3.46): I thank Mr Pettersson for bringing forward this important debate today. It is a matter of significant importance to the people of Canberra because all Canberrans in some way rely on the essential services that our government provides. It is vital that these services remain in public hands because public services are there for the benefit of Canberrans.

Globally there are many examples of what happens when essential public services are sold off or contracted out and where the people reliant on those services are worse off. The government knows this and remains committed to helping keep essential services in public hands.

In the key areas of health, education, transport, housing, emergency services and government administration, the government has shown its commitment to directly providing and raising the standard of services available to the ACT community. We are showing our commitment by investing billions of dollars in those essential services.

In my portfolio responsibilities you can see the government's commitment. For example, the \$100 million renewal of public housing will see 200 additional properties become available to members of our community who need help to secure a home. Some 1,000 properties will be redeveloped so these people can have the dignity of a modern, comfortable place to live. This builds on the 1,288 homes that have already been built and renewed over the previous renewal program. This is the single largest per capita investment in public housing in the country. By contrast, other Australian governments have sold off public housing.

Equally, in education the ACT government has dedicated hundreds of millions of dollars to building new schools and upgrading existing schools so that every Canberra family can have access to a great local public school. The ACT community is responding. Since 2010 ACT public schools have grown from 38,853 students enrolled to 49,150 students. That is more than a 26 per cent increase in the number students attending ACT public schools over the past four years. The average growth has been around 3.5 per cent.

These essential services and facilities are provided for the benefit of our community and are owned by the ACT community through the government for this purpose. When essential services are sold off to private hands, other motives can overtake their primary purpose of providing benefit to people.

The government has also shown its commitment to ensuring that the dedicated people providing essential services are valued and respected. As members know, with the support of my colleagues I have decided that from the beginning of 2020 the government will directly employ a cleaning workforce to clean government schools. It is a rare thing for a government to in-source a workforce, but that is exactly what this government has done.

People fulfilling this often undervalued role are often loved by the school communities they work in. Members may have read in the newspaper the story of Karen Love at Macquarie Primary School, who has become such an important part of the school community. Just as everyone else does, she goes along for the staff Christmas parties, joins in baby showers, and attends student formals.

Alongside this, as members may have noted in the media today, the government has shown its commitment to valuing and respecting the teaching workforce in public schools through the outcomes of bargaining for a new teaching staff enterprise agreement. The ACT government wants to make sure that teachers are paid appropriately in recognition of their critical work and are given time to plan and continue their professional learning around their face-to-face teaching work.

I also want to acknowledge that these decisions come about because the government supports the role of unions as a collective movement of working people. In both of those examples it was the relevant unions—United Voice and the Australian Education Union—that took the government forward to address these issues.

I also want to acknowledge the dedicated people who work as public servants in government administration in all my portfolio areas. I acknowledge their union—the Community and Public Sector Union—which has been a tireless advocate for keeping public services in public hands.

The ACT community can have confidence in what they can expect from the Labor government. It is clear in our record that essential services will remain in public hands. We will not let services fall behind by cutting the essential workers who deliver them, and we will value and respect these workers, including through their pay and working conditions.

Discussion concluded.

Adjournment

Motion (by **Ms Berry**) proposed:

That the Assembly do now adjourn.

Assembly—work experience

MS ORR (Yerrabi) (3.52): A few weeks ago I received an email from Rohan, a year 7 student at Kaleen high school. Rohan had recently participated in an interschool parliamentary debate that I had presided over here at the Assembly. After the debate, Rohan was keen to find more ways he could get involved in territory politics. He emailed me and asked me how he could get more involved in politics, given he was only 13 years old.

I was quite struck by the interest and initiative that Rohan had shown; so I asked him if he would like to get a behind the scenes view of ACT politics by coming into my office for a day during his school holidays. As you can probably imagine, Rohan was very keen and took up the offer. While spending the day in my office, Rohan got to experience a range of activities that gave him a broad overview of the kind of work we do here at the Assembly.

One of those activities was giving speechwriting a go. In just one hour, Rohan put together a polished speech. He even read it to me, the staff in my office and his mum at the end of the day. The topic of Rohan's speech was his experience and what he had learned. Rather than tell you about it, I would like to let Rohan and his wonderful speech speak for itself.

In Rohan's own words:

On the 24th of May I did a year 7/8 students debate at the Legislative Assembly, my team did two debates.

In our first debate we were discussing whether or not we should privatise the ABC.

My team was debating that the ABC should be privatised which is where I learnt a valuable lesson about the importance of having an opposition and the importance of challenging things even if you agree with them.

We lost our debate as we had trouble communicating our ideas and stopping our speeches from contradicting each other.

In our second debate we were arguing against gender quotas in parliament.

In this debate my team won because we were just asking questions meaning we didn't have to prove our side, we just had to disprove theirs.

Their argument fell apart rather quickly which is why we won.

After I did the debating, I decided to reach out to Suzanne Orr's office and ask how I could volunteer as a 13-year-old. They replied by inviting me in for a half day in her office and including me in her volunteer team, however due to my shyness and anxiety I haven't done any volunteering yet.

On the 17th of July I went into Suzanne Orr's office for a half day.

The day started with everyone showing me what they do and a team meeting.

I understood almost nothing in the team meeting.

After the Team Meeting, I was asked to come up with a list of 10 suggestions for avoiding plastic during Plastic Free July.

After about an hour and four suggestions down I was taken on a tour by the education officer.

We started the tour in the ministerial wing where we looked at the Nara room which I learnt is one of the cities that Canberra is twinned with.

We finished walking through the ministerial wing looking at all the artwork along the way. After this we went down to the opposition wing and looked through there.

On leaving the opposition wing, we went downstairs into the chamber where I learnt that the Legislative Assembly has a press gallery. I discovered what's behind all the black windows, what the buttons on the desks do and what the job of the clerk is.

After this we went into the committee rooms where I learnt what committees do.

We finished the tour and went back to Suzanne Orr's office where I worked on further suggestions for Plastic Free July. After lunch I finished up the list of suggestions for Plastic Free July and began working on a speech about what I learnt which took me to the end of the half-day.

Madam Assistant Speaker, as you can probably tell from Rohan's own words, he is quite an accomplished young man, willing to put himself forward and step up to opportunities. I must say that I was very impressed by his enthusiasm and inspired to see his keen interest in local politics, especially at such a young age. I have no doubt that we will see great things from Rohan in the future. I wish him all the best in his community involvement.

Multicultural affairs—migration

MRS KIKKERT (Ginninderra) (3.55): My good friend Kanti Jinna likes to share a legend regarding the arrival of Zoroastrian migrants in India. Experiencing religious persecution in their homelands, they determined to find somewhere they could practise their faith in peace. They had heard of a certain king named Jadi Rana who ruled in what is now the Indian state of Gujarat, specifically that he was a fair and just man.

According to the legend, when the migrants from Persia arrived with their foreign faith and foreign language, King Jadi Rana used a vessel of milk to point out to them that his kingdom was full and did not need any newcomers. In response, the Zoroastrian priests took the vessel of milk, carefully added a spoonful of sugar, stirred until it dissolved, and handed the now sweetened milk back to the king. Jadi Rana got the message and extended his welcome to the migrants. Kanti, who was born and raised in Fiji, has said, "I see our roles here as migrants to be the proverbial sugar that can enhance the quality of life. Not only will we be happier, but the country will be richer too."

I like this comparison and I thought of it today as I prepared to speak a few simple words of congratulations to another Canberran whom I am blessed to call my friend. Dr Krishna Nadimpalli was born in a small village in India that had no electricity, no roads and no schooling past year 5. But Krishna quietly put his head down, walked each day to a neighbouring village and became the first person in Gummampadu to complete his year 10. That was not the end of his education, however. Krishna went on to earn a bachelor's degree in geology, two master's degrees and finally a PhD in geoscience.

In 2000, he moved to Australia to work as an environmental scientist at the University of Canberra. He has laboured tirelessly for the past 19 years not only in his career but also as a volunteer serving the Indian, Hindu, multicultural and multifaith communities. He founded Canberra's Telugu school and currently serves as chair of the Hindu Mandir. He has also been involved in the introduction of the Art of Living Foundation's program to help rehabilitate those in Canberra's jail.

I rise today to congratulate Krishna for being awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia earlier this year. He is clear evidence that so many migrants who join us here in the nation's capital really are like the spoonful of sugar in milk, enriching our entire community. I know Krishna well. I therefore know that in his humility he would wave aside my congratulations. In fact, regarding his OAM, he has said, "It actually inspires me to do more. I have decided to retire and devote my life to

community service.” We here in Canberra are lucky to such men and women as neighbours.

I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Kanti, who is the source of the legend I shared a few moments ago. He too was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia, though this honour came to him last year. Kanti has aggressively sought education throughout his lifetime, studying in Fiji, New Zealand, the UK and Australia. But his contributions go far beyond his career. For 10 years now he has served as the vice-chairman of the Hindu Council of Australia and he co-founded Canberra’s Hindu Temple & Cultural Centre. Other endeavours of his range from a neurosurgical project in Fiji to working here at home to improve aged care services for culturally and linguistically diverse Australians.

Like Krishna, Kanti is gentle man who would shy away from receiving such attention. But I feel it is important to acknowledge publicly the achievements of both of these men. They and their families are representative of so many in our multicultural community who bring their intelligence, wisdom, passion and generosity to help to make Canberra a sweeter place to live for all of us.

Employment—wages

MS CODY (Murrumbidgee) (4.00): I rise today saddened and upset but, unfortunately, not shocked. Wage theft in this country, and in this city, is not improving. It is a sad state of affairs.

This week, I had the utmost pleasure of meeting an extremely brave and passionate woman, Siobhan. Siobhan, like most other young people, went out into the world looking for her dream first job working with horses, something she had always wanted to do. She had been riding since she was 10 years old. Siobhan started in her job excited, ambitious and thrilled to be doing a job that she loved to do. It was soon very obvious to poor Siobhan that the wages that she was expecting to receive were nowhere near what she did receive.

Siobhan is very lucky. Siobhan has loving parents. I know Michelle, her mother, very well. They insisted that Siobhan be a member of her union. Thankfully, her union, United Voice, were keen to assist in any way possible. Today I stand here to say “Well done” to both Siobhan and United Voice. Siobhan was not afraid to say to her employer, “You are not paying me my award wages. You are not paying me my superannuation.” And unfortunately, being injured in the workplace, Siobhan was not covered by workers compensation.

I am highlighting Siobhan’s case because I spoke to her on Tuesday and again last night. It was clear that Siobhan is an exceptional young woman and a woman that we should all be taking our hats off to. Unfortunately, there are many other young workers—across Australia and right here in Canberra—whose employers are not taking care of them, are not looking after them and are definitely not paying them what they are worth.

We have heard on the news that there have been big television stars that have these great big cases that have also ripped off their workers, to the tune of millions of dollars. It is not on. In this day and age we should not take a backward step when it comes to wage theft. We should not be helping, celebrating or even accepting that as a norm. We should be fighting; we should be standing; we should be stopping and stomping out wage theft.

As many people have heard in this chamber before, I was a small business owner. I ran a small hairdressing salon and a small courier business. If there is one thing that I learnt from those businesses it is that you should pay your employees what you would deem fit for yourself. It is your employees who make your small business. They are the backbone of what you do and it is them that an employer should be celebrating.

Again, I commend Siobhan for her bravery, for standing up, for taking this case forward and for getting her union involved to fight for her rights. I thank Siobhan for being very brave and continuing the fight for young workers here in Canberra.

Austin Lynch—tribute

MS STEPHEN-SMITH (Kurrajong—Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Minister for Disability, Minister for Employment and Workplace Safety, Minister for Health, Minister for Urban Renewal) (4.05): I rise to pay tribute to Austin James Lynch, who passed away on 2 July. Austin was a Narrabundah community activist, historian and loved community member.

Austin was passionate about Canberra's inner south. He loved its history and its community. A keen amateur historian, Austin shared and celebrated the inner south's history. His passion for the history of Narrabundah and Canberra's inner south is chronicled on the Old Narrabundah Community Council website, particularly through carefully curated historical images he maintained on the site. I would encourage everyone to visit the site to see how the page captures the history of the local area and community.

Over the years, Austin campaigned to preserve what makes Narrabundah a distinctive suburb and community. He championed the area's distinctive duplexes, the Capital golf course, and local Manuka Oval as a boutique sporting ground. He served on the board of Old Narrabundah Community Council for many years, and I am sure the loss of his experience and passion will be greatly felt by them.

Austin was a driving force behind the annual Narrabundah Festival. I am sure all members for Kurrajong will agree with me in saying that the festival is a highlight of our year in the community. They probably share my own experience of Austin strongly encouraging our participation in this much-loved event. It is a brilliant way to connect with the community and to celebrate Narrabundah and its diverse community.

Strong communities do not just happen; they need people like Austin to do the hard yards. Marea Fatseas, the Chair of the Inner South Canberra Community Council,

who worked alongside Austin for many years, shared that it is “hard to believe that I can no longer just pick up the phone and give him a call to sound him out for his perspectives on issues with which we have been engaged over the years”. This shows just how engaged Austin was in the community, how committed he was to advocating for its best interests and how valued his advice had become.

As a member for Kurrajong, I have had the privilege of experiencing Austin’s passion and dedication in action. He was a committed member of the Old Narrabundah Community Council and a fierce advocate for his community and local heritage. He was one of the first people I met when campaigning at Narrabundah shops during the 2016 campaign. I am pretty sure the topic of the day was solar access, but it was not long before the local passion for old Narrabundah came to the fore.

Austin’s tireless advocacy for his community will be missed. I offer my condolences to his family and friends.

Waste—recycling

MS CHEYNE (Ginninderra) (4.08): Continuing our theme of recycling and rubbish this week, as you know, Canberrans are some of the most enthusiastic recyclers in Australia and the ACT government proudly aims to make recycling as simple and as easy as possible. Unlike many other jurisdictions, in Canberra we recycle coffee cups and pizza boxes and we do not have to worry about rinsing our plastic bottles out before recycling. But there are still some items that we are not able to recycle in our yellow-lidded bins. People are often disappointed to learn that plastic bottle caps are not recyclable and that most end up in landfill.

One remarkable Canberran is changing that. Tim Miller and his family are responsible for the famous Aranda Street Library. Their street library is home to a wheelie bin where you can donate recyclable bottles and cans under our container deposit scheme. The money raised goes to the Holden Rally Team charity, aiding sick and disadvantaged kids. Through their fundraising efforts, Tim and his family found they had collected hundreds of lids which, as we know, cannot be recycled. And they did not know what to do with them. They knew they did not want them to end up in landfill but they needed to find someone who had a use for so many bottle caps.

Searching online, they discovered Envision Hands, a company in Victoria which turns the lids into prosthetic hands for children with a disability. As well as being a fantastic way to repurpose the lids, the company also provides jobs to disadvantaged people who create the 3D-printed prosthetics. With the help of his boys, Tim has created Lids4Kids. Lids4Kids collects plastic bottle caps and delivers them to Envision Hands. Just two days after creating a Facebook page, Lids4Kids had already signed up 11 collection points across Canberra.

Then it happened to go just a little viral! Today, just over six weeks later, Lids4Kids has more than 2,500 collection points spread across every state and territory in Australia. There are about 500 Lids4Kids collection points in the ACT. You can find your nearest one by going to the Holden Rally Team Lids4Kids Facebook page.

For those of us who are here in the Assembly, I am really pleased to let you know that my office is your nearest collection point. I encourage everyone in this place to save their bottle caps from landfill and have them turned into a prosthetic for a child in need. But if you can, please rinse them before you drop them off. It saves someone else a bit of work down the track.

You can also drop off the clips or the tags from your bread bags to me or to one of the many points across the city. These are going to an Adelaide-based not-for-profit called Aussie Bread Tags for Wheelchairs.

As well as donating your lids and tags, I encourage you to consider donating to Envision Hands via its GoFundMe page. The initiative has been so popular that the organisation has already surpassed the 2019 target of collecting one million bottle caps and they want to create as many prosthetic hands as possible. Funds raised will be used to purchase equipment needed to keep turning these lids into limbs.

Tim Miller is a remarkable Canberran and Belconnen resident who was already well known for making a remarkable contribution to his communities. Canberrans, especially Ginninderra residents, can be very proud of their neighbour.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

The Assembly adjourned at 4.12 pm until Tuesday, 13 August 2019, at 10 am.

Schedule of amendments

Schedule 1

Planning and Development (Design Review Panel) Amendment Bill 2019

Amendments moved by the Minister for Planning and Land Management

1

Clause 21

Proposed new section 20B (1) and (2)

Page 11, line 6—

omit proposed new section 20B (1) and (2), substitute

A development proposal for a building with 5 or more storeys is prescribed.

2

Clause 22

Page 12, line 6—

[oppose the clause]

3

Clause 23

Page 12, line 10—

[oppose the clause]

Answers to questions

Government—commonwealth grant funding (Question No 2356)

Mr Wall asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 22 March 2019:

- (1) Can the Treasurer provide details of any projects and programs where Commonwealth Grant funding was applied for by the ACT Government in (a) 2015-16, (b) 2016-17, (c) 2017-18.
- (2) What was the total funding received, by project or program for successful funding applications outlined in part (1).
- (3) What is the total expenditure to date on projects and programs identified in part (1).
- (4) Can the Treasurer provide details of outcomes, KPI's and/or reviews required by the Commonwealth Government on projects and programs identified in part (1).

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

- (1) to (4) Table 1 below outlines which ACT Government projects and programs applied for and received Commonwealth Grant funding in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 by Directorate, and also includes detail on the: level of funding received and expenditure to date for each grant; and the outcomes, key performance indicators (KPIs), and/or reporting required by the Commonwealth Government for these programs and projects.

Table 1: Programs/projects which received Commonwealth Grant funding in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
ACT Health		
<i>Encouraging More Clinical Trials Agreement</i> Funding under this agreement is aimed at supporting the streamlining of clinical trial operations.	This agreement includes funding of \$715,000 over four years from 2017-18. There has been no expenditure to date as the Office of Research is awaiting the execution of a collaboration agreement.	Project deliverables include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical algorithm and the development of clinical trials management system; • Beta testing using active clinical trials; and • National Aggregate Statistics reporting through data extraction.
Canberra Health Services		
<i>Radiation Diagnostics and Therapy Workforce Programme</i> All funds contributed to employment and provision of specialist training for trainees in the medical physics workforce.	This program received funding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$29,500 in 2015-16; • \$147,500 in 2016-17; and • \$206,500 in 2017-18. This funding was fully expended.	Successful completion of training and attainment of certification in medical physics specialty areas. This funding was subject to biannual reporting on performance of training and trainees.
<i>Aged Care Assessment Program (ACAP)</i>	The ACAP received Commonwealth funding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.249 million in 2015-16; • \$1.349 million in 2016-17; and • \$1.378 million in 2017-18. This funding was fully expended.	KPIs are reported quarterly to the Commonwealth who set the KPIs. They are not published.

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
<i>Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)</i>	<p>The CHSP received Commonwealth funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2.717 million in 2015-16; \$2.758 million in 2016-17; and \$2.793 million in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>Activity Performance Indicators are determined by the Commonwealth and monitored on a quarterly basis. They are not published.</p> <p>CHS's CHSP Services are required to undergo a three-yearly accreditation survey, conducted by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency, which ensures the services' processes and practices are meeting the Home Care Common Standards.</p>
<p><i>Rural Junior Doctor Training Innovation Fund (RJDTIF)</i></p> <p>The RJDTIF supports rural primary care rotations for rurally based medical interns.</p>	<p>The funding for this program is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017-18: \$133,651; 2018-19: \$134,29.; and 2019-20: \$129,802. <p>The expenditure to date on this program is \$200,801.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth requires one annual report and one performance report each year. There will also be a final report required at the conclusion of the program. Submission of each performance/annual report triggers the release of a scheduled payments under the RJDTIF agreement.</p>
Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT)		
<p><i>Vocational Education and Training (VET) Outbound Mobility funding – Australian Government Endeavour Grants Scheme</i></p> <p>This grant is awarded on a calendar year basis and provides funding of \$2,000 per person (\$2,500 per person from 2017-18 for non-Asian countries) towards the cost of international travel, accommodation and programs activities to provide a 'hands on' cultural learning experience and broader understanding of how their industry works from a global perspective.</p>	<p>CIT received funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$105,000 in 2015 (fully expended); \$209,000 in 2016 (\$189,000 expended and \$20,000 returned to the Commonwealth); \$174,000 in 2017 (fully expended); and \$170,000 in 2018 (fully expended). 	<p>Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant programs and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Outbound Mobility funding, this includes showing that funding had been spent on providing the international travel experience for each student.
<p><i>Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia-India Council Grant Round: for an Advanced Fingerprinting workshop delivered in India in 2016. Australian-Arab Relations Grant Round: for VET Leader Workshops delivered to a Tunisia contingent in Canberra in 2017. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia-India Council Grant Round: \$28,315.46; and Australian-Arab Relations Grant Round: \$36,710. 	<p>Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant programs and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.</p>
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD)		
<p><i>Project Agreement to the Tourism Demand-Driven Infrastructure (TDDI)</i></p> <p>The ACT Government administered the Commonwealth Government's TDDI, which funded a number of infrastructure projects that demonstrated the ability to contribute to the Commonwealth's <i>Tourism 2020</i> outcomes. Details on the individual projects to be delivered using this funding can be found at Schedule A to the Project Agreement.</p>	<p>Funding for these programs was provided, comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$775,025 for TDDI and \$46,750 for DVS in 2015-16; \$602,150 for TDDI and \$46,750 for DRTR in 2016-17; and \$947,875 TDDI in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>Progress reports were provided to the Commonwealth to demonstrate that the projects funded under these programs were being completed.</p>

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
<p><i>Destination Relevant Tourism Research (DRTR) (previously Destination Visitor Surveys (DVS))</i></p> <p>The ACT Government also facilitated DRTR, which provided tourism research to support business decision making. The program was funded and facilitated through Tourism Research Australia.</p>		
<p><i>Indigenous Advancement Strategy</i></p> <p>Funding was applied for in 2014-15 for activities with a focus on sports support/delivery.</p>	<p>Initial funding of \$264,396 was received in 2015-16 for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small Grants (\$50,000); • Partnered Programs (\$105,000); • a guiding strategy for Boomanulla Oval (\$84,396 – fully expended); and • a community activity research report (\$25,000 – fully expended). <p>Small Grants and Partnered Programs received subsequent additional funding in 2016-17 (\$155,000) and 2017-18 (\$177,000).</p> <p>For Partnered Programs, \$258,181 has been expended on 18 projects. A small amount of residual funding for this was transitioned to Small Grants.</p> <p>Approximately \$144,000 in Small Grants remained unspent (as at 1 July 2018), with individual participation support opportunities continuing through 2018-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boomanulla Oval – a site conditions report was funded, with support also provided to Winnunga to assist in the development of a Strategic Plan for the Oval in response to an Expression of Interest process. • Research report – completed work with the Australian Sports Commission in relation to ACT Indigenous qualitative study on participation barriers. ORC was engaged to undertake this project with the report presented to the sector in December 2017. • Partnered Programs – 18 sport and recreation participation programs supported with organisations as varied as Outward Bound, AFL NSW/ACT, Tedd Noffs Foundation and Netball ACT. • Small Grants – To 30 June 2018, 518 individuals from across the ACT and immediate region had received direct participation support to assist in covering participation fees.
Community Services Directorate (CSD)		
<p><i>Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)</i></p> <p>The AEDC collects data on early childhood development at the time the children commence their first year of full time schooling.</p>	<p>CSD received funding of \$586,000 in 2017-18 to spend over three years on the AEDC.</p> <p>The expenditure on the AEDC to February 2019 is \$255,000.</p>	<p>The outcome of this funding is the successful administration of the AEDC instrument in all ACT schools across the public, independent and Catholic sectors every three years.</p>
Education Directorate		
<p><i>Digital Literacy School Grant</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50,000 in 2016-17; and • \$50,000 in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>A completion report was submitted to the Commonwealth detailing achievements under the grant program.</p>

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
<p><i>Indigenous Advancement Strategy</i></p> <p>Funds were used to employ and Early Years Engagement Officer (EYEO) in an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified position. The role of the EYEO was to support the participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (birth to five years) in education services.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$70,000 in 2015-16; \$70,000 in 2016-17; and \$35,000 in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>Employment of an EYEO to enhance parental engagement, facilitate improved participation and improve school readiness at five Koori Preschools.</p>
<p><i>Residence Determination Program</i></p> <p>The funding given to schools is used to directly support students to attain positive educational outcomes and achieve their goals and aspirations. Decisions about how the funding is used are made at the school level.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$550,000 in 2015-16; \$336,000 in 2016-17; and \$304,000 in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth Department of Home Affairs does not require accountability for the use of these funds by schools.</p>
<p><i>Defence School Transition Aide (DSTA) Program</i></p> <p>The funding is given directly to schools for support of Defence students and their families to minimise the impact of mobility on education. Decisions about how the funding is used are made at the school level.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$338,000 in 2015-16; \$303,000 in 2016-17; and \$289,000 in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>The Department of Defence requires schools to submit financial compliance reports and a program delivery evaluation.</p>
<i>Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD)</i>		
<p><i>National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Natural Disaster Resilience</i></p> <p>The Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) administers the Commonwealth funding received under this NPA. EPSDD successfully applied to JACS for funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$104,047 on 4 April 2016 for implementation of the ACT's Liquid Fuel Emergency Policy Framework; and \$140,000 on 25 July 2017 for the implementation of the Climate Change Risk Assessment. 	<p>Funding of \$104,047 was provided to implement the ACT's Liquid Fuel Emergency Policy Framework, and was fully acquitted in June 2018.</p> <p>Funding of \$140,000 was provided to develop the Climate Change Risk Assessment Tool, and has been acquitted.</p>	<p>JACS provides the Commonwealth with a high level report advising on the outcomes and acquittals of all ACT projects.</p>
<p><i>Threatened Species Program</i></p> <p>In 2015-16, EPSDD successfully applied for funding of \$600,000 to contribute to the expansion of Mulligan's Flat Woodland Sanctuary by 768 hectares, with an additional 11.5 kilometres of predator-proof fencing.</p>	<p>The funding of \$600,000 was fully expended.</p>	<p>The project met the KPIs by providing an additional 14.8 kilometres of fencing (as compared to a KPI of 11.5km), covering 801 hectares (as compared to 768 ha).</p>
<p><i>Established Pest Animals and Weeds</i></p> <p>This relates to funding provided under the Intergovernmental <i>Project Agreement for managing established pest animals and weeds</i>.</p>	<p>Commonwealth funding under this agreement comprised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$32,000 in 2015-16 (which has been fully expended); \$21,000 in 2016-17 (which has been fully expended); and \$42,000 in 2017-18 (of which \$11,432 has been expended). 	<p>To report to the Commonwealth on progress against the milestones under Schedule G to the Project Agreement.</p>

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
<p><i>National Plant Health Surveillance Program</i></p> <p>EPSDD received funding of \$27,000 in 2017-18 for the delivery of the 2018-19 National Plant Health Surveillance Program. The purpose of the grant is to enable detection of exotic pest species that may enter and establish themselves in the ACT.</p>	<p>EPSDD has expended \$21,000 of this funding to date.</p>	<p>To report to the Commonwealth regarding the status of exotic pest species in the ACT.</p>
<i>Justice and Community Safety Directorate</i>		
<p><i>National Partnership on Provision of Fire Services</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.114 million in 2015-16; • \$5.293 million in 2016-17; and • \$4.982 million in 2017-18. <p>This was fully expended.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><i>National Bushfire Mitigation Programme</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$300,000 in 2015-16 and • \$604,000 in 2016-17. <p>This was fully expended.</p>	<p>Acquittals provided to the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department.</p>
<p><i>Countering Violent Extremism Steering Committee – Community Engagement Project</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of \$45,000 in 2017-18. This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>The program required a work plan with deliverables, and a Community Engagement Report.</p>
<p><i>Living Safe Together Intervention Program – Australian Capital Territory 2016 18</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$179,000 in 2016-17; and • \$180,000 in 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>This program required forward works plans, funding agreements, quarterly reporting and financial acquittal declarations.</p>
<p><i>Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee Drill Style Exercise Program</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$90,000 in 2015-16; and • \$160,000 per annum in 2016-17 and 2017-18. <p>This funding was fully expended.</p>	<p>This program required final acquittals being provided to the Commonwealth.</p>
<p><i>National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience</i></p>	<p>The Commonwealth funding under this agreement comprised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.406 million in 2015-16; • \$1.595 million in 2016-17; and • \$1.441 million in 2017-18. <p>Expenditure on this program was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$992,000 in 2015-16; • \$1.147 million in 2016-17; and • \$2.238 million in 2017-18. <p>The difference between funding and expenditure is due to the timing of Commonwealth payments.</p> <p>Note: This funding/expenditure is inclusive of the amounts reported by EPSDD for this agreement further above in the table.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth required a Milestone Report and Financial Acquittal for this agreement.</p>

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS)		
<i>Blackspots Program</i>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.3 million in 2015-16 • \$1.4 million in 2016-17; and • \$1.8 million in 2017-18 <p>Of this funding, \$6.4 million was expended over the period 2015-16 to 2017-18.</p> <p>Note: Expenditure exceeds funding due to re-profiling of funding provided prior to 2015-16.</p>	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>Interstate Road Transport</i>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$0.4 million in 2015-16; • \$0.3 million in 2016-17; and • \$0.4 million in 2017-18 <p>Of this funding, \$1.1 million was expended during the period 2015-16 to 2017-18.</p>	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: National Network Maintenance</i>	The Commonwealth provided \$2.2 million of funding over the period 2015-16 to 2017-18, with \$1.9 million of this expended over the same period.	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: Majura Parkway</i>	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of \$6.9 million in 2015—16, with \$32.3 million expended on this project from 2015-16 to 2017-18.</p> <p>Note: Expenditure exceeds funding due to re-profiling of Commonwealth funding provided prior to 2015-16.</p>	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: Bridges Renewal Program – Round 1</i>	The Commonwealth provided \$492,000 of funding in 2015-16, all of which has been expended.	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: Bridges Renewal Program – Round 2</i>	Funding of \$1.0 million was provided for this agreement in 2016-17, all of which has been expended.	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: Off Network – Roads – Technology – ACT Travel Time Information</i>	The Commonwealth provided \$0.3 million over two years (2015 16 and 2016-17). All of this funding was expended over the period 2015 16 to 2017-18.	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
<i>National Projects: National Highway Upgrade Program – Federal Highway Truck Lay-bys</i>	The Commonwealth provided funding of \$3.2 million for this project in 2015-16, all of which has been expended.	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.

Commonwealth Grant Details	Funding/expenditure to date	Outcomes/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)/Reporting
Roads to Recovery	<p>The Commonwealth provided funding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$17.1 million in 2015-16; \$14.5 million in 2016-17; and \$6.1 million in 2017-18. <p>Of this funding, \$35.4 million was expended during the period 2015-16 to 2017-18.</p>	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.
Heavy Vehicle Monitoring System Project	<p>The Commonwealth provided \$0.3 million of funding in 2017-18, of which \$0.1 million was expended in 2017-18.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2018-19 an additional \$196,000 has been expended on this project. 	Acquittal of all expenditure under the grant program and evidence the funds have been spent appropriately.

Canberra Hospital—operating theatres (Question No 2371)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 22 March 2019:

- (1) In relation to the answer given at part (2)(f) of question on notice No 1920, and noting that The Canberra Hospital's operating theatres, as stated in the answer, are "planned to facilitate an average of two 4 hours sessions of surgery each [week]day" (except on public holidays, and excluding utilisation for emergency surgery outside of these sessions), referred to in this question as "normal business hours"; during 2018, on average per operating theatre, how many hours (a) each day were theatres typically closed for maintenance, cleaning or other non-surgical functions or activities, (b) per day outside "normal business hours" were theatres used for emergency surgery and (c) how many hours per day were theatres closed to any activity of any kind.
- (2) What assessment has the Government made as to the capacity of operating theatres to be available for non-emergency surgery beyond "normal business hours".
- (3) What was the result of the assessment as referred to in part (2).
- (4) What assessment has the Government made as to the feasibility of surgeons and surgical staff to enable operating theatres to be available for non-emergency surgery beyond "normal business hours".
- (5) What was the result of the assessment as referred to in part (4).

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

- (1) (a) In 2018, theatres were closed an average of 16 minutes per day per theatre for maintenance. There were no other closures, noting that the time required for cleaning theatres is taken into account in the normal course of business.
- (b) In 2018, an average of 1 hour and 20 minutes per theatre per day of emergency surgery was performed outside of normal business hours.

- (c) See response to question 1 (a).
- (2) Canberra Health Services (CHS) has adopted the advice of the United Kingdom (UK) National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (NCEPOD), which highlighted that operating elective theatres out of hours is not safe for patient care unless all the services the hospital provides are also available out of hours. Theatres can be opened outside normal business hours if they have been resourced appropriately to provide care across the patient journey continuum.
- (3) CHS does not operate theatres for elective surgery outside of normal business hours, except in specific circumstances to achieve a focused outcome (such as a planned waiting list reduction), at which times CHS ensures appropriate resourcing to ensure safety of patients and staff.
- (4) See response to question 2.
- (5) See response to question 3.

Housing—bond loans (Question No 2412)

Ms Le Couteur asked the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) How many bond loans were issued by the ACT Government in each calendar month between July 2016 and November 2018.
- (2) How many bond loans were issued for each calendar month that data is available for since December 2018.
- (3) How many bond loans were repaid for each calendar month that data is available for since July 2016.
- (4) How many bond loans have there been that were classified as bad debts or not fully repaid for each calendar month that data is available for since July 2016.
- (5) How has the ACT Government advertised the revamped rental bond loans scheme since it was launched in December 2018.
- (6) What communication channels will be used to continue promoting the rental bond loans scheme.

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

- (1) 549 bond loans have been issued over the period. Please refer to the tables below.

2016-2017	Loans Issued	2017-2018	Loans Issued
Jul	16	Jul	15
Aug	25	Aug	18
Sep	10	Sep	29
Oct	21	Oct	14
Nov	20	Nov	24

2016-2017	Loans Issued	2017-2018	Loans Issued		2018-2019	Loans Issued
Dec	15	Dec	12		Jul	15
Jan	25	Jan	15		Aug	18
Feb	28	Feb	15		Sep	9
Mar	21	Mar	17		Oct	24
Apr	21	Apr	18		Nov	13
May	30	May	20			79
Jun	21	Jun	20			
Jun YTD	253	Jun YTD	217			

(2) 166 bond loans have been issued over the period. Please refer to table below:

2018-2019	Loans Issued
Dec	23
Jan	29
Feb	53
Mar	61
	166

(3) 495 bond loans have been fully repaid over the period. Please refer to tables below:

2016-2017	Loans Discharged	2017-2018	Loans Discharged		2018-2019	Loans Discharged
Jul	21	Jul	18		Jul	18
Aug	16	Aug	16		Aug	16
Sep	24	Sep	11		Sep	13
Oct	18	Oct	11		Oct	12
Nov	18	Nov	22		Nov	1
Dec	17	Dec	20		Dec	5
Jan	20	Jan	13		Jan	2
Feb	24	Feb	7		Feb	11
Mar	27	Mar	24		Mar	22
Apr	11	Apr	12			
May	19	May	4			
Jun	12	Jun	10			
Jun YTD	227	Jun YTD	168		Mar YTD	100

(4) Since July 2016, 162 bond loans have not been fully repaid, please refer to table below.

2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019	
Jul	1	Jul	10	Jul	2
Aug	3	Aug	2	Aug	5
Sep	1	Sep	3	Sep	7
Oct	6	Oct	11	Oct	5
Nov	4	Nov	6	Nov	7
Dec	8	Dec	4	Dec	4
Jan	5	Jan	1	Jan	5
Feb	6	Feb	1	Feb	2
Mar	2	Mar	4	Mar	7
Apr	8	Apr	1		
May	5	May	10		
Jun	10	Jun	6		
YTD	59	YTD	59	YTD	44

Where a scheduled payment is missed, Housing ACT continues to engage with clients where possible, through telephone calls and letters, to get them back on track.

(5) Following its launch in December 2018, the ACT Government has undertaken a range of actions to advertise and promote the new scheme to the Canberra community. In

addition to hosting information about the scheme on the Community Services Directorate site, we have:

- a. promoted the scheme (through paid advertising) on *Allhomes*;
- b. held a number of information sessions for community stakeholders in the specialist homelessness sector to promote the scheme (and the safer families assistance program); and
- c. promoted rental bond help through social media channels.

The ACT Government is also working with the real estate sector (through REIACT) to promote and educate agents about the new-look scheme; and, promotional activity will shortly commence in 'Our Canberra'.

- (6) In addition to the channels identified above (and in recognition of the scheme's important role in promoting housing affordability), discussions have also begun with the private sector to explore non-commercial options for the ongoing promotion of the scheme to ACT private renters through digital rent-seeking platforms in the future.

Canberra Hospital—assaults (Question No 2419)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) How many assaults occurred on the grounds of the Canberra Hospital (TCH) campus (not including the buildings) during (a) 2013-14, (b) 2014-15, (c) 2015-16, (d) 2016-17, (e) 2017-18 and (f) 2018-19, to the date on which this question was published in the questions on notice paper.
- (2) How many of the assaults during each of the years referred to in part (1) occurred in TCH campus car parking areas, including but not limited to the carpark on Blocks 3 and 7 Section 1 Phillip (on Yamba Dr).
- (3) Which car parking areas had assaults occur in them during each of the years in part (1).
- (4) Of the victims of the assaults for each of the years referred to in part (1), how many were (a) members of the public, (b) patients, (c) staff and (d) specialists, contractors and consultants.
- (5) For each assault that occurred in (a) 2017-18 and (b) 2018-19 to the date on which this question was published in the questions on notice paper, without revealing identities of individuals (i) what was the nature of each assault, (ii) who attended, (iii) what charges were laid; if none, why and (iv) what medical assistance and counselling support was provided to the victim.

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

Question (1) (a) – (f)

The Canberra Hospital (TCH) campus	2013- 14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Total	2	3	3	4	2	3

Question (2)

TCH campus car park areas	2013- 14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Total	1	1	0	2	1	1

Question (3)

Which car parking areas	2013- 14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
TCH – Multistorey Car park	1	0	0	0	0	0
TCH – Yamba Drive Car park	0	0	0	0	0	1
TCH – Short Term Car park (near Emergency Department)	0	0	0	2	0	0
TCH – Helipad car park	0	1	0	0	0	0
TCH – Building 7 Car park	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total	1	1	0	2	1	1

Question (4) (a) - (d)

Victims of the assaults	2013- 14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
(a) Members of the public	1	0	0	2	0	1
(b) Patient	0	1	0	0	1	0
(c) Staff	1	2	3	2*	1	2
(d) Specialists, contractors and consultants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	3	3	4	2	3

* Please note: One of these incidents involved an ACT Ambulance Officer

Question (5) (i) – (iv)

Year	(i) Nature of assault	(ii) who attended	(iii) what charges were laid; if none, why	(iv) what medical assistance and counselling support was provided to the victim.
2017-18	Patient purposely ran their wheelchair into staff member, running over the staff member's toe.	No attendance recorded.	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report. This is a matter for ACT Policing.	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report.
	Patient allegedly assaulted in car park outside building 7 by another client	TCH Security attended	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report. This is a matter for ACT Policing.	Patient encouraged to seek medical treatment but refused.
2018-19	Patient ran straight into staff member causing shoulder injury.	No attendance recorded.	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report. This is a matter for ACT Policing.	Medical treatment at Canberra Hospital.
	Staff member going to vehicle was attacked with knife by member of public.	TCH Security and wards persons attended. Police also attended and took alleged perpetrator into custody. No further information is available.	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report. This is a matter for ACT Policing.	Medical treatment at Canberra Hospital. Employee Assistance Program offered. Note – Following this incident 1 x additional security guard was provided and the courtesy bus hours were extended to safely drop staff to their car after hours.

	Patient allegedly assaulted a member of public.	No attendance recorded.	This information was not referred to or detailed in the incident report. This is a matter for ACT Policing.	Medical treatment at Canberra Hospital.
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Source = RiskMan Staff Incident Register and Riskman Clinical Incident Register from 1 July 2013 – 5 April 2019

Health—hydrotherapy (Question No 2423)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) On what date is the hydrotherapy pool at the Canberra Hospital to close.
- (2) What are the plans for use of the space created by the closure.
- (3) When will works begin to convert the space to its new use.
- (4) What other suitable, publicly-funded hydrotherapy pools are available (a) on the south side and (b) on the north side of Canberra.
- (5) What are the specifications for each publicly-funded hydrotherapy pool, including, but not limited to (a) length, (b) width, (c) depth, (d) water chemistry, (e) water temperature, (f) pool access, (g) pool equipment, (h) changing and bathroom facilities and (i) any other relevant specifications.
- (6) What are the specifications as per part (3) for the hydrotherapy pool at the Canberra Hospital.
- (7) What arrangements will be in place to ensure a seamless transition for existing pool-users to other suitable, publicly-funded hydrotherapy pool facilities.
- (8) What analysis has been made of future demand for hydrotherapy services in the ACT.
- (9) What is the capacity of existing publicly-funded hydrotherapy pools to cope with future demand.

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

- (1) The hydrotherapy pool at the Canberra Hospital will remain open for use by Arthritis ACT until an appropriate level of access at other suitable locations on the southside have been identified, subject to the life of the pool.
- (2) This space within Canberra Hospital will be repurposed to suit Canberra Health Services (CHS) operational requirements as part of campus master planning aligned to Territory wide services planning.
- (3) Subject to operational constraints and master planning, space conversion is expected in 2020.

- (4) a) The ACT Government has hydrotherapy pools at the following locations on the south side:
- Malkara Special School (Garrahan)
- b) The ACT Government has hydrotherapy pools at the following locations on the north side:
- University of Canberra Hospital (Bruce);
 - Black Mountain Special School (O'Connor);
 - Turner School (Turner); and
 - Cranleigh School (Holt).

The suitability of these pools for use by community organisations, such as Arthritis ACT, is being considered as part the work being undertaken by Nous Group.

(5)

Specifications	Canberra Hospital	University of Canberra Hospital
a.	10295mm	15000mm
b.	4990mm	6000mm
c.	1650mm	1640mm
d.	Water chemistry is maintained as per ACT Public Swimming Pool and Spa Pool Code of Practice – Part A 2005 and AS/NZ 3979-2006 Hydrotherapy Pools	Water chemistry is maintained as per ACT Public Swimming Pool and Spa Pool Code of Practice – Part A 2005 and AS/NZ 3979-2006 Hydrotherapy Pools
e.	33-34 degrees Celsius	Maintained between 30 – 36 degrees Celsius, with an optimum “thermoneutral temperature” of 33.5-35 degrees Celsius.
f.	5 steps – 1315mm wide	Pool access is via a graded ramp with handrails on the sides of the ramp
g.	Rehabilitation and hydrotherapy support equipment	Rehabilitation and hydrotherapy support equipment
h.	Change cubicles, staff bathroom, male and female bathrooms and corridor area	Changeroom and bathroom facilities are located within the hydrotherapy space at the hospital including dedicated staff, male, female and accessible facilities.
i.	Single access/egress point, underground plantroom.	The modern plantroom facilities are located on the same level the pool with contemporary access/egress infrastructure.

(6) Not applicable.

(7) This will be determined through the work being undertaken by Nous Group.

(8) Demand modelling for rehabilitation services was undertaken to inform the planning of UCH, which is a purpose-built rehabilitation hospital. The work being undertaken by Nous Group will further assist in understanding demand for community access to hydrotherapy pool facilities.

- (9) The work being undertaken by Nous Group will assist in understanding this.
-

**O'Malley—illegal parking
(Question No 2427)**

Mrs Jones asked the Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, upon notice, on 7 June 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Transport and City Services*):

- (1) What parking restrictions were initially implemented in Bulwarra Close, O'Malley, after consultation with residents.
- (2) After these parking restrictions were implemented, were they later removed or amended; if so, what (a) is the rationale for this decision and (b) consultation with residents took place.
- (3) Since the implementation of parking restrictions in Bulwarra Close, how many parking infringements have been (a) issued and (b) waived.

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

- (1) In June 2018 'No Parking' signs (at all times) were installed on the southern side of the street, after consultation with residents.
 - (2) These initial signs are still in place and have not been altered. However, amendments are being considered after further feedback from residents and waste collection companies about access and sight distance, in particular near both intersections with Terrigal Crescent. An information letter was sent to residents in April 2019, advising of additional parking restrictions on Tuesdays (waste collection day) on the northern side of the street during business hours. The installation of signs is expected to take place prior to the end of July 2019.
 - (3) (a) One.
(b) One.
-

**ACT Policing—response times
(Question No 2487)**

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) How many incidents or crimes were reported to ACT Policing during each financial year since 2015-16 to date broken down by (a) type, (b) suburb and (c) priority.
- (2) In relation to part (2), how many incidents or crimes were (a) attended by a police officer within 10 minutes, (b) attended by a police officer within 20 minutes, (c) attended by a police officer within 48 hours, (d) attended by a police officer after 48 hours or (e) attended by a police officer at all; during each financial year since 2015-16 to date broken down by (i) type, (ii) suburb and (iii) priority.

- (3) In relation to part (2), can the Minister advise why (a) priority one; (b) priority two, (c) priority three incidents or crimes, were not attended to within the target time frames.
- (4) In relation to part (2) can the Minister advise why (a) incidents or crimes were attended to by police officers after 48 hours and (b) incidents or crimes were not attended to by police officers at all, and how are these reported incidents or crimes handled by ACT Policing.
- (5) What is the (a) national benchmark and (b) ACT target for response times for each (i) type and (ii) priority of incident or crime for each financial year since 2015-16 to date.
- (6) In relation to part 5, what was the (a) minimum, (b) median, (c) average and (d) maximum amount of time it took for ACT Policing to attend reported incidents or crimes broken down by (i) type, (ii) suburb and (iii) priority each financial year since 2015-16 to date.

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

(A copy of the answer is available at the Chamber Support Office).

Education—staff welfare (Question No 2491)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) In relation to questions on notice Nos 2200-2237, for each year since 2013-14 to date what is the number of (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents reported by (i) teachers, (ii) principals, (iii) school administrative staff, (iv) support workers or aids, (v) volunteers, (vi) Education Directorate public servants and (vii) any other relevant category of person.
- (2) In relation to questions on notice Nos 2200-2237, for each year since 2013-14 to date what is the number of (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents which have been perpetrated or caused by (i) students, (ii) teachers, (iii) principals, (iv) school administrative staff, (v) support workers or aids, (vi) volunteers, (vii) Education Directorate public servants and (viii) any other relevant category of person.
- (3) In relation to questions on notice Nos 2200-2237, for each financial year since 2013-14 to date what is the number of (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents reported broken down by region.
- (4) In relation to questions on notice Nos 2200-2237, why has the number of (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents increased in the Education Directorate at a higher rate than other directorates.
- (5) In relation to part (4), what trends have been identified from the (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents reported from 2013-14 to date and (i) when was each trend first identified, (ii) what tracking or monitoring has been undertaken on these trends and (iii) what future tracking or monitoring will be undertaken on these trends.

- (6) In relation to part (4), what specific actions or initiatives have been undertaken during each financial year since 2013-14 to date by the (a) Minister, (b) Education Directorate and (c) schools to address the increasing number of (i) occupational violence, (ii) bullying and harassment and (iii) mental stress incidents reported in that year.
- (7) Have any external parties been consulted or engaged to provide advice on or services in relation to (a) occupational violence, (b) bullying and harassment and (c) mental stress incidents reported; if yes, can the Minister advise (i) name of external party, (ii) nature of services, (iii) value of the services, (iv) period or length of service or contract, (v) contract name and number if relevant and (vi) outcomes or key performance indicators attached to the provision of services.

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

- 1) The following data set provides a breakdown of the number of incidents¹ by the category of incident by category of staff. This information has been extracted from Riskman and was also reported as part of questions on notice Nos 2200-2237.

This data does not include volunteers or third parties.

The increase in the number of occupational violence incidents being reported is related to greater encouragement for staff to report. It is important to note that with the increased level of reporting there has not been a commensurate increase in the severity of injuries that resulted in staff taking time off work.

Category	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019 YTD (at 10 April 2019)
Bullying and Harassment	n.p.	6	13	7	32	17
Teacher	n.p.	n.p.	8	n.p.	21	12
Principal		n.p.		n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Other Education Employee		n.p.	n.p.		7	n.p.
LSA			n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Mental Stress	5	n.p.	7	34	18	36
Teacher	n.p.		n.p.	27	12	27
Principal				n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Other Education Employee	n.p.		n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
LSA		n.p.	n.p.	5	n.p.	n.p.
Occupational Violence	480	396	680	1622	2431	2149
Teacher	251	227	353	866	1420	1258
Principal	19	22	30	110	138	122
Other Education Employee	24	n.p.	15	49	57	37
LSA	186	143	282	597	816	732

¹ The term incident refers to the number of individual reports about an event. There may be multiple reports on the one event.

- 2) The following data set provides a breakdown of the number of incidents by the category of incident, by sub-category of individuals who cause an incident.

The data does not identify the category of individuals who cause an incident for 'Mental Stress'.

The increase in the number of occupational violence incidents being reported is related to greater encouragement for staff to report. It is important to note that with the increased level of reporting there has not been a commensurate increase in the severity of injuries that resulted in staff taking time off work.

Category	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019 YTD (at 10 April 2019)
Bullying and Harassment	n.p.	6	13	7	32	17
Other Violence By Employee		n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	11
Physical Violence By Other Employee			n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	
Verbal Violence By Other Employee	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	6
Mental Stress	5	n.p.	7	34	18	36
Occupational Violence	480	396	680	1622	2431	2149
Other Occupational Violence	n.p.				7	29
Other Violence By Client					n.p.	n.p.
Other Violence By Student	n.p.		n.p.	9	27	19
Physical Violence By Client	n.p.	n.p.	6	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Physical Violence By Other	n.p.		n.p.	n.p.	7	n.p.
Physical Violence By Student	455	384	642	1465	2082	1861
Verbal Violence By Client	n.p.			n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Verbal Violence By Other	n.p.	6	13	54	67	69
Verbal Violence By Student	12	n.p.	16	87	235	163

- 3) The following data set provides a breakdown of the number of incidents by the category of incident by sub-category of school and Education Support Office.

The increase in the number of occupational violence incidents being reported is related to greater encouragement for staff to report. It is important to note that with the increased level of reporting there has not been a commensurate increase in the severity of injuries that resulted in staff taking time off work.

Category	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019 YTD (at 10 April 2019)
Bullying and Harassment	n.p.	6	13	7	32	17
Network	n.p.	6	n.p.	7	n.p.	17
ESO			n.p.		n.p.	
Mental Stress	5	n.p.	7	34	18	36
Network	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.	34	n.p.	n.p.
ESO	n.p.		n.p.		n.p.	n.p.
Occupational Violence	480	396	680	1622	2431	2149
Network	n.p.	n.p.	674	1615	2418	2124
ESO	n.p.	n.p.	6	7	13	25

- 4) The Education Directorate's strong reporting culture through the introduction of electronic incident reporting in mid-2015 and the subsequent development and implementation of the Occupational Violence Management Policy and related Management Plan has led to the increase in incidents being reported.

The increase in the number of occupational violence incidents being reported is related to greater encouragement for staff to report. It is important to note that with the increased level of reporting there has not been a commensurate increase in the severity of injuries that resulted in staff taking time off work.

The following data set provides a breakdown of the number of incidents² by category by Lost Time Injuries (LTI) reported.

(Available at the Chamber Support Office).

² The term incident refers to the number of individual reports about an event. There may be multiple reports on the one event.

- 5) Since the rollout of electronic incident reporting in mid-2015 and the reporting of incidents being emphasised, Occupational Violence incidents have seen an increase each year. While there was an initial increase in 2015 for bullying and harassment and mental stress incidents, there have not been significant increases in the years following.

These trends have been noted as they became apparent in recent years and the Education Directorate continually tracks and monitors these trends through regular reporting.

- 6 & 7) The Education Directorate has had a strong focus on occupational violence over recent years and has introduced a number of initiatives to promote the reporting of these incidents, including engaging external parties. Examples include:

- Created a joint Australian Education Union/Education Directorate working group, formed on 30 August 2016, to progress a program of agreed work. Products from this collaboration included an Occupational Violence Management Policy and Plan, support documents and products for use in schools and classrooms throughout the ACT Public School system.
- In November 2016, the Director-General hosted three workshops where the key risks and treatments associated with occupational violence in schools were explored and mapped. The Director-General also wrote to Principals and all staff regarding work health and safety responsibilities and obligations under the relevant Act.
- The Education Directorate implemented team teach training, which used positive and protective personal safety skills to minimise risk to all involved. Between 2016 and 2018, 2678 staff participated in training.
- In December 2016, the Education Directorate formalised its Occupational Violence Safety Management System project. This program of work included training for all principals, delivered in December 2016 by the former WorkSafe ACT Commissioner Mark McCabe. The training focused on work health and safety and due diligence.
- The Director-General held teleconferences with principals on work health and safety and due diligence on 7 December 2016.

- Directors of School Improvement (the supervisors of principals) were directed to ensure that work health and safety were discussed at staff meetings and at all network meetings (network is a meeting of principals of up to 23 schools based on their geographic location).
- A due diligence audit of work health and safety in schools was undertaken early December 2016. The audit was undertaken by Health and Safety professionals from the WorkSafety team in the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. The audit made recommendations regarding training; consultation; mentoring; reporting; training records; risk assessments and registers; support services; and policies and procedures. These recommendations were implemented.
- Streamlining operations to ensure a co-ordinated approach to support injured staff, including timely phone and email contact with injured staff from the Education Directorate injury management team.
- A review of risk management processes occurred to ensure that risk assessments were reflective of work health and safety risks, the controls were in line with the hierarchy of control and applied within the context of behaviour management planning, the learning process and student context. Work health and safety professionals work closely with schools and the Education Directorate's specialist educators and/or allied health team to provide contemporary risk assessments and associated controls designed to mitigate risk and ensure the safety of staff and students.
- An independent assessment of the systems to mitigate the risks of occupational violence commenced in December 2016. The review by David Caple and Associates focused on the requirements of a systems approach for the prevention of physical and psychological injury to Principals, teachers and Learning Support Assistants arising from incidents of occupational violence within ACT schools. This report recommended further training for staff working with students with complex needs, work health and safety risk assessment process and student case management approach, improving data capture for occupational violence incidents, develop closer working relationships with Universities to ensure pre-educators and early educators are provided placements and support to teach students with complex needs. The four main recommendations of the review were accepted in April 2017. The recommendations from this review are well advanced in their implementation.
- The Director-General undertook consultation with staff in May 2017 on the proposed draft occupational violence policy and plan. The policy was launched in July 2017. A suite of tools and initiatives complemented the policy and were developed to enhance the management of Occupational Violence. Tools include: posters and email banners, risk assessment tools and a renewed intranet page on Occupational Violence Management.
- Training learning support assistants through a whole school professional learning or through targeted learning support assistant sessions. This one-day trauma training workshop outlines principles of neuroscience that inform good practice in education and participants develop an understanding of the prevalence and impact of trauma.

- The ACT Government provided \$0.9 million in the 2017-18 Budget for additional work health and safety staff resources to support schools to implement changes to practice and better manage this risk. Staff have since been engaged to carry out the work and supporting schools.
 - In December 2017, the Education Directorate implemented an initial pilot training program with 14 Learning Support Assistants completing their Certificate IV in Education Support with the Canberra Institute of Technology. The pilot enabled the participants to build their capability to work with students, particularly those with complex needs and challenging behaviour.
 - Currently there are 41 Learning Support Assistants, which is the total number of Learning Support Assistants that applied for LSA Scholarships. LSA's commenced study in 2019 on a Certificate IV in Education which has been customised to meet the needs of the schools. The Certificate IV in Education is designed to build capability that best supports children and young people, particularly in the area of complex needs and challenging behaviour. The qualification is being delivered through the Canberra Institute of Technology.
 - As of September 2018, 48 schools had participated in occupational violence training.
 - The ACT Government has provided \$5.6 million over the forward estimates to support the enhancement and development of sensory spaces into schools where staff are able to support students with complex needs and challenging behaviour to manage their sensory needs. Factsheets and professional learning for this initiative have been developed for schools to support them in creating sensory spaces within the school environment. At September 2018 approximately \$5.3m had been spent.
 - As part of the Schools for All Program, the Education Directorate focussed on ongoing capability development of the workforce with regard to meeting the changing needs of students. This development and training had a particular focus on responding to students with complex needs and challenging behaviour.
 - The Education Directorate executive, through the Education Governance Committee, reviews workplace health and safety matters regularly.
 - The implementation of the new occupational violence policy and management plan is progressing.
 - The Education Directorate has engaged the following four Employee Assistance Program (EAP), providing independent, confidential and professional counselling services for work related or personal problems:
 - o Assure
 - o Converge International
 - o Benestar, and
 - o PeopleSense.
-

ACT Health and Canberra Health Services—staffing (Question No 2492)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Mental Health, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) How many staff have left (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, during each financial year since 2014-15 to date.
- (2) In relation to part (1), what is the total number of staff broken down by classification whose employment has ended by (a) transfer to another ACT Government agency, (b) retirement, (c) resignation, (d) redundancy, (e) death, (f) termination or (g) any other relevant category.
- (3) In relation to part (2), what is the total amount paid in final staff entitlements broken down by (a) classification, (b) staff entitlement type and (c) both (i) classification and (ii) staff entitlement type.
- (4) In relation to part (2), what is the total number of staff that transferred to another ACT government agency broken down by agency.
- (5) What is the number of redundancies expected in the (a) remainder of the current financial year, and (b) 2019-20, broken down by (i) agency and (ii) by classification.
- (6) For each financial year since 2014-15 to date, can the Minister list the units within (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, which have lost staff and the total number of staff losses from each unit.

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

- (1) How many staff have left (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, during each financial year since 2014-15 to date:

	Financial Year					
ACTPS Directorate	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Grand Total
Canberra Health Services	375	433	410	427	383	2028
Health Directorate					35	35*
Grand Total	375	433	410	427	418	2063

*This figure is only from transition (October 2018) therefore does not reflect a full financial year.

- (2) In relation to part (1), what is the total number of staff broken down by classification whose employment has ended by (a) transfer to another ACT Government agency, (b) retirement, (c) resignation, (d) redundancy, (e) death, (f) termination or (g) any other relevant category.

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Classification	Reason	Financial Year					
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*	Grand Total*
Administrative Officers	APPOINTMENT ANNULLED				<5		<5
	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE	<5	<5	<5	<5		6
	DISMISSAL	<5	<5	<5			<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE		<5				<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5				<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	32	53	50	47	46	228
	RETIREMENT	11	10	9	12	12	54
	TRANS ACTPS		<5				<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5		<5	<5		7
Administrative Officers Total		53	68	62	63	59	305
Dental	RESIGNATION	<5		<5	<5	<5	8
	RETIREMENT				<5		<5
Dental Total		<5		<5	<5	<5	10
Executive Officers	RESIGNATION			<5	<5	<5	5
Executive Officers Total				<5	<5	<5	5
General Service Officers & Equivalent	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE			<5			<5
	DISMISSAL			<5		<5	<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE	<5	<5				<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT		<5	<5		<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	9	18	16	13	13	69
	RETIREMENT	6	4	3	6	<5	20
	TRANS ACTPS	<5					<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5			<5		<5
General Service Officers & Equivalent Total		19	24	22	20	17	102
Health Assistants	RESIGNATION	6	3	4	7	6	26
	RETIREMENT		<5	<5	<5	<5	5
Health Assistants Total		6	5	5	8	7	31
Health Professional Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE	<5				<5	<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE					<5	<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5	<5			<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	74	80	60	70	77	361
	RETIREMENT	<5	8	12	9	6	39
	TRANS ACTPS		<5				<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY			<5	<5	<5	5
Health Professional Officers Total		80	90	75	80	87	412
Information Technology Officers	RETIREMENT					<5	<5

Information Technology Officers Total						<5	<5
Medical Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE				<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	12	16	15	18	20	81
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5		<5	<5	9
Medical Officers Total		13	19	15	21	24	92
Nursing Staff	APPOINTMENT ANNULLED				<5		<5
	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE			<5	<5	<5	<5
	DISMISSAL		<5		<5	<5	5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5		<5	11
	RESIGNATION	140	148	153	146	137	724
	RETIREMENT	24	37	27	30	24	142
	TRANS ACTPS	<5	5	<5	<5		11
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY				<5	<5	<5
Nursing Staff Total		169	194	185	185	170	903
Professional Officers	RESIGNATION					<5	<5
	RETIREMENT			<5			<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY			<5			<5
Professional Officers Total				<5		<5	<5
Senior Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE					<5	<5
	DISMISSAL			<5			<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE			<5	<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	16	23	23	24	28	114
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5	5	<5	16
	TRANS ACTPS	<5					<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5	<5	<5	8	<5	22
Senior Officers Total		24	27	33	38	35	157
Teacher	RETIREMENT		<5				<5
Teacher Total			<5				<5
Technical Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE					<5	<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT				<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	<5	<5	6	7	5	25
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5		<5	6
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5					<5
Technical Officers Total		8	5	7	8	8	36
Trainees and Apprentices	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE					<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	<5				<5	<5
Trainees and Apprentices Total		<5				<5	<5
Grand Total		375	433	410	427	418	2063

- (3) In relation to part (2), what is the total amount paid in final staff entitlements broken down by (a) classification:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

	Financial Year					
Classification	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 *	Grand Total *
Administrative Officers	1040667.21	373464.53	645615.33	561830.23	442428.57	3064005.87
Dental	14430.86		38348.75	66564.79	129298.20	248642.60
Executive Officers			11027.84	75209.93	134078.72	220316.49
General Service Officers & Equivalent	169283.70	275716.9	287506.92	287950.16	243455.64	1263913.32
Health Assistants	39570.62	23396.47	21059.85	83549.47	37115.26	204691.67
Health Professional Officers	704964.87	1139366.57	1149924.80	1180276.31	1185823.41	5360355.96
Information Technology Officers					45097.97	45097.97
Medical Officers	564529.64	1166319.45	663164.50	1573859.83	1225816.62	5193690.04
Nursing Staff	2252086.71	2920397.34	2938548.00	3082774.69	2742981.31	13936788.05
Professional Officers			288161.75		2755.65	290917.40
Senior Officers	661748.64	671689.17	1198465.39	2282454.52	932702.14	5747059.86
Teacher		9721.76				9721.76
Technical Officers	122159.38	91386.57	59995.33	70465.84	125649.64	469656.76
Trainees and Apprentices	7050.01				20978.08	28028.09
Grand Total	5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

- 3 (b) Staff entitlement type:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

	Financial Year					
Entitlement Type	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*	Grand Total *
BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMT	9009.83	5381.93	6228.97	2121.75	10143.92	32886.40
ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	100283.04	27302.67	22539.60	170687.10	69064.97	389877.38
LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	280065.70	343700.87	365133.40	416680.78	376249.29	1781830.04
LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	1737622.94	2291244.70	2491429.86	2799577.73	2996343.75	12316218.98
LSP RECREATION	1976372.29	2660371.03	2541696.41	2965391.72	2500301.80	12644133.25
LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	289456.65	166547.14	65024.17		67333.55	588361.51
LUMP SUM A - LSL	414322.89	672618.96	744304.36	1037109.67	560953.91	3429309.79
LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	84349.76	57338.86	41415.70	53397.45	30608.93	267110.70

LUMP SUM BACK PAY	5571.20		805.60			6376.80
LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	536552.14	319670.34	889220.01	1580898.55	501103.15	3827444.19
PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	142885.20	127282.26	134020.38	239071.02	156077.94	799336.80
Grand Total	5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

3 (c) both (i) classification and (ii) staff entitlement type:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Classification	Desc.	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 *	Grand total *
Administrative Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	5692.44				195.02	5887.46
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	31102.99	53512.57	54889.23	49006.79	40734.40	229245.98
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	192695.68	131349.67	272412.12	193244.97	168883.11	958585.55
	LSP RECREATION	167528.29	155301.90	207311.22	167964.67	171186.56	869292.64
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	218808.20				17642.58	236450.78
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	47459.10	31335.97	58442.00	55111.37	36397.22	228745.66
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL		1964.42				1964.42
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	301218.90		51142.08	89168.14		441529.12
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	76161.61		1418.68	7334.29	7389.68	92304.26
Administrative Officers Total		1040667.21	373464.53	645615.33	561830.23	442428.57	3064005.87
Dental	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	1068.50		3555.57	4062.90	5353.45	14040.42
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL				26123.98	67981.83	94105.81
	LSP RECREATION	13362.36		22069.90	16712.48	35797.83	87942.57
	LUMP SUM A - LSL			12723.28	19665.43	20165.09	52553.80
Dental Total		14430.86		38348.75	66564.79	129298.2	248642.6
Executive Officers							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS			591.21	58.63	55.44	705.28
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL				48263.48	69974.04	118237.52
	LSP RECREATION			10436.63	26887.82	11490.98	48815.43
	LUMP SUM A - LSL					52558.26	52558.26
Executive Officers Total				11027.84	75209.93	134078.72	220316.49

General Service Officers & Equivalent							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT			565.05		53.59	618.64
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT				35780.09		35780.09
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	7099.01	14555.75	7995.49	19742.27	7256.94	56649.46
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	62891.86	133254.67	141183.55	79782.11	121974.24	539086.43
	LSP RECREATION	32319.00	90649.38	60623.55	118662.44	62040.87	364295.24
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND		12591.46	37015.91		15477.89	65085.26
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	34705.58	16484.13	17724.00	6122.71	17461.34	92497.76
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	2423.94			3044.97		5468.91
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	24078.51			20311.00		44389.51
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	5765.80	8181.51	22399.37	4504.57	19190.77	60042.02
General Service Officers & Equivalent Total		169283.7	275716.9	287506.92	287950.16	243455.64	1263913.32
Health Assistants							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	3996.46	3055.72	2117.9	8955.47	3959.05	22084.60
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	25712.04	9649.38	4459.03	37001.85	10437.81	87260.11
	LSP RECREATION	9862.12	10440.76	12033.68	37592.15	22718.40	92647.11
	LUMP SUM A - LSL		250.61	2449.24			2699.85
Health Assistants Total		39570.62	23396.47	21059.85	83549.47	37115.26	204691.67
Health Professional Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	431.58	1013.23			1011.32	2456.13
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT			21341.65			21341.65
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	74309.10	96435.33	85743.63	91344.91	93148.63	440981.60
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	281195.94	224483.63	275352.08	422973.40	524748.31	1728753.36
	LSP RECREATION	301903.84	439203.01	309284.16	436611.45	445013.74	1932016.20
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	8041.82	21985.64			25590.52	55617.98

	LUMP SUM A - LSL	30297.65	215277.05	134219.8	88094.31	34810.00	502698.81
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL		2192.05	15011.6	26489.72		43693.37
	LUMP SUM BACK PAY	1053.93					1053.93
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED		133511.24	284705.87	109867.41	52874.10	580958.62
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	7731.01	5265.39	24266.01	4895.11	8626.79	50784.31
Health Professional Officers Total		704964.87	1139366.57	1149924.8	1180276.31	1185823.41	5360355.96
Information Technology Officers	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS					2230.06	2230.06
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL					32101.74	32101.74
	LSP RECREATION					10766.17	10766.17
Information Technology Officers Total						45097.97	45097.97
Medical Officers							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	14853.23	21953.79	15943.97	23944.81	20172.00	96867.80
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	139951.96	576993.46	295888.25	659570.69	643489.12	2315893.48
	LSP RECREATION	332402.18	432499.43	351332.28	760684.14	562155.5	2439073.53
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	63006.13	134872.77		129660.19		327539.09
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	14316.14					14316.14
Medical Officers Total		564529.64	1166319.45	663164.5	1573859.83	1225816.62	5193690.04
Nursing Staff							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	56.08	2636.25	4326.00	1273.54	8883.99	17175.86
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT				29123.49	54355.20	83478.69
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	115542.74	121393.01	142468.15	160176.10	143884.35	683464.35
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	835439.05	1038413.23	1164422.94	934726.87	1088078.5	5061080.59
	LSP RECREATION	966609.20	1374872.91	1357928.29	1165637.61	1008371.64	5873419.65
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	46795.22	101615.11	28008.26		8622.56	185041.15
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	193290.77	185556.59	191950.17	298343.06	237624.18	1106764.77
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	57523.80	53182.39	26404.10	23862.76	23547.06	184520.11
	LUMP SUM BACK PAY	4517.27		805.60			5322.87
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED				432593.05	120536.78	553129.83
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	32312.58	42727.85	22234.49	37038.21	49077.05	183390.18

Nursing Staff Total		2252086.71	2920397.34	2938548	3082774.69	2742981.31	13936788.05
Professional Officers	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT			1197.95			1197.95
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS			5155.97		695.18	5851.15
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL			32190.00			32190.00
	LSP RECREATION			7078.12		2060.47	9138.59
	LUMP SUM A - LSL			72241.55			72241.55
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED			153087.50			153087.50
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A			17210.66			17210.66
Professional Officers Total				288161.75		2755.65	290917.4
Senior Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	2079.75	1732.45	1337.92			5150.12
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	76126.00	27302.67		105783.52	14709.77	223921.96
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	25714.91	30707.19	43192.55	54696.90	50691.84	205003.39
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	183000.46	108251.52	275841.21	381095.22	189687.98	1137876.39
	LSP RECREATION	127966.65	137022.44	183196.17	218170.02	127357.56	793712.84
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	8964.41	30354.93				39319.34
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	39389.34	79051.36	248121.81	427106.55	143707.20	937376.26
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	10085.88				7061.87	17147.75
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	168893.97	186159.1	400284.56	928958.95	327692.27	2011988.85
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	19527.27	71107.51	46491.17	166643.36	71793.65	375562.96
Senior Officers Total		661748.64	671689.17	1198465.39	2282454.52	932702.14	5747059.86
Teacher	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS		727.14				727.14
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL		6863.15				6863.15
	LSP RECREATION		2131.47				2131.47
Teacher Total			9721.76				9721.76
Technical Officers	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	749.98			848.21		1598.19
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	24157.04					24157.04
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	4756.71	1360.37	3479.73	4692.00	5814.66	20103.47

	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	16735.95	61985.99	29680.68	16795.16	67355.87	192553.65
	LSP RECREATION	18990.69	18249.73	20402.41	16468.94	34248.49	108360.26
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	6847.00					6847.00
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	6174.32	9790.48	6432.51	13006.05	18230.62	53633.98
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	42360.76					42360.76
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	1386.93			18655.48		20042.41
Technical Officers Total		122159.38	91386.57	59995.33	70465.84	125649.64	469656.76
Trainees and Apprentices	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	1622.05				2253.29	3875.34
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL					11631.20	11631.20
	LSP RECREATION	5427.96				7093.59	12521.55
Trainees and Apprentices Total		7050.01				20978.08	28028.09
Grand Total		5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

- (4) In relation to part (2), what is the total number of staff that transferred to another ACT government agency broken down by agency:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Directorate	Number of Staff
Canberra Institute of Technology	1
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate	40
Community Services Directorate	16
Education Directorate	9
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate	3
Justice and Community Safety Directorate	29
Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate	8
Grand Total	106

- (5) What is the number of redundancies expected in the (a) remainder of the current financial year, and (b) 2019-20, broken down by (i) agency and (ii) by classification:

CHS - There is one redundancy for the remainder of the financial year.

HD – At this point in time there are three redundancies currently underway, it is anticipated they will be finalised in the current financial year.

Classifications are withheld to prevent identifying individuals.

At the present time both CHS and HD have made no decision whether there may be redundancy situations likely during the 2019-20 financial year.

- (6) For each financial year since 2014-15 to date, can the Minister list the units within (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, which have lost staff and the total number of staff losses from each unit:

Directorate	Branch Name	Financial Year					
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Grand Total
Canberra Health Services	ALLIED HEALTH ADVISER		1	1			2
	BUS PERF INFO & DECI SUP			4	4		8
	BUSINESS & INFRASTRUCTUR	19	22	5			46
	BUSINESS SUPPORT			5	19	5	29
	CANCER AMBULATORY & COM	30	35	41	47	47	200
	CHIEF OF CLINICAL OPS			6	8	2	16
	CLINICAL SAFETY & QUALITY			3	6		9
	CLINICAL SERVICES					7	7
	CLINICAL SUPPORT SERV	28	30	35	24	33	150
	COMMUNICATIONS		1	2			3
	CRITICAL CARE	23	49	30	41	30	173
	DATA INTEGRITY			1			1
	DDG CORPORATE SERVICES			1			1
	DEPUTY DIRECTOR GEN CHHS	7	3	7	10	7	34
	DEPUTY DIRECTOR GEN S&C	1	1				2
	DIGITAL SOLUTIONS				6	3	9
	DONATE LIFE ACT		1				1
	E-HEALTH& CLINIC RECORDS	4	9	8			21
	EXEC DIR OF MEDICAL SERV		4	1			5
	FACILITIES MANAGEMENT					3	3
	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3	4	1			8
	GENERAL PRACTICE		1				1
	GOVT & COMMS			2	1	1	4
	HEALTH IMPROVEMENT		1	8	3	1	13
	HEALTH PROTECTION SERV	1	7	8	9	5	30
	HEALTH SERVICE PLANNING		3	1			4
	HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT	2	2	3			7
	HI&P RECURRENT	2		3			5
	HIP SUPPORT	1					1
	HLTH INFRA PROJ DELIVERY	1					1
	HLTH INFRASTRUCT SUPPORT	1					1
	HLTH INFRASTRUCTURE SERV			2	5	2	9
	HOUSING SERV GROUP				2		2
	ICT HEALTH			3			3
	INTERNAL AUDIT		1				1
	MEDICINE	35	56	37	34	32	194

	MENTAL, JUSTICE A&DRUG	29	47	51	68	37	232
	OFF CHIEF EXEC OFFICER					1	1
	OFF CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER			2			2
	OFFICE OF DIR GENERAL	1	1	1	1	1	5
	OPERATIONAL					2	2
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	1	1			1	3
	OPERATIONS SUPPORT					4	4
	ORGANISATION DEV & EDUC					1	1
	PATHOLOGY	11	11	14	12	17	65
	PEOPLE & CULTURE			3	5	2	10
	PEOPLE STRAT & SERVICES	4	3	1			8
	PERFORM REPORTING & DATA					1	1
	PERFORMANCE INFORMATION	12	5	2			19
	PERFORMANCE REPORT & DATA					1	1
	POLICY & GOV RELATIONS	2	1				3
	POLICY & STAKEHOLDER REL			2	4	3	9
	POPULATION HEALTH	11		1			12
	QUALITY & SAFETY					2	2
	REHAB, AGED & COM CARE	45	35	32	35	30	177
	RESEARCH				1	2	3
	SERVICE & CAPITAL PLAN	4					4
	STRATEGIC FINANCE			1	5	1	7
	STRATEGIC HEALTH PLANNING				1		1
	STRATEGIC IMPLEMENT GRP			1			1
	STRATEGY & DESIGN				2		2
	SURGERY & ORAL HEALTH			26	42	45	113
	SURGERY ORAL HEALTH & IMG	43	52	20			115
	TRANS REFORM GROUP		1				1
	UNI OF CANBERRA HOSPITAL					19	19
	WOMEN, YOUTH & CHILDREN	54	45	34	30	35	198
	WORKPLACE SAFETY			1	2		3
Canberra Health Services Total		375	433	410	427	383	2028
Health Directorate	CLINICAL SERVICES					2	2
	CNTR FOR HLH & MED RESEA					1	1
	COMMISSIONING & PERFORM					3	3
	CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE					2	2

	DIGITAL SOLUTIONS					5	5
	HLTH SYS PLAN & EVALUATI					3	3
	OFF OF PROF LEAD & EDUC					2	2
	POL PARTNERSHIPS & PROGS					7	7
	PUBLIC HLTH PROTEC & REG					8	8
	STRATEGIC FINANCE					1	1
	STRATEGIC FINANCE EXEC					1	1
Health Directorate Total						35	35
Grand Total		375	433	410	427	418	2063

ACT Health and Canberra Health Services—staffing (Question No 2493)

Mr Coe asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) How many staff have left (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, during each financial year since 2014-15 to date.
- (2) In relation to part (1), what is the total number of staff broken down by classification whose employment has ended by (a) transfer to another ACT Government agency, (b) retirement, (c) resignation, (d) redundancy, (e) death, (f) termination or (g) any other relevant category.
- (3) In relation to part (2), what is the total amount paid in final staff entitlements broken down by (a) classification, (b) staff entitlement type and (c) both (i) classification and (ii) staff entitlement type.
- (4) In relation to part (2), what is the total number of staff that transferred to another ACT government agency broken down by agency.
- (5) What is the number of redundancies expected in the (a) remainder of the current financial year, and (b) 2019-20, broken down by (i) agency and (ii) by classification.
- (6) For each financial year since 2014-15 to date, can the Minister list the units within (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, which have lost staff and the total number of staff losses from each unit.

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

- (1) How many staff have left (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, during each financial year since 2014-15 to date:

	Financial Year					
ACTPS Directorate	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Grand Total
Canberra Health Services	375	433	410	427	383	2028
Health Directorate					35	35*
Grand Total	375	433	410	427	418	2063

*This figure is only from transition (October 2018) therefore does not reflect a full financial year.

- (2) In relation to part (1), what is the total number of staff broken down by classification whose employment has ended by (a) transfer to another ACT Government agency, (b) retirement, (c) resignation, (d) redundancy, (e) death, (f) termination or (g) any other relevant category.

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Classification	Reason	Financial Year					Grand Total*
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*	
Administrative Officers	APPOINTMENT ANNULLED				<5		<5
	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE	<5	<5	<5	<5		6
	DISMISSAL	<5	<5	<5			<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE		<5				<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5				<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	32	53	50	47	46	228
	RETIREMENT	11	10	9	12	12	54
	TRANS ACTPS		<5				<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5		<5	<5		7
Administrative Officers Total		53	68	62	63	59	305
Dental	RESIGNATION	<5		<5	<5	<5	8
	RETIREMENT				<5		<5
Dental Total		<5		<5	<5	<5	10
Executive Officers	RESIGNATION			<5	<5	<5	5
Executive Officers Total				<5	<5	<5	5
General Service Officers & Equivalent	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE			<5			<5
	DISMISSAL			<5		<5	<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE	<5	<5				<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT		<5	<5		<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	9	18	16	13	13	69
	RETIREMENT	6	4	3	6	<5	20
	TRANS ACTPS	<5					<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5			<5		<5
General Service Officers & Equivalent Total		19	24	22	20	17	102
Health Assistants	RESIGNATION	6	3	4	7	6	26
	RETIREMENT		<5	<5	<5	<5	5
Health Assistants Total		6	5	5	8	7	31
Health Professional Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE	<5				<5	<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE					<5	<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5	<5			<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	74	80	60	70	77	361

	RETIREMENT	<5	8	12	9	6	39
	TRANS ACTPS		<5				<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY			<5	<5	<5	5
Health Professional Officers Total		80	90	75	80	87	412
Information Technology Officers	RETIREMENT					<5	<5
Information Technology Officers Total						<5	<5
Medical Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE				<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	12	16	15	18	20	81
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5		<5	<5	9
Medical Officers Total		13	19	15	21	24	92
Nursing Staff	APPOINTMENT ANNULLED				<5		<5
	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE			<5	<5	<5	<5
	DISMISSAL		<5		<5	<5	5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5		<5	11
	RESIGNATION	140	148	153	146	137	724
	RETIREMENT	24	37	27	30	24	142
	TRANS ACTPS	<5	5	<5	<5		11
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY				<5	<5	<5
Nursing Staff Total		169	194	185	185	170	903
Professional Officers	RESIGNATION					<5	<5
	RETIREMENT			<5			<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY			<5			<5
Professional Officers Total				<5		<5	<5
Senior Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE					<5	<5
	DISMISSAL			<5			<5
	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE			<5	<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	16	23	23	24	28	114
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5	5	<5	16
	TRANS ACTPS	<5					<5
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5	<5	<5	8	<5	22
Senior Officers Total		24	27	33	38	35	157
Teacher	RETIREMENT		<5				<5
Teacher Total			<5				<5
Technical Officers	DEATH OF EMPLOYEE					<5	<5
	INVALIDITY RETIREMENT				<5		<5
	RESIGNATION	<5	<5	6	7	5	25
	RETIREMENT	<5	<5	<5		<5	6
	VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY	<5					<5

Technical Officers Total		8	5	7	8	8	36
Trainees and Apprentices	FORFEITURE OF OFFICE					<5	<5
	RESIGNATION	<5				<5	<5
Trainees and Apprentices Total		<5				<5	<5
Grand Total		375	433	410	427	418	2063

(3) In relation to part (2), what is the total amount paid in final staff entitlements broken down by (a) classification:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

	Financial Year					
Classification	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 *	Grand Total *
Administrative Officers	1040667.21	373464.53	645615.33	561830.23	442428.57	3064005.87
Dental	14430.86		38348.75	66564.79	129298.20	248642.60
Executive Officers			11027.84	75209.93	134078.72	220316.49
General Service Officers & Equivalent	169283.70	275716.9	287506.92	287950.16	243455.64	1263913.32
Health Assistants	39570.62	23396.47	21059.85	83549.47	37115.26	204691.67
Health Professional Officers	704964.87	1139366.57	1149924.80	1180276.31	1185823.41	5360355.96
Information Technology Officers					45097.97	45097.97
Medical Officers	564529.64	1166319.45	663164.50	1573859.83	1225816.62	5193690.04
Nursing Staff	2252086.71	2920397.34	2938548.00	3082774.69	2742981.31	13936788.05
Professional Officers			288161.75		2755.65	290917.40
Senior Officers	661748.64	671689.17	1198465.39	2282454.52	932702.14	5747059.86
Teacher		9721.76				9721.76
Technical Officers	122159.38	91386.57	59995.33	70465.84	125649.64	469656.76
Trainees and Apprentices	7050.01				20978.08	28028.09
Grand Total	5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

3 (b) Staff entitlement type:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

	Financial Year					
Entitlement Type	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*	Grand Total *
BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMT	9009.83	5381.93	6228.97	2121.75	10143.92	32886.40
ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	100283.04	27302.67	22539.60	170687.10	69064.97	389877.38

LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	280065.70	343700.87	365133.40	416680.78	376249.29	1781830.04
LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	1737622.94	2291244.70	2491429.86	2799577.73	2996343.75	12316218.98
LSP RECREATION	1976372.29	2660371.03	2541696.41	2965391.72	2500301.80	12644133.25
LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	289456.65	166547.14	65024.17		67333.55	588361.51
LUMP SUM A - LSL	414322.89	672618.96	744304.36	1037109.67	560953.91	3429309.79
LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	84349.76	57338.86	41415.70	53397.45	30608.93	267110.70
LUMP SUM BACK PAY	5571.20		805.60			6376.80
LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	536552.14	319670.34	889220.01	1580898.55	501103.15	3827444.19
PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	142885.20	127282.26	134020.38	239071.02	156077.94	799336.80
Grand Total	5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

3 (c) both (i) classification and (ii) staff entitlement type:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Classification	Desc.	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 *	Grand total *
Administrative Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	5692.44				195.02	5887.46
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	31102.99	53512.57	54889.23	49006.79	40734.40	229245.98
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	192695.68	131349.67	272412.12	193244.97	168883.11	958585.55
	LSP RECREATION	167528.29	155301.90	207311.22	167964.67	171186.56	869292.64
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	218808.20				17642.58	236450.78
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	47459.10	31335.97	58442.00	55111.37	36397.22	228745.66
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL		1964.42				1964.42
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	301218.90		51142.08	89168.14		441529.12
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	76161.61		1418.68	7334.29	7389.68	92304.26
Administrative Officers Total		1040667.21	373464.53	645615.33	561830.23	442428.57	3064005.87
Dental	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	1068.50		3555.57	4062.90	5353.45	14040.42
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL				26123.98	67981.83	94105.81
	LSP RECREATION	13362.36		22069.90	16712.48	35797.83	87942.57
	LUMP SUM A - LSL			12723.28	19665.43	20165.09	52553.80
Dental Total		14430.86		38348.75	66564.79	129298.2	248642.6

Executive Officers							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS			591.21	58.63	55.44	705.28
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL				48263.48	69974.04	118237.52
	LSP RECREATION			10436.63	26887.82	11490.98	48815.43
	LUMP SUM A - LSL					52558.26	52558.26
Executive Officers Total				11027.84	75209.93	134078.72	220316.49
General Service Officers & Equivalent							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT			565.05		53.59	618.64
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT				35780.09		35780.09
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	7099.01	14555.75	7995.49	19742.27	7256.94	56649.46
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	62891.86	133254.67	141183.55	79782.11	121974.24	539086.43
	LSP RECREATION	32319.00	90649.38	60623.55	118662.44	62040.87	364295.24
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND		12591.46	37015.91		15477.89	65085.26
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	34705.58	16484.13	17724.00	6122.71	17461.34	92497.76
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	2423.94			3044.97		5468.91
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	24078.51			20311.00		44389.51
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	5765.80	8181.51	22399.37	4504.57	19190.77	60042.02
General Service Officers & Equivalent Total		169283.7	275716.9	287506.92	287950.16	243455.64	1263913.32
Health Assistants							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	3996.46	3055.72	2117.9	8955.47	3959.05	22084.60
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	25712.04	9649.38	4459.03	37001.85	10437.81	87260.11
	LSP RECREATION	9862.12	10440.76	12033.68	37592.15	22718.40	92647.11
	LUMP SUM A - LSL		250.61	2449.24			2699.85
Health Assistants Total		39570.62	23396.47	21059.85	83549.47	37115.26	204691.67
Health Professional Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	431.58	1013.23			1011.32	2456.13

	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT			21341.65			21341.65
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	74309.10	96435.33	85743.63	91344.91	93148.63	440981.60
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	281195.94	224483.63	275352.08	422973.40	524748.31	1728753.36
	LSP RECREATION	301903.84	439203.01	309284.16	436611.45	445013.74	1932016.20
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	8041.82	21985.64			25590.52	55617.98
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	30297.65	215277.05	134219.8	88094.31	34810.00	502698.81
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL		2192.05	15011.6	26489.72		43693.37
	LUMP SUM BACK PAY	1053.93					1053.93
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED		133511.24	284705.87	109867.41	52874.10	580958.62
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	7731.01	5265.39	24266.01	4895.11	8626.79	50784.31
Health Professional Officers Total		704964.87	1139366.57	1149924.8	1180276.31	1185823.41	5360355.96
Information Technology Officers	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS					2230.06	2230.06
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL					32101.74	32101.74
	LSP RECREATION					10766.17	10766.17
Information Technology Officers Total						45097.97	45097.97
Medical Officers							
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	14853.23	21953.79	15943.97	23944.81	20172.00	96867.80
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	139951.96	576993.46	295888.25	659570.69	643489.12	2315893.48
	LSP RECREATION	332402.18	432499.43	351332.28	760684.14	562155.5	2439073.53
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	63006.13	134872.77		129660.19		327539.09
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	14316.14					14316.14
Medical Officers Total		564529.64	1166319.45	663164.5	1573859.83	1225816.62	5193690.04
Nursing Staff							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	56.08	2636.25	4326.00	1273.54	8883.99	17175.86
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT				29123.49	54355.20	83478.69
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	115542.74	121393.01	142468.15	160176.10	143884.35	683464.35
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	835439.05	1038413.23	1164422.94	934726.87	1088078.5	5061080.59
	LSP RECREATION	966609.20	1374872.91	1357928.29	1165637.61	1008371.64	5873419.65

	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	46795.22	101615.11	28008.26		8622.56	185041.15
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	193290.77	185556.59	191950.17	298343.06	237624.18	1106764.77
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	57523.80	53182.39	26404.10	23862.76	23547.06	184520.11
	LUMP SUM BACK PAY	4517.27		805.60			5322.87
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED				432593.05	120536.78	553129.83
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	32312.58	42727.85	22234.49	37038.21	49077.05	183390.18
Nursing Staff Total		2252086.71	2920397.34	2938548	3082774.69	2742981.31	13936788.05
Professional Officers	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT			1197.95			1197.95
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS			5155.97		695.18	5851.15
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL			32190.00			32190.00
	LSP RECREATION			7078.12		2060.47	9138.59
	LUMP SUM A - LSL			72241.55			72241.55
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED			153087.50			153087.50
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A			17210.66			17210.66
Professional Officers Total				288161.75		2755.65	290917.4
Senior Officers							
	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	2079.75	1732.45	1337.92			5150.12
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	76126.00	27302.67		105783.52	14709.77	223921.96
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	25714.91	30707.19	43192.55	54696.90	50691.84	205003.39
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	183000.46	108251.52	275841.21	381095.22	189687.98	1137876.39
	LSP RECREATION	127966.65	137022.44	183196.17	218170.02	127357.56	793712.84
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	8964.41	30354.93				39319.34
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	39389.34	79051.36	248121.81	427106.55	143707.20	937376.26
	LUMP SUM B IN LIEU LSL	10085.88				7061.87	17147.75
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	168893.97	186159.1	400284.56	928958.95	327692.27	2011988.85
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	19527.27	71107.51	46491.17	166643.36	71793.65	375562.96
Senior Officers Total		661748.64	671689.17	1198465.39	2282454.52	932702.14	5747059.86

Teacher	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS		727.14				727.14
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL		6863.15				6863.15
	LSP RECREATION		2131.47				2131.47
Teacher Total			9721.76				9721.76
Technical Officers	BONUS LUMP SUM PAYMWT	749.98			848.21		1598.19
	ELIGIBLE TERM PAYMENT	24157.04					24157.04
	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	4756.71	1360.37	3479.73	4692.00	5814.66	20103.47
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL	16735.95	61985.99	29680.68	16795.16	67355.87	192553.65
	LSP RECREATION	18990.69	18249.73	20402.41	16468.94	34248.49	108360.26
	LUMP SUM A - LSL REDUND	6847.00					6847.00
	LUMP SUM A - LSL	6174.32	9790.48	6432.51	13006.05	18230.62	53633.98
	LUMP SUM D NON TAXED	42360.76					42360.76
	PRO RATA REC LEAVE A	1386.93			18655.48		20042.41
Technical Officers Total		122159.38	91386.57	59995.33	70465.84	125649.64	469656.76
Trainees and Apprentices	LSP IN LIEU OF BONUS	1622.05				2253.29	3875.34
	LSP IN LIEU OF LSL					11631.20	11631.20
	LSP RECREATION	5427.96				7093.59	12521.55
Trainees and Apprentices Total		7050.01				20978.08	28028.09
Grand Total		5576491.64	6671458.76	7301818.46	9264935.77	7268181.21	36082885.84

(4) In relation to part (2), what is the total number of staff that transferred to another ACT government agency broken down by agency:

*This data includes both Canberra Health Services (CHS) and the Health Directorate (HD).

Directorate	Number of Staff
Canberra Institute of Technology	1
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate	40
Community Services Directorate	16
Education Directorate	9
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate	3
Justice and Community Safety Directorate	29
Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate	8
Grand Total	106

- (5) What is the number of redundancies expected in the (a) remainder of the current financial year, and (b) 2019-20, broken down by (i) agency and (ii) by classification:

CHS - There is one redundancy for the remainder of the financial year.

HD – At this point in time there are three redundancies currently underway, it is anticipated they will be finalised in the current financial year.

Classifications are withheld to prevent identifying individuals.

At the present time both CHS and HD have made no decision whether there may be redundancy situations likely during the 2019-20 financial year.

- (6) For each financial year since 2014-15 to date, can the Minister list the units within (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, or the equivalent directorate, which have lost staff and the total number of staff losses from each unit:

Directorate	Branch Name	Financial Year					
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Grand Total
Canberra Health Services	ALLIED HEALTH ADVISER		1	1			2
	BUS PERF INFO & DECI SUP			4	4		8
	BUSINESS & INFRASTRUCTUR	19	22	5			46
	BUSINESS SUPPORT			5	19	5	29
	CANCER AMBULATORY & COM	30	35	41	47	47	200
	CHIEF OF CLINICAL OPS			6	8	2	16
	CLINICAL SAFETY & QUALITY			3	6		9
	CLINICAL SERVICES					7	7
	CLINICAL SUPPORT SERV	28	30	35	24	33	150
	COMMUNICATIONS		1	2			3
	CRITICAL CARE	23	49	30	41	30	173
	DATA INTEGRITY			1			1
	DDG CORPORATE SERVICES			1			1
	DEPUTY DIRECTOR GEN CHHS	7	3	7	10	7	34
	DEPUTY DIRECTOR GEN S&C	1	1				2
	DIGITAL SOLUTIONS				6	3	9
	DONATE LIFE ACT		1				1
	E-HEALTH& CLINIC RECORDS	4	9	8			21
	EXEC DIR OF MEDICAL SERV		4	1			5
	FACILITIES MANAGEMENT					3	3
	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	3	4	1			8
	GENERAL PRACTICE		1				1
	GOVT & COMMS			2	1	1	4
	HEALTH IMPROVEMENT		1	8	3	1	13

	HEALTH PROTECTION SERV	1	7	8	9	5	30
	HEALTH SERVICE PLANNING		3	1			4
	HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT	2	2	3			7
	HI&P RECURRENT	2		3			5
	HIP SUPPORT	1					1
	HLTH INFRA PROJ DELIVERY	1					1
	HLTH INFRASTRUCT SUPPORT	1					1
	HLTH INFRASTRUCTURE SERV			2	5	2	9
	HOUSING SERV GROUP				2		2
	ICT HEALTH			3			3
	INTERNAL AUDIT		1				1
	MEDICINE	35	56	37	34	32	194
	MENTAL, JUSTICE A&DRUG	29	47	51	68	37	232
	OFF CHIEF EXEC OFFICER					1	1
	OFF CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER			2			2
	OFFICE OF DIR GENERAL	1	1	1	1	1	5
	OPERATIONAL					2	2
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	1	1			1	3
	OPERATIONS SUPPORT					4	4
	ORGANISATION DEV & EDUC					1	1
	PATHOLOGY	11	11	14	12	17	65
	PEOPLE & CULTURE			3	5	2	10
	PEOPLE STRAT & SERVICES	4	3	1			8
	PERFORM REPORTING & DATA					1	1
	PERFORMANCE INFORMATION	12	5	2			19
	PERFORMANCE REPORT & DATA					1	1
	POLICY & GOV RELATIONS	2	1				3
	POLICY & STAKEHOLDER REL			2	4	3	9
	POPULATION HEALTH	11		1			12
	QUALITY & SAFETY					2	2
	REHAB, AGED & COM CARE	45	35	32	35	30	177
	RESEARCH				1	2	3
	SERVICE & CAPITAL PLAN	4					4
	STRATEGIC FINANCE			1	5	1	7
	STRATEGIC HEALTH PLANNING				1		1
	STRATEGIC IMPLEMENT GRP			1			1

	STRATEGY & DESIGN				2		2
	SURGERY & ORAL HEALTH			26	42	45	113
	SURGERY ORAL HEALTH & IMG	43	52	20			115
	TRANS REFORM GROUP		1				1
	UNI OF CANBERRA HOSPITAL					19	19
	WOMEN, YOUTH & CHILDREN	54	45	34	30	35	198
	WORKPLACE SAFETY			1	2		3
Canberra Health Services Total		375	433	410	427	383	2028
Health Directorate	CLINICAL SERVICES					2	2
	CNTR FOR HLH & MED RESEA					1	1
	COMMISSIONING & PERFORM					3	3
	CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE					2	2
	DIGITAL SOLUTIONS					5	5
	HLTH SYS PLAN & EVALUATI					3	3
	OFF OF PROF LEAD & EDUC					2	2
	POL PARTNERSHIPS & PROGS					7	7
	PUBLIC HLTH PROTEC & REG					8	8
	STRATEGIC FINANCE					1	1
	STRATEGIC FINANCE EXEC					1	1
Health Directorate Total						35	35
Grand Total		375	433	410	427	418	2063

Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders—NAIDOC Week (Question No 2495)

Mr Milligan asked the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, upon notice, on 5 April 2019:

- (1) Can the Minister provide an overview of what is planned from the ACT Government to celebrate NAIDOC week during 7-14 July 2019.
- (2) What ways will there be for the community, both indigenous and non-indigenous to be involved.

- (3) What is the expected ACT Government expenditure for this event and how much of this activity will be targeted towards indigenous businesses and community groups.
- (4) Can the Minister provide an overview of what is planned from the ACT Government to celebrate Reconciliation Day on 27 May 2019.
- (5) What ways will there be for the community, both indigenous and non-indigenous to be involved.
- (6) What is the expected ACT Government expenditure for this event and how much of this activity will be targeted towards indigenous businesses and community groups.

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

- (1) The ACT Government is currently planning for a range of NAIDOC celebrations this year. Events include the annual Flag Raising Ceremony and the NAIDOC Luncheon. The Canberra and District NAIDOC Aboriginal Corporation will hold the NAIDOC Family Day for community to come together and celebrate. The ACT Government liaises with the ACT and Region NAIDOC Committee and the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body on the programming of events. It also works with the United Ngunnawal Elders Council, seeking advice on how to bring culture and language into the celebrations. As Canberra is the focus city for the national NAIDOC celebrations in 2019, we are also working with the national NAIDOC committee to coordinate events and activities.
- (2) NAIDOC Week is primarily an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community driven event and is a demonstration of self-determination. There will be a number of ways for community members to enjoy NAIDOC events, including attending or hosting events. Eligible community members and organisations have been able to apply for grants to hold events during 2019 NAIDOC week, including through the ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Grant Program (information can be found at www.strongfamilies.act.gov.au).
- (3) ACT Government NAIDOC celebrations are funded through existing resources.

The Government seeks to engage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander business and organisations whilst ensuring the goods and services meet the government's needs and achieves value for money.

Under the *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019 2028*, the ACT Government has committed to implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Procurement Policy and support the procurement of services and products from local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses.

- (4) Reconciliation in the Park will be held in Glebe Park on Monday 27 May 2019 from 10:30am. The event has been designed for attendees to continue a conversation about reconciliation and truth telling. The event will showcase a variety interstate and local of artists, including the Merindas, Johnny Huckle, Kulture Break, the Wiradjuri Echoes, the Woden Valley Youth Choir and Grace Obst. The event also will include interactive activities, food vendors and information stalls.

In addition, the Reconciliation Day grants program supports community driven, grassroots events on and around Reconciliation Day. Fifteen recipients were

successful in the 2019 round, with initiatives ranging from a Reconciliation Day carnival with the ACT Softball Association to Reconciliation gardens at local schools.

- (5) There are a number of ways for the community to be involved in Reconciliation Day, including attending Reconciliation in the Park on 27 May or by taking part in Reconciliation Day activities on and around Reconciliation Day.
- (6) The budget for the Reconciliation Day initiative is \$200,000, which comprises \$150,000 for the event and \$50,000 for a Reconciliation Day Grant Program. A number of the planned performers and vendors at Reconciliation in the Park are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, groups, organisations or businesses.

Of the 15 recipients of Reconciliation Day grants, seven are community groups, non-government organisations or individuals. Grants worth \$11,500 went to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Organisations while the remaining \$45,074 went to mainstream organisations (noting that activities may be led or organised by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals within these organisations). The other eight grants were for local schools hosting reconciliation activities for their school community.

Light rail—electricity consumption (Question No 2503)

Ms Lee asked the Minister for Transport, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) How much electricity did the light rail system use during its testing phase.
- (2) How much electricity does the operation of the light rail system use during an average week.
- (3) What does this represent as proportion of total electricity consumption in the (a) transport sector and (b) Territory as a whole.
- (4) Was modeling undertaken to assess the increased demand of electricity in the ACT due to the introduction of the light rail system; if so, can a copy of the modeling be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Government undertake modelling to assess the impact of Light Rail Stage 2 before it signs contracts, on the ACT's electricity supply; if so, (a) when will that assessment be undertaken and (b) by whom.

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

- (1) During the Testing and Commissioning phase (June 2018 to end of April 2019) 521,756 kWh of electricity was consumed.
- (2) No actual electricity consumption figures are currently available for the initial operational period, but it is anticipated that the consumption figures will be similar to projected estimates. The projected electricity consumption for the Light Rail network during normal operations was calculated to be approximately 53,000 kWh per week or 212,000 kWh per month.

- (3) a) Electricity consumption from the transport sector is not currently reported separately to total electricity consumption figures.
 - b) The total annual electricity consumed by the Territory for 2017/2018 was 2,986 GWh. As a proportion of this total the Light Rail system is estimated to consume 2.77 GWh or 0.1% of the Territory total.
 - (4) Given that the anticipated total electricity consumption of the light rail overall would be a very small proportion of the Territory total, a model of the Light Rail impact upon the broader ACT power supply was not deemed necessary. However localised infrastructure impacts and requirements to support the introduction of Light Rail were considered in consultation with ActewAGL. It is noted that the Scoping Document for the Environmental Impact Statement for Light Rail Stage 1 (prepared by EPSDD) did not identify energy consumption of the system as a key issue requiring further investigation.
 - (5) Light Rail City to Woden will undertake similar investigations on the localised electrical power requirements as noted in question 4 above, with Technical Advisors, and in consultation with relevant electricity network providers.
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**ACT Health—expenditure
(Question No 2504)**

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Health*):

- (1) What was the (a) projected and (b) actual, level of expenditure for ACT Health for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019.
- (2) What is the (a) budget and (b) forecast outcome for the financial year 2018 19 for ACT Health.
- (3) What are the reasons for any variance between the figures provided in (a) part 1 and (b) part 2.
- (4) As at (a) 1 October 2018 and (b) 30 April 2019, what was the staffing profile by (i) classification, (ii) head count and (iii) FTE, as at 30 April 2019.
- (5) What are the reasons for any differences in the answers given at parts (4)(a) and (4)(b).

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

- (1) Canberra Health Services and ACT Health Directorate were established as two distinct legal entities on 1 October 2018, through an Administrative Arrangements Order. The former Health Directorate became Canberra Health Services and the ACT Health Directorate was formed as a new legal entity. As such, expenditure for the ACT Health Directorate is based on the period 1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019.
- (a) The projected expenditure for this period (1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019) was \$139.74 million.

(b) The actual expenditure for this period (1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019) was \$132.54 million.

(2) The reported period of the ACT Health Directorate is 1 October 2018 to 30 June 2019.

(a) The original budget for the 2018-19 Financial year remains with the former Health Directorate, now Canberra Health Services, as per page 53 of the 2019-20 Budget.

(b) The ACT Health Directorate has an estimated outcome for the period 1 October 2018 to 30 June 2019, as displayed below:

	2018-19 Estimated Outcome \$'000
Revenue	
Controlled Recurrent Payments	218,632
User Charges	5,597
Resources Received Free of Charge	-
Other Revenue	4,450
Total Revenue	228,679
Total Income	228,679
Expenses	
Employee Expenses	58,117
Superannuation Expenses	6,703
Supplies and Services	75,136
Depreciation and Amortisation	15,714
Grants and Purchased Services	83,897
Interest Expenses	-
Other Expenses	1,450
Total Expenses	241,017
Operating Result	-12,338
Total Comprehensive Income	-12,338

(3) The reasons for the variances between the figures provided in:

(a) Part 1, the ACT Health Directorate was \$7.2 million below budget due mainly to lower employees costs (\$5.0m) relating to average vacancy of 7 percent and timing of grant payments phased into quarter 4 (\$1.7m).

(b) Part 2, the Health Directorate's estimated outcome remains the anticipated budget for 2018-19.

(4) The staffing profile at (a) 1 October 2018 and (b) 30 April 2019 was:

(i) Classification	(ii) Headcount			(iii) FTE		
	01-Oct-18	30-Apr-19	Difference	01-Oct-18	30-Apr-19	Difference
Director General	1	1	0	1	1	0.00
Contract Executive	18	24	6	17.4	22.4	5.00
Executive Sub-total	19	25	6	18.4	23.4	5.00
Cadet	1	0	-1	0.5	0	-0.50
Graduate	5	5	0	5	5	0.00
Admin Services Officer 1	0	1	1	0	1	1.00
Admin Services Officer 2	9	8	-1	8.56	8	-0.56
Admin Services Officer 2/3	1	1	0	0.6	0.6	0.00
Admin Services Officer 3	13	8	-5	12.5	6.74	-5.76

(i) Classification	(ii) Headcount			(iii) FTE		
	01-Oct-18	30-Apr-19	Difference	01-Oct-18	30-Apr-19	Difference
Admin Services Officer 4	23	22	-1	22.12	21.8	-0.32
Admin Services Officer 5	41	54	13	38.72	51.92	13.2
Admin Services Officer 6	81	86	5	72.79	80.05	7.71
Senior Officer C	95	108	13	90.43	102.22	11.79
Senior Officer B	83	84	1	79.24	80.34	1.10
Senior Officer A	37	36	-1	35.57	34.8	-0.77
Legal Officer Grade 2	1	1	0	1	1	0.00
Administrative Staff Sub-total	390	414	24	367.03	393.47	26.89
Health Professional Officer 1	2	3	1	2	3	1.00
Health Professional Officer 2	15	13	-2	13.96	12.44	-1.52
Health Professional Officer 3	22	22	0	20.56	19.76	-0.80
Health Professional Officer 4	24	24	0	22.31	22.41	0.10
Health Professional Officer 5	13	8	-5	12.78	8	-4.78
Health Professional Officer 6	7	6	-1	6.29	5	-1.29
Health Services Officer 3	4	2	-2	4	1.93	-2.07
Health Services Officer 6	4	3	-1	4	3	-1.00
Health Services Officer 8	0	1	1	0	1	1.00
Health Services Officer 10	2	2	0	2	2	0.00
Registered Nurse 2	17	5	-12	15.82	4.63	-11.19
Registered Nurse 3	1	1	0	0.94	0.95	0.10
Registered Nurse 3.1	2	1	-1	2	1	-1.00
Registered Nurse 3G2	0	1	1	0	1	1.00
Registered Nurse 5.6	1	0	-1	1	0	-1.00
Registrar	2	2	0	1.06	1	0.06
Specialist	2	2	0	2	2	0.00
Senior Specialist	8	7	-1	7.07	5.5	-1.57
Medical Staff Sub-total	126	103	-23	117.79	94.62	-23.06
Information Technology Officer 2	2	4	2	2	3.82	1.82
Senior Information Technology Officer C	4	10	6	3.68	9.55	5.87
Senior Information Technology Officer B	2	3	1	2	3	1.00
Senior Information Technology Officer A	0	1	1	0	1	1.00
Professional Officer Grade 2	1	1	0	1	1	0.00
Senior Professional Officer Grade C	1	1	0	1	1	0.00
Technical Officer Grade 1	1	1	0	1	1	0.00
Technical Officer Grade 2	2	2	0	2	2	0.00
Research Officer Grade 2	1	0	-1	0.81	0	-0.81
ICT and Technical Sub-total	14	23	9	13.49	22.37	9.69
Health Directorate Total	549	565	16	516.71	533.86	17.15

(5) Headcount and FTE figures have both increased since 1 October 2018.

- (a) The increase in the Headcount of 16 staff from 1 October 2018 to 30 April 2019 is due mainly to an increase in administrative staff (24), an increase in Executive (6) ICT staff (9) offset by reduction in medical staff (23), due to the realignment of functions.
- (b) The increase of 17.15 in FTE from 1 October 2018 to 30 April 2019 is due mainly to an increase in administrative staff (26.44), Contract Executive (5), ICT staff (8.9) offset by a reduction of medical staff (23.17) due to the restructure and realignment of functions.

**ACT Health—consultant reports
(Question No 2505)**

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What consultant reports did ACT Health commission during 2017-18.
- (2) What reports were outstanding at 30 June 2017 and then completed in 2017-18.
- (3) For each report identified in parts (1) and (2), what was the (a) topic, (b) cost (c) date of commission, (d) date of completion and (e) who was the consultant who performed the work.
- (4) What consultant reports has (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, commissioned during 2018-19 to the date on which this question was published in the Questions on Notice Paper.
- (5) For each report identified in part (4), what was the (a) topic, (b) cost, (c) date of commission, (d) due date of completion, (e) actual or expected date of completion and (f) who was the consultant who performed the work.

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

I have been advised by the ACT Health Directorate that the information sought is not in an easily retrievable form, and that to collect and assemble the information sought solely for the purpose of answering the question would require considerable resources. In this instance, I do not believe that it would be appropriate to divert resources from other priority activities for the purposes of answering the Member's question. However, consultancies valued over \$25,000 are recorded on the Contracts Register available on the Tenders ACT website at tenders.act.gov.au and in the Directorate's Annual Report. These resources contain much of the detail the Member has requested.

**ACT Health—staffing
(Question No 2506)**

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Health*):

- (1) How many positions did (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services, have at each Executive Level classification on (i) 31 December 2018 and (ii) 1 May 2019.
- (2) What are the reasons for any changes in the numbers given in the answer to part (1) for (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services.
- (3) How many and at what levels were statutory office holders employed in (a) ACT Health and (b) Canberra Health Services as at 1 May 2019.

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

(1)

(a) ACT Health Directorate:

Classification	31 Dec 18	1 May 19
Director-General	1	1
Contract Executive Level 3	3	3
Contract Executive Level 2	10	10
Contract Executive Level 1	18	17
Total	32	31

(b) Canberra Health Services:

Classification	31 Dec 18	1 May 19
Chief Executive Officer	1	1
Contract Executive Level 3	1	1
Contract Executive Level 2	10	12
Contract Executive Level 1	3	2
Total	15	16

(2)

(a) The change in numbers of executive positions in the ACT Health Directorate between 31 December 2018 and 1 May 2019 is reflective of the operational needs and requirements of the Directorate.

(b) There has been an increase of one executive position in Canberra Health Services since December 2018, which was the creation of the Chief Finance Officer role which had not previously existed.

(3)

(a) The ACT Health Directorate has no statutory office holders.

(b) Canberra Health Services has no statutory office holders.

Drugs—pill testing (Question No 2507)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What involvement does ACT Health or Canberra Health Services have in provision of pill testing at Groovin' the Moo.
- (2) Did the ACT Government provide money to cover the cost of providing pill testing at Groovin' the Moo in 2019; if so, how much was provided in (a) cash and (b) kind.
- (3) Will there be an independent review of the effectiveness of pill testing at Groovin' the Moo in 2019; if so, (a) who will conduct the review, (b) what is the budget, (c) what are the terms of reference and (d) when will review report.
- (4) At the 2019 Groovin' the Moo, how many patrons (a) attended the event, (b) visited the pill testing tent, (c) had their pills tested, (d) were warned about potentially dangerous substances in their pills and (e) discarded their pills after receiving a warning.

- (5) Did the (a) Minister for Health and Wellbeing, (b) Minister for Mental Health, (c) other ACT ministers or (d) backbench MLAs visit the pill testing facility at any time.
- (6) How many (a) overdoses occurred at Groovin' the Moo 2019 and (b) people who used pill testing overdosed.
- (7) What (a) did the ACT Government charge to the pill-testing service providers for the use of space at Exhibition Park to conduct pill testing and (b) would the normal "rack rate" be for that space.
- (8) How many officials or Ministers from other governments witnessed pill testing at Groovin' the Moo at the invitation of the ACT Government.

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

- (1) The ACT Government provided a supportive policy environment within which a trial of a pill testing service could take place at the Groovin the Moo festival. Pill Testing Australia ran the pill testing service.
- (2) No.
- (3) Yes.
 - (a) An independent review of the pill testing service is being conducted by researchers from the Australian National University.
 - (b) \$56,861.10 is being provided for the independent review.
 - (c) The purpose of the review is to consider both the operations and effectiveness of the pill testing service as a harm minimisation strategy. There are no terms of reference for the review.
 - (d) The review will report in two phases with the first report expected by late June 2019, and the second by the end of 2019. Both reports will be considered by Government and will inform the position on pill testing services going forward.
- (4) I am advised that:
 - (a) Approximately 25,000 people attended the Groovin the Moo festival.
 - (b) 234 attended the pill testing service
 - (c) 171 samples were tested. A number of samples were accompanied by multiple patrons.
 - (d) All patrons attending the service receive advice about the risks associated with taking drugs, as well as targeted advice on the specific risks associated with their sample.
 - (e) The seven samples identified as containing the potentially dangerous n-ethylpentylone were observed to be discarded, however, all patrons have the option to discard their drugs, and are not directly observed doing so. The evaluation from the ANU may provide more detail on the proportion of patrons who discarded drugs following their experience at the pill testing service.

- (5) No.
- (6) No ‘overdoses’ were reported at Groovin the Moo. ACT Ambulance Service reported that two people were transported to hospital with either drug and/or alcohol intoxication but were advised that neither had attended the pill testing service.
- (7) The pill testing service provider (servicer provider) was not charged by ACT Government. The entire site was hired directly to the event promoter (promoter), therefore all arrangements were negotiated between the promoter and the service provider.
- (8) Six.

Government—invoices (Question No 2508)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Health*):

- (1) What consultancy services were provided in relation to the MapR Technologies Inc (\$147 505.42, paid on 22 March 2019) on the notifiable invoices register and why did it take 60 days to pay the invoice.
- (2) What contracting work was undertaken in relation to the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority (\$68 485.21, paid on 7 March 2019) on the notifiable invoices register.
- (3) Why did it take 97 days to pay the invoice for Cancer Institute NSW (\$40 912.63, paid on 19 March 2019) on the notifiable invoices register.
- (4) Why were the payments described as “Other Creditors” for Brainlab Australia Pty Ltd (\$193 645.98, paid on 7 March 2019) and Brookfield Global Integrated Solutions Pty Ltd (\$704 169.37, paid on 21 March 2019) on the notifiable invoices register.
- (5) Why did it take 70 days to pay the invoice for Fiona Elizabeth Edge (\$25 146.00, paid on 12 February 2019) on the notifiable invoices register.

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

- (1) This procurement was for MapR professional services during the period of October 2018 to January 2019. MapR services worked with the Information Management Hub to deliver:
 - big data methodologies and best practices to the modelling of ACT Health data;
 - configuration to support ingestion and output of ACT Health systems;
 - the integration of data governance tools; and
 - commencement of web-based search of harmonised clinical systems.

The delay in paying this invoice was due to the processes for paying invoices in a foreign currency adding a time overhead.

- (2) This invoice relates to the recovery of salaries through a Secondment Agreement between ACT Health Directorate and the Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority.
- (3) Cancer Institute NSW sends quarterly invoices to ACT Health for the coding and data entry for the ACT Cancer Registry. They are almost always paid by the due date, however this particular invoice was held up due to staff changes and staff leave.
- (4) The description 'other creditor' was entered erroneously at source, and subsequently captured incorrectly on the notifiable invoices list.
- (5) This invoice was originally received at the time Canberra Health Services were undertaking the transition to the new payment system which meant that the original hard copy invoice was required to be resubmitted electronically. The delay was subsequently compounded by the resubmitted invoice not having an ABN which meant it could not be paid. There was an administrative error that meant that the invoice was allocated to incorrect delegates for signature and had to be redirected.

The Contractor was advised of all stages of the process. The Contractor understood that the transition was responsible for the delay and was ultimately content with the outcome.

Canberra Health Services—communications (Question No 2509)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What was the (a) projected and (b) actual, level of expenditure for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 March 2019, in relation to the Office of the CEO, Communications and Government Relations of Canberra Health Services.
- (2) What is the (a) budget and (b) forecast outcome for the financial year 2018 19 in relation to the Office of the CEO, Communications and Government Relations of Canberra Health Services.
- (3) What are the reasons for any variance between the figures provided in (a) part (1) and (b) part (2).
- (4) What was the staffing profile by (a) classification, (b) head count and (c) FTE, as at 30 April 2019 for the Office of the CEO, Communications and Government Relations of Canberra Health Services.
- (5) How many of the staff in part (4), (a) directly support the CEO, (b) work in communications and (c) perform government relations duties.

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

- (1) The Communications and Government Relations Unit, Canberra Health Services, was established on 1 October 2018. Therefore, the following figures are from the period 1 October 2018 to 31 March 2019.

- (a) The projected level of expenditure is \$772,862.
- (b) The actual level of expenditure is in excess of \$526,373, however, due to the ongoing transition of financial systems and transactional allocations following the split of Canberra Health Services and the ACT Health Directorate on 1 October 2018 we are currently unable to provide an exact figure.
- (2) Canberra Health Services is not in a position to provide the forecast outcome for the 2018-19 year due to the ongoing transition of financial systems and transactional allocations following the split of Canberra Health Services and the ACT Health Directorate on 1 October 2018.
- (3) See response to question 3 above.
- (4) The staffing profile by (a) classification, (b) head count and (c) FTE, as at 30 April 2019 for the Office of the CEO, Communications and Government Relations of Canberra Health Services is as follows:

Classification	Head count	Sum of FTE
ASO5	1	1.00
ASO6	1	0.80
SOGA	1	1.00
SOGB	1	0.80
SOGB	1	1.00
SOGB	1	1.00
SOGC	1	0.98
SOGC	1	1.00
SOGC	1	1.00
SOGC	1	1.00
SOGC	1	1.00
SOGC	1	1.00
GRAND TOTAL	12	11.58

- (5) Of the staff mentioned in response to question 4:
- (a) Three staff directly support the CEO with communications advice and implementation, although this is not their sole responsibility.
- (b) Eleven staff work in communications.
- (c) One staff member performs government relations duties.

Centenary Hospital for Women and Children—maintenance (Question No 2510)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) In relation to the answer given on 17 December 2018 to question on notice No 1890, relating to the partial closure of the paediatric medical ward at The Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, are the remediation works in the two bedrooms that were closed due to water leaks complete; if not (a) why and (b) when will they be.

- (2) Were the two bedrooms re-opened, as stated in the answer given on 17 December 2018, “in late December 2018”; if not (a) why, (b) when will they be and (c) why was it stated in the answer given only in mid-December 2018 that they would be returned to service “in late December 2018”.
- (3) As at the date on which this question was published in the questions on notice paper, how much have the remediation works cost.
- (4) Are any further costs anticipated; if so, how much.
- (5) Is the total actual and anticipated costs greater than \$127 000 (excluding GST); if so, why.
- (6) Has it been determined whether any building warranty claim may be made; if no, why.
- (7) Is a building warranty claim being pursued; if so, (a) how much money is being pursued and (b) what is the status of the claim.
- (8) Has it been determined that a building warranty claim is not feasible; if so (a) on what basis, (b) on what advice and (c) from whom.

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

- (1) Yes.
 - (2) No. The two bedrooms were re-opened on 21 January 2019.
 - (a) The scheduled reopening of late December 2018 was delayed due to the requirement for the Head Contractor to rectify minor building defects prior to handover, and the Christmas shutdown of the construction industry.
 - (b) The two bedrooms were re-opened on 21 January 2019.
 - (c) At the time, late December 2018 was the forecast date for completion of the works and reopening of the two bedrooms.
 - (3) \$132,271.99 (excluding GST).
 - (4) No.
 - (5) Yes, the leak was found to have caused damage to the soffit (or the underside of the floor) below the bedrooms which required remediation and additional expenditure to that previously reported.
 - (6) The latent defect was discovered after the relevant period in which such a claim could be brought had expired. However, a building insurance claim is being separately pursued to recover costs incurred in relation to the Paediatric Medical Ward issue.
 - (7) Refer to the response to question (6).
 - (8) Refer to the response to question (6).
-

**Canberra Hospital—intensive care unit
(Question No 2511)**

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Health*):

- (1) When do current projections show that the current Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the Canberra Hospital (TCH) will reach full capacity.
- (2) When will the planned upgrade to TCH ICU be finished.
- (3) When will the new ICU in the Surgical Procedures Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) project be commissioned to service.
- (4) What contingency plans has TCH made for when the current ICU reaches full capacity before the SPIRE project is commissioned to service.
- (5) Is the current capacity of the ICU causing operational problems at TCH at the current time; if yes (a) what are those operational problems and (b) what measures are being employed to overcome them.
- (6) When do current projections show that the current Coronary Care Unit (CCU) at TCH will reach full capacity.
- (7) When will the planned upgrade to TCH CCU be commissioned to service.
- (8) When will the planned new CCU as part of the SPIRE project be commissioned to service.
- (9) What contingency plans has TCH made for when the CCU at TCH reaches full capacity before the SPIRE project is commissioned to service.
- (10) Is the current capacity of the CCU causing operational problems at TCH at the current time; if yes (a) what are those operational problems and (b) what measures are being employed to overcome them.
- (11) Why was the Government not better prepared for the growing demand on the current ICU and CCU.

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

- (1) Based on the current Intensive Care Unit (ICU) footprint and data projections, Canberra Hospital will reach an average monthly occupancy rate of greater than or equal to 90% occupancy during the 2022-23 financial year. This projection does not take into account measures to be put in place before 2022-23 to address ICU pressures, which include operational and infrastructure options.
- (2) The expansion to the existing TCH ICU is anticipated to be completed within 24 months.
- (3) Construction of the SPIRE building is anticipated to be completed in the 2023-24 financial year. Final commissioning will follow construction completion, the timing of which is subject to procurement processes.

- (4) Canberra Health Services (CHS) manages periods of high demand in the ICU by utilising additional appropriate treatment spaces in the Post Anaesthetic Care Unit. Additionally, CHS and Calvary Public Hospital Bruce work closely together to manage ICU demand. This can include the transfer of patients between hospitals where clinically safe to do so. In addition, CHS is in the process of developing an ICU escalation policy to address periods of high demand.
- (5) As noted in response to Question 4, the current capacity of the Canberra Hospital ICU is managed within current resourcing across the Territory.
- (6) Current projections for CCU demand at Canberra Hospital are not anticipated to exceed existing physical capacity ahead of the completion of the SPIRE centre in the 2023-24 financial year.
- (7) There are no current plans to upgrade the existing CCU, however, a new CCU and Cardiac Catheter Suite are included in plans for the SPIRE Centre to be completed in the 2023-24 financial year.
- (8) Please see answer to question 3.
- (9) CHS manages periods of high demand in the CCU by utilising Territory Wide Services.

For the past three years CHS have undertaken a “treat and return service” for Calvary Public Hospital CCU patients, which has worked well to reduce the pressure on beds in the CCU and to reduce delay for the percutaneous coronary intervention management of patients at Calvary Public Hospital CCU.

Private patients in CCU are often transferred to the adjacent private hospital.

A Cardiologist has introduced day procedures for low-risk angiograms and stenting to limit the number of patients who require an overnight bed in CCU. These patients are cared for in the Catheter Laboratory Day Ward prior to discharge.

Cardiac Rehabilitation and Heart Failure nurses facilitate discharge planning to enable CCU discharges early in the morning.

- (10) As noted in response to Q9, the current capacity of the CHS CCU is managed within current resourcing across the Territory.
- (11) The Government has provided a capital investment of \$525 million in health infrastructure over the past three years. Over the next five years we will invest almost \$1 billion in new and improved healthcare infrastructure across Canberra. This will ensure our hospitals and community health centres can keep providing quality care that’s accessible when it’s needed – wherever people live across this city. We are meeting the health care needs of Canberrans today and preparing for the future needs of our rapidly growing city.

Health—bulk-billing (Question No 2512)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

In relation to the answer given to question on notice No 2131 about the funds of \$88,756 (excl GST) remaining in the bulk billing general practice health fund, has a decision been made as to how these remaining funds will be used; if not (a) why not and (b) when will a decision be made; if yes, (i) how are the funds to be used and (ii) if not for the original intended purpose, why.

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

- (1) A decision has yet to be made on how the \$88,756 (excluding GST) in remaining funding from the Bulk Billing General Practices Grant Fund will be utilised.
- (a) The ACT Health Directorate is working through options to finalise the allocation of the funds. This comprehensive assessment will ensure the most appropriate use of this funding.
- (b) The 2017–18 ACT Budget announced \$1.05 million over three years for the 'Better care when you need it—support for bulk billing GPs' initiative. The funding (2018-19 to 2020-2021) is available to be spent within that time period, once a decision on the most appropriate use for the funding has been made.
- (i) and (ii)— Please see response to question (1).

Government—pharmaceutical reform (Question No 2513)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) In relation to the answer given to question on notice No 2083 about arrangements for dispensing drugs from hospital pharmacies, has a decision been made as to whether the ACT will sign the Public Hospital Pharmaceutical Reform Agreement (PHPRA); if not (a) why and (b) when will it be made; if yes, (i) when was the decision made, (ii) what was the decision, (iii) was the decision for unqualified agreement, (iv) if it was not, to what extent was it qualified, (v) why was it qualified and (vi) when did the Territory sign the agreement (or when will it sign it).
- (2) What arrangements does the Territory have with the Commonwealth in relation to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.
- (3) To what extent are the Territory's arrangements different from those in other jurisdictions.
- (4) If the Territory has no such arrangements in place, why.

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

- (1) There is no PHPRA currently being offered to the ACT Government by the Australian Government. The Australian Government has raised the possibility of entering into a multilateral agreement with states and territories to better achieve national consistency in access to Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicines. The ACT would be open to further discussions on a new offer when it is presented by the Commonwealth.

- (2) The ACT, like all other jurisdictions, has access to the PBS through the *National Health Act 1953*.
- (3) The agreements signed between the Australian Government and other jurisdictions are negotiated and managed bilaterally. Consequently, my directorate is not aware of the details of those agreements to which it is not a signatory.
- (4) Please see response to question (2).

Minister for Health and Wellbeing—briefing (Question No 2514)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019 (*redirected to the Minister for Health*):

In relation to the answer given to question on notice No 2133 about figures provided in ministerial brief GBC18/174, (a) why did the Minister fail to answer the specific questions asked, (b) will the Minister now provide specific answers to the questions asked; if not, why and (c) what are the specific answers to the questions asked.

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

- (1) (a) The previous Minister provided a broad response that explained the context for the table and the numbers contained therein.
(b) Please see below.
(c) The answers to all questions from QON 2133 are as follows:
 - (1) Existing # = Existing number of beds, theatres, laboratories, helipads or ambulance bays (spaces) within those functional areas considered within the Project's scope.
Project # = The number of spaces planned within each functional area within the Project's scope at that point in time.
 - (2) Net Growth = Spaces that currently exist, plus project number, minus spaces that will be removed during the course of the project.

Total Canberra Hospital = Final number of spaces projected at the completion of the project.
 - (3) The formulae do not vary from those highlighted in responses to (1) and (2), however on further investigation it was identified the "Net Growth" column contains errors.
 - (4) As per the unredacted brief you received under Freedom of Information in February 2019, the formulae appear to be simple mathematical equations as described in the response to (2).
 - (5) As outlined in the response to (3), it has been identified that the "Net Growth" column contains errors.
 - (6) Given that the table was produced at a point in time and that correct "Net Growth" figures can be calculated with the remaining fields, which I have been advised are correct, I will not be providing a corrected table.

Canberra Hospital—plumbing issues (Question No 2515)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

In relation to the answer given to question on notice No 2047 about removal of copper piping from plumbing systems or brass taps from fire hydrants, have there been any instances of unauthorised removal of (a) copper piping from plumbing systems or (b) brass taps from fire hydrants, at The Canberra Hospital; if yes, (i) what investigations were undertaken, (ii) what resulted from those investigations, (iii) what materials were used to replace them and (iv) if other materials were used, why.

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

Canberra Health Services are not aware of any instances of unauthorised removal of copper piping from plumbing systems or brass taps from fire hydrants, at Canberra Hospital, during the timeline specified in the related Question on Notice.

Health—hydrotherapy (Question No 2516)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) In relation to the hydrotherapy pool at each of (a) The Canberra Hospital and (b) the University of Canberra Public Hospital, for the year 2018-19 (to the date on which this question was published in the questions on notice paper), (i) how many times was the pool closed for routine maintenance, (ii) what was the average length of closure, (iii) how many times was the pool closed due to unplanned equipment breakdown, (iv) what was the average length of closure, (v) what equipment was involved, (vi) was the equipment repaired or replaced, (vii) how many times was the pool closed for planned equipment replacement, (viii) what was the average length of closure, (ix) what equipment was involved and (x) during each of the years 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2018-19 (to 31 March 2019), what was the cost for (A) routine maintenance, (B) unplanned equipment breakdown, (C) unplanned equipment replacement and repairs and (D) planned equipment replacement.
- (2) On what date was it first proposed to close the hydrotherapy pool at The Canberra Hospital.
- (3) What reasons were given for the proposed closure.
- (4) In forming the decision to propose closure of the pool, what work did the government do to (a) measure current demand, (b) assess future demand, (c) undertake an audit of what other suitably specified facilities were available, (d) whether those other facilities had the capacity to meet current and future demand and (e) assess the capacity of the pool at the University of Canberra Public Hospital to meet current and future demand.
- (5) What were the outcomes of that work.

- (6) To what extent did those outcomes influence the decision to propose closure of the pool at The Canberra Hospital.
- (7) On what date did consultation with stakeholders begin on the proposed closure and (a) who were those stakeholders, (b) what forms did that consultation take, (c) what feedback did stakeholders give to the government on the proposed closure and (d) did that feedback cause the government to review its proposed closure; if yes, to what extent; if no, why.

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

- (1)
 - (a) Canberra Hospital:
 - (i) Nil.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
 - (iii) Nil.
 - (iv) Not applicable.
 - (v) Not applicable.
 - (vi) Not applicable.
 - (vii) Nil.
 - (viii) Not applicable.
 - (ix) Not applicable.
 - (x) (A) Individual pieces of infrastructure plant and equipment are not tracked in a way that allows for individual breakdown specific maintenance tasks and cost. Facilities Management applies a whole of system approach to asset management. The estimated cost for annual routine maintenance at the Canberra Hospital hydrotherapy pool is approximately \$143K (based on data 2017-18), is it reasonable to estimate a similar cost in each of the years in question. Routine maintenance includes direct maintenance on the pool as well as supporting infrastructure and equipment.
(B) As per above, this specific data is not tracked and cannot be provided.
(C) As per above, this specific data is not tracked and cannot be provided.
(D) As per above, this specific data is not tracked and cannot be provided.
 - (b) University of Canberra Hospital:
 - (i) Nil.
 - (ii) Not applicable.
 - (iii) Twice in 2018-19.
 - (iv) 2.5 hours.
 - (v) The boiler that heats the pool water.
 - (vi) Equipment was reset and reconfigured.
 - (vii) Nil.
 - (viii) Not applicable.
 - (ix) Not applicable.
 - (x) (A) Applicable to only 2018-19, this cost is included in the contract price for maintaining the facility.

- (B) As per above.
 - (C) As per above.
 - (D) As per above.
- (2) The closure of the Canberra Hospital Hydrotherapy Pool was first proposed in 2014 and 2015 as part of the broader University of Canberra Hospital (UCH) service delivery plan public consultation.
 - (3) The Canberra Health Services (CHS) hydrotherapy service would be relocating to UCH.
 - (4) The planning of UCH involved demand modelling for rehabilitation services. For the purposes of hydrotherapy, consideration was given to the relocation of CHS service to UCH. The work being undertaken by the NOUS group will provide further understanding of demand on hydrotherapy facilities across the community.
 - (5) To transfer the CHS hydrotherapy service from Canberra Hospital to UCH.
 - (6) The outcomes confirmed the decision to close the Canberra Hospital pool and establish hydrotherapy at UCH.
 - (7) The ACT Government first consulted with stakeholders on the transfer of the hydrotherapy service from Canberra Hospital to UCH in 2014 and 2015 as part of the broader Service Delivery Plan (SDP) public consultation. The associated Functional Brief from that time states that the hydrotherapy pool would be relocated from Canberra Hospital to UCH.

As per the UCH SDP Consultation Summary of Feedback document, some of the feedback received through this process related to access to hydrotherapy at UCH and plans for hydrotherapy at Canberra Hospital. ACT Health's response at that time was that the hydrotherapy pool at UCH would be accessible by approved external providers under contractual arrangements.

A UCH Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy was developed in 2017 to inform and engage with internal and external stakeholders about UCH, in advance of its opening.

In 2018, a Service Transfer and Stakeholder Engagement plan was developed specifically relating to the proposed closure of the Canberra Hospital hydrotherapy pool which was to occur in July 2018. Following concerns raised by Arthritis ACT at that time, it was agreed to extend Arthritis ACT's access to the pool for an additional year (to 30 June 2019, subject to the life of the pool).

Further stakeholder consultation is currently occurring through the work being undertaken by Nous Group.

ACT Health—service funding agreements (Question No 2517)

Mrs Dunne asked the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) In relation to the answer given on 3 May 2019 to a question without notice taken on notice about the timing of variations to service funding agreements with non-government organisations, and the answer given on 1 May 2019 to questions on notice No 2351, does the work referred to in the answer to the question without notice taken on notice amount to a general review of service funding agreements.
- (2) If the answer to part (1) is yes, will the Minister clarify or correct the answer given to questions on notice No 2351.
- (3) If the answer to part (1) is no, to what does the work refer.
- (4) If the answer to part (2) is no, why.

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

- (1) No, the work being undertaken by the ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD), and referred to in the 3 May 2019 answer, involves normal administrative updates to the agreements. This would not normally be called a 'review of funding arrangements'.
- (2) Not applicable.
- (3) The work referred to includes ensuring dates, amounts and other relevant details contained within funding agreements are up-to-date. ACTHD is also actively consulting with providers to answer questions about their agreement and confirm funding amounts.
- (4) Not applicable.

Access Canberra—unkempt properties (Question No 2518)

Miss C Burch asked the Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) How long has Access Canberra been in contact with the block owner of the abandoned development site on the corner of Bentham Street and Hutchins Street in Yarralumla.
- (2) What progress has the Access Canberra investigation made to date.
- (3) What action is Access Canberra likely to take regarding the site.
- (4) Has the investigation into the site got a set completion date; if so, what is the date that the investigation will be completed by.

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

- (1) The first contact with the owner occurred in April 2012. In relation to the current investigation, Access Canberra's first contact with the owner occurred on 6 April 2018.
- (2) Access Canberra can confirm an investigation is ongoing and as such cannot comment further until the investigation is complete.

- (3) Access Canberra has several regulatory tools available should the investigation uncover a breach of legislation. To preserve the integrity of this investigation, it would be inappropriate to speculate on likely action until the investigation is complete.
 - (4) Each matter has a variety of circumstances that dictate how quickly an investigation can be conducted and completed.
-

**Access Canberra—lease agreements
(Question No 2519)**

Miss C Burch asked the Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) As of the first of May 2019, is the YMCA complying with the terms of their lease agreement for section 18 Yarralumla, (a) if not, has the Government enforced the eviction of the YMCA from the Yarralumla Bay site given the 31st of December 2018 deadline and (b) if not, why has the Government not enforced the eviction of YMCA from the site.
- (2) What steps has Access Canberra taken to negotiate with the YMCA to resolve the lease issue.
- (3) Has Access Canberra granted another extension to the YMCA to resolve their lease issues; if so, can a copy of any extension agreement be provided.
- (4) How regularly has Access Canberra contacted the YMCA to resolve the lease issue.

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

- (1) As at 30 January 2019, the YMCA was complying with the Crown Lease for the land. There is no new evidence before Access Canberra to suggest that the lessee is in breach of the Crown Lease.
 - (2) No steps have been taken since 30 January 2019, as there is no new evidence before Access Canberra to suggest that the lessee is in breach of the Crown Lease.
 - (3) There has been no need for an extension. At the time of Access Canberra's last inspection, it was determined that the YMCA were complying with their Crown Lease.
 - (4) Access Canberra undertook two inspections in January 2019. On both occasions there was no breach of the Crown Lease observed.
-

**Environment—Isabella Pond
(Question No 2520)**

Ms Lee asked the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) How many times has Isabella Pond been drained since October 2016.

- (2) For each draining; what was the (a) date of drain and refill and (b) total cost for each draining and refill.
- (3) When will the works at Isabella Pond be completed.
- (4) Has the project been delivered within budget; if not, (a) by how much has the budget been exceeded and (b) has this overspend been borne by the contractor or the ACT Government.
- (5) Was a cost benefit analysis done prior to the announcement of the rain garden in Fadden (Project ID TG023); if so, can the Minister provide a copy of the analysis.
- (6) At what stage in the planning for the Fadden rain garden was the decision made to cancel the project due to lack of cost effectiveness (Project ID TG023).
- (7) On what date was the decision made to cancel the Fadden rain garden project (Project ID TG023).
- (8) What is the difference between the Fadden rain garden project (TG023) which was cancelled and the Fadden rain garden which went ahead (TG029).
- (9) Was a cost benefit analysis done for the Fadden rain garden (TG029); if so, can the Minister provide this analysis; if not, why not.
- (10) On what criteria was the Fadden rain garden (TG029) approved.

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

- (1) The Isabella Pond has been drained three times since October 2016.
- (2)
 - a. Isabella Pond was first drained in mid-April 2017 to allow the expansion of Isabella Weir to be undertaken and the wetlands to be constructed. The pond was temporarily refilled in mid-November 2018 following completion of the weir and wetland construction to allow a 'first fill' inspection. In mid-February 2019 the pond was drained for a second time. Sealing of minor shrinkage cracks in the weir wall occurred during this time which were identified during the 'first fill' inspection (and which were an anticipated part of the construction process). In late March 2019 the pond levels were lowered for a third time. During this time additional inspection and reporting on the shrinkage crack sealing was undertaken. The pond was refilled in early May 2019.
 - b. There is no cost associated with each draining and refilling as this is part of the Contractor's scope of work for the Isabella Weir expansion project.
- (3) The pond will be lowered again in June 2019, to allow further shrinkage crack repairs to be undertaken. Following this (in approximately July 2019) the pond will be refilled, and the weir wall again inspected. Should all shrinkage cracks be successfully sealed then no further emptying of the pond will be required.
- (4) The project has been completed within budget.

- (5) For the ACT Healthy Waterways Project (the Project), an analysis of expected economic costs and benefits was undertaken at the Project level, however not at the individual water quality asset level. A large number of potential water quality assets were considered and narrowed down to a short list of preferred assets, based on a multi criteria analysis that considered a broad range of factors. The multi criteria analysis included expected performance of each of the assets on the basis of removal of nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment.
- (6) A decision to move TG023 from the priority to the reserve list was made following design and construction feasibility studies.
- (7) The decisions to move TG023 from the priority to the reserve list was endorsed by the ACT Healthy Waterway Project Control Group on 22 August 2017.
- (8) Design and construction feasibility identified that TG023 would potentially interface with the future Isabella Drive widening. Asset redesign would reduce the size and subsequent treatment capability of the asset making it less attractive from a pollution reduction perspective than TG029.
- (9) See response to Question 5.
- (10) TG029 was progressed after further consideration in the feasibility study, on the basis of:
 - cost effective achievement of water quality outcomes
 - the asset having lower construction risks or risks from latent conditions (contamination)
 - statutory approvals, utilities interface, and construction program
 - an achievable construction program with completion certainty by the Commonwealth's construction deadline of June 2019.

**Schools—after hours activities
(Question No 2521)**

Ms Lee asked the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Development, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What ACT government schools operate extra classes/activities/clubs outside of regular school classes/hours.
- (2) Can the Minister provide details of those ACT government schools that operate these extra classes/activities/clubs during (a) lunch time, (b) recess, (c) before school and (d) after school.
- (3) What steps does each school, referred to in part (1), take, if any, to encourage students to participate in these extra classes/activities/clubs.
- (4) Do each of the schools referred to in part (1) operate extra classes/activities/clubs of a religious nature; if so, (a) which schools, (b) which religious denominations and (c) whether they operate during (i) lunch time, (b) recess, (c) before school and (d) after school.

- (5) Who runs/leads these extra classes/activities/clubs outside of regular school classes/hours.
- (6) If these extra classes/activities/clubs are run by teachers, are they remunerated.
- (7) If these extra classes/activities/clubs are run by people other than teachers, are they (a) volunteers or (b) other paid contractors/employees.

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

- (1) Co-curricular activities are elective programs undertaken outside of regular school classes/hours. Data about co-curricula activities is not collected centrally.
- (2) ACT public schools operate under a system of school-based management to allow them to meet the needs of their community. This provides individual schools with flexibility in providing co-curricular activities. School leadership teams, in consultation with their boards, determine the optional activities available for students.
- (3) ACT public schools internally promote co-curricular activities to students. Principals in conjunction with the school board and the school community make decisions on any extra classes and activities made available for their students.
- (4) If parents and carers of children at ACT public schools request their child receive religious education, it is the responsibility of the principal to coordinate the teaching in compliance with the Religious Education in ACT Public Schools Policy. Classes are organised for a reasonable time as negotiated with the principal.
- (5) Principals may coordinate the supervision of co-curricular activities outside of regular school hours in line with School Board decisions.
- (6) Co-curricular activities outside school hours are negotiated with the principal. The Principal works with teachers to meet the operational requirements of the school including activities that occur outside school hours.
- (7) As co-curricular activities are school based decisions, principals can elect to have volunteers or paid representatives coordinating these elective programs.

**Access Canberra—lease agreements
(Question No 2522)**

Ms Lee asked the Minister for Business and Regulatory Services, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) Are there any conditions which apply to the Crown Lease covering Yarralumla Block 1 Section 18; if so, what are they and can the Minister provide copy of conditions.
- (2) Has the ACT Government received complaints or requests to investigate Yarralumla Block 1 Section 18 since 1 January 2019; if so, what (a) are the dates for these requests for investigation; and (c) is the nature of those complaints and requests.

- (3) What investigations or site visits has Access Canberra done to ensure that the Yarralumla Block 1 Section 18 is being utilised by the owner in accordance with the terms of the Crown Lease.
- (4) If investigations or site visits have occurred, what (a) was the dates of these site visits and (b) actions were undertaken by the ACT Government.
- (5) What was the outcome of each of the site visits and investigations referred to in part (3).
- (6) What policy, criteria and other reasoning documents were used by the Government to assess whether this building was being used within the terms of the Crown Lease and can the Minister provide a copy of those documents.
- (7) What enforcement, penalties for breach of conditions and extensions have been issued or granted by the Government regarding the use of Yarralumla Block 1 Section 18.

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

- (1) A copy of a Crown Lease for a parcel of land may be obtained by undertaking a title search online by visiting www.actlis.act.gov.au and by paying the prescribed fee. Crown Leases, by their nature contain conditions and obligations.
- (2) Yes. Prior to 1 January there was an open case in regards to this matter.
 - (a) February 2019
 - (b) Allegations of breach of the lease purpose clause.
- (3) Access Canberra building Inspectors have conducted inspections throughout the course of their investigation in January 2019.
- (4) (a) 23 and 30 January 2019.
(b) No regulatory action was undertaken.
- (5) Inspectors observed no more than 10 people present at the time of each inspection. Further inspections were not conducted after the complaint received in February 2019 as it had already been determined, in prior recent inspections, that there was no breach to investigate.
- (6) The Crown Lease, Registered Variation to the Crown Lease, the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the Act) and observations made during the inspections.

Copies of the Crown lease and variations are available for a fee at www.actlis.act.gov.au

The Act can be viewed at <https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2007-24/>

- (7) Since January 2019, no enforcement action, penalties or extensions have been issued.

**Government—taxes and charges
(Question No 2523)**

Ms Le Couteur asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What percentage of residential rates revenue was raised by the fixed charge component of rates in the financial years of (a) 2012-13, (b) 2013-14, (c) 2014-15, (d) 2015-16, (e) 2016-17 and (f) 2017-18.
- (2) What percentage of residential land tax revenue was raised by the fixed charge component of land tax in the financial years of (a) 2012-13, (b) 2013-14, (c) 2014-15, (d) 2015-16, (e) 2016-17 and (f) 2017-18.
- (3) What percentage of total residential property taxation revenue, including the Safer Families Levy and the Fire and Emergency Services Levy, was raised by fixed per-property charges in the financial years of (a) 2012-13, (b) 2013-14, (c) 2014-15, (d) 2015-16, (e) 2016-17 and (f) 2017-18.

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

- (1) The percentage of residential rates revenue raised by the fixed charge in relation to the total residential rates revenue is shown in the following table.

Financial Year	Percentage of Residential Rates Revenue from the Fixed Charge in Relation to the Total Residential Rates Revenue
2012-13	39 percent
2013-14	41 percent
2014-15	40 percent
2015-16	40 percent
2016-17	41 percent
2017-18	37 percent

- (2) The percentage of residential land tax revenue raised by the fixed charge in relation to the total residential land tax revenue is shown in the following table.

Financial Year	Percentage of Residential Land Tax Revenue from the Fixed Charge in Relation to the Total Residential Land Tax Revenue
2012-13	N/A
2013-14	N/A
2014-15	40 percent
2015-16	38 percent
2016-17	45 percent
2017-18	41 percent

Please note there was no fixed charge for land tax in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

- (3) The percentage of total residential property taxation revenue, including the Safer Families Levy and the Fire and Emergency Services Levy, raised by fixed per property charges are as follows.

Financial Year	Percentage of Residential Revenue from Fixed Charges in Relation to Total Residential Rates, Land Tax, FESL and SFL Revenue
2012-13	33 percent
2013-14	35 percent
2014-15	44 percent
2015-16	44 percent
2016-17	48 percent
2017-18	44 percent

**Municipal services—playgrounds
(Question No 2525)**

Ms Le Couteur asked the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, upon notice, on 17 May 2019:

- (1) What is the current status of the Holdens Creek Pond playground process.
- (2) Did the Suburban Land Agency include ‘Toilets’ in the Holdens Creek Pond site, which is not a District Park (or higher) in the open space hierarchy; if so, why.
- (3) Did the Suburban Land Agency investigate other possible sites in Wright and Coombs for public toilets and basketball courts prior to releasing its proposal for the Holdens Creek Pond site.
- (4) Can the Minister advise whether the Coombs Play Space 2018 YourSay Survey related only to playground infrastructure options for the Holdens Creek Pond site, or for playground and public infrastructure priorities more generally.
- (5) Did the Suburban Land Agency investigate the Holdens Creek Pond site for suitability for facilities such as toilets and a basketball court prior to the release of the YourSay Survey.
- (6) What play space options did the community say they wanted in this survey, ranked in order of popularity.
- (7) Can the Minister confirm whether a review of public toilet location options in Coombs and Wright has been commissioned by the Suburban Land Agency; if so, (a) when did the review start, (b) has the review been completed; if not, when is completion expected, (c) will the outcome be made known to the public, (d) will the full report of the Review be released to the community and (e) did the Suburban Land Agency release the Draft Concept Designs for the Coombs Play Space (22 February 2019) before the review of the public toilet location options had been completed; if so, why.

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

- (1) Community engagement on the proposal for Holdens Creek Pond playground (Coombs Play Space) is continuing which will assist in finalising the planning for the site.
- (2) Community consultation undertaken in 2018 indicated support for inter-generational play, shade, car parking and toilets facilities. A public toilet ranked highly for inclusion from the YourSay survey and in the Charles Weston School student workshop. However, an independent resident submission opposed the toilet facility suggesting non-compliance with design standards and perceived safety and vandalism concerns.

At this stage the proposal considers the inclusion of the toilet facility, reflecting the broader community feedback. Notwithstanding this type of facility would usually be included in a District Playground setting, the proximity of this site to other open space areas accessed by the public and the community feedback would suggest that there is

merit in considering a facility at this location. The decision also acknowledges that there are no existing public toilets in Coombs and that runners and walkers using the nearby tracks would also be well served having a toilet in this location.

- (3) In 2017 the Suburban Land Agency and Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS) reviewed the play spaces in Wright and Coombs to determine the level of amenity in play spaces and to identify improvement opportunities. The review also considered community feedback about the type of infrastructure to be delivered in Wright and Coombs, particularly for the 7-14 age group, and the need for additional infrastructure providing shade and bubblers.

This resulted in additional shade sails and bubblers being installed in a number of parks in Wright and Coombs.

- (4) The Coombs Play Space YourSay survey focussed on the Holdens Creek Pond Site (informally known as the Coombs Play Space). The outcomes of the survey were to help inform what equipment and amenities could be included in the play space.
- (5) While toilets are typically only provided in District Parks, TCCS and the Suburban Land Agency shared the view that the proposed play space could warrant a toilet facility in this location. The range of facilities placed in local parks is generally based on the size of the local population it would service. Basketball courts are not uncommon in new estates to assist in providing an area for active recreation for older children. As already noted, Coombs does not currently have public toilet facilities.
- (6) There were two parts to the Coombs Play Space YourSay Survey. Both provided a small list to choose from, with multiple options available to select:
- i. What **play equipment** would you like to see at the Coombs Play Space?
 1. 92.5 weighted votes - Double swings and baby swing
 2. 87.5 weighted votes - Slide
 3. 78.7 weighted votes - Miniature Trampolines
 - ii. If we can include **some larger facilities**, what would you choose (multiple options permitted)?
 1. 68 weighted votes - Toilets
 2. 64.4 weighted votes - Basketball court
 3. 62.6 weighted votes - Water Play Area

All survey responses are available at - <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/coombs-play-space>

- (7) Yes, the Wright and Coombs Toilet Block Study was commissioned by the Suburban Land Agency to determine the best location, if any, for a public toilet facility in Coombs and Wright.
- a) 25 January 2019.
 - b) Yes, it was completed in April 2019.
 - c) Yes, it its proposed the outcome will be made known to the public as part of the additional engagement opportunities for the project.
 - d) Yes, it its proposed the full report will be released to the community as part of the additional engagement opportunities for the project in mid-2019.

- e) Yes, toilets were included as a response to the YourSay and Charles Weston School engagement undertaken on the project. The Draft Concept Designs illustrate how the feedback could be included in a schema for the site. Further specific feedback has been received from a few local residents highlighting their concerns regarding a public toilet. These issues are being considered and as such the SLA will continue to engage with the community.

Questions without notice taken on notice

Government—Canberra Helicopters

Mr Barr (*in reply to a question by Mr Coe on Thursday, 4 April 2019*):

A direct sale application was made by Secure Aviation Pty Ltd (Canberra Helicopters) for a proposed emergency services facility to provide aerial support to emergency management in the ACT. The Government advised the Proponent's consultant, Canberra Town Planning (CTP), by letter on 21 November 2017, of the decision that Secure Aviation was eligible for a direct sale with conditions. The conditions require the presentation of a broadly scoped Environmental Impact Assessment. Once the Proponent can demonstrate that it has met the conditions of the direct sale, a direct sale offer for a market value lease will be made.

The direct sale application process included advice from the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate that an environmental impact assessment was required. The environmental impact assessment is to consider matters relating to the helicopter operations such as safety, noise and impact on surrounding land uses as well as consideration of general environmental impact matters. Clarification was initially sought by CTP in May 2018, with discussions taking place and final advice provided in September 2018 as to the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment and the process to be undertaken. The proponent is in the process of understanding the scoping document and is soon to commence the environmental impact statement (EIS) process under the *Planning and Development Act 2007* to consider these matters and also provide opportunity for public consultation.

A scoping document for an EIS was formally applied for by Canberra Town Planning on behalf of Secure Aviation on 12 February 2019 and the scoping document was issued by the planning and land authority on 28 March 2019. Following the conclusion of the EIS process, a development application may be submitted for consideration by the independent planning and land authority. The Proponent needs to secure development approval for the proposal as a condition of the direct sale.

There has been a delay in responding to this question because of the need to seek authorisation from the project proponent to release these details.

Light rail—disability access

Ms Fitzharris (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Lawder and Mrs Kikkert on Thursday, 4 April 2019*):

Transport Canberra and Canberra Metro have consulted with disability organisations during the project design and construction to inform the project requirement of full compliance with the Disability Standards for *Accessible Public Transport* (DSAPT), organisations included Dogs Australia and the ACT Disability Reference Group.

Canberra Metro held light rail familiarisation events on 28 and 29 March at the Gungahlin Place terminus with disability and special-interest groups. The events were to provide feedback on accessibility and build confidence in how to use light rail. Groups involved represented Canberrans with low vision, deafness, mobility impairment and a range of health issues, as well as older Canberrans.

In another recent engagement example, Guide Dogs NSW/ACT helped select the voices for light rail announcements to ensure they would be clear to people who are blind or have low vision. Customer Service Officers have also received training in disability awareness and assisting passengers with low vision.

Canberra Metro will have Customer Service Officers actively supporting passengers to use light rail during operations. It is not proposed to have a permanent presence of Customer Service Officers at all stops at all times.

O'Malley—unauthorised activities

Mr Steel (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Mrs Jones on Thursday, 4 April 2019*):

The recent letter the Member refers to is from multiple residents of Bulwarra Close and raises a number of issues.

In relation to the safety and parking issues in Bulwarra Close, I am advised that for vehicles entering Bulwarra Close from Terrigal Crescent, the available line of sight at the two intersections in front of the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates was restricted. A site inspection has been completed and proposed changes to the parking restrictions are currently being drafted and will be provided to residents in Bulwarra Close for comment by the beginning of June 2019 this will be followed by implementation of required parking signs during July 2019.

ACT Health—SPIRE project

Ms Fitzharris (*in reply to a question and supplementary questions by Mr Parton and Mrs Dunne on Thursday, 16 May 2019*):

- (1) The cardiac care unit and cardiac catheter suites were built in accordance with the Australian Standards in place at the time of construction.
- (2) The beds in the cardiac care unit met the relevant Australian Standards at the time of purchase.
- (3) See responses to questions 1 and 2 above.

Public housing—Ainslie Village

Ms Berry (*in reply to a question by Ms Le Couteur on Thursday, 16 May 2019*):

In response to the Member's questions, I can inform the Assembly that the University of Queensland have delivered the final report for the study into support requirements and accommodation options for people in the ACT with high and complex service needs. The report will be released in the coming weeks.

Schools—vandalism

Ms Berry (*in reply to a question and supplementary questions by Ms Lee and Miss C Burch on Thursday, 16 May 2019*):

- 1) The safety and security of Canberra public schools is very important. The Directorate works closely with schools and their community to identify security measures that might contribute to the school being a safe and secure environment. The Directorate also works closely with ACT Policing by proactively reporting incidents and providing information for their investigations.

There are a range of strategies the Directorate takes in order to provide a safer environment not only for students, staff and visitors, but also to protect school facilities. These strategies include the installation of security fences, community education, external security lighting, internal electronic security systems, motion detectors, security screen or security film treatments to strengthen windows and glazed doors, strengthened doors and window locks, the removal of potential projectiles from school grounds and local security patrol programs conducted throughout the year.

The implementation of these strategies have contributed to a 72% reduction in the number of vandalism incidents between 2009 and 2018.

The Directorate is currently undertaking a rolling program of security risk assessments. The Security Risk Assessments will provide the Directorate with strategies where appropriate to further strengthen physical security measures.

- 2) Averaging over a period of three years, the cost is approximately \$260,000 per annum.
- 3) Depending on the nature of the vandalism and whether it has been significant or not, vandalism incidents at schools often means unscheduled repair work, which can potentially create minor disruptions on school sites while repairs are carried out. In cases of significant vandalism, for example the latest vandalism incident meant that 300 students needed to be relocated to another school to ensure continuity of their education whilst repairs and maintenance was carried out.

The ACT Government sees public schools as community assets and we want to encourage community access wherever possible. Unfortunately, despite a downward trend in recent years, vandalism remains a reality the government and schools need to manage.

ACTION bus service—wheelchair accessible buses

Mr Steel (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mrs Kikkert on Tuesday, 4 June 2019*):

Transport Canberra Statistics (as at 1 May 2019)		
	Number	Percentage
Transport Canberra Operational Fleet	454	
DDA Accessible	380	83.70
Bike Racks	428	94.27
Climate Controlled	380	83.70

The Budget announcement on June 4, 2019 provided an additional \$44.510m over 4 years to replace 84 ageing buses in the Transport Canberra fleet, 74 of which are non-wheelchair accessible buses, as follows:

Transport Canberra Statistics (as at 1 May 2019)		
	Additional Funding	Buses
2019-20	\$6.394m	12
2020-21	\$12.403m	24
2021-22	\$12.713m	24
2022-23	\$13m (\$7m of the \$13m is provisioned)	24

Canberra Hospital—electrical systems

Ms Fitzharris (*in reply to a question by Mrs Dunne on Tuesday, 4 June 2019*):

- (1) Nil. The additional required project funding was sourced through:
- Reprofiling and reprioritisation of unallocated Upgrading and Maintaining ACT Health Assets (UMAHA) program funds;
 - Utilisation of UMAHA program contingencies;
 - Reallocation of UMAHA program savings;
 - Fire damage insurance claim funds relating to the Building 2 Electrical Main Switchboard fire; and
 - Repurposed capital project savings.

Environment—fauna

Mr Gentleman (*in reply to supplementary questions by Ms Le Couteur and Ms Lawder on Tuesday, 4 June 2019*):

TCCS and EPSDD work closely together when it comes to these sorts of works. EPSDD has provided TCCS a range of historical studies relating to ecological values in the vicinity of Hume, including surveys of threatened and endangered flora and fauna such as the grasslands earless dragon. This background information will be used in the first stage of the planning of works on the Monaro Highway to understand constraints and guide scheme design to avoid or minimise the impacts on the environment. TCCS and EPSDD will continue to work closely on the project as it progresses through the planning and design stages, particularly in relation to securing relevant planning and environmental approvals.

African lovegrass has a major impact on Grassland Earless Dragon habitat. This invasive grass outcompetes native grasses and creates dense patches, unsuitable for Grassland Earless Dragon foraging.

For this reason, a large-scale African lovegrass control project commenced last Summer (2018-19) in the Jerrabomberra Valley across all land tenures. The African lovegrass plants were killed by careful spot spraying with herbicide. There will be on-going follow-up control commencing next Spring-Summer (2019-20).

This type of control work is called “asset protection” as it involves *threat reduction* (reducing the spread of African lovegrass into the Grassland Earless Dragon habitat) and *impact amelioration* (decreasing the African lovegrass density where it has already invaded the Grassland Earless Dragon habitat).

Public housing—relocations

Ms Berry (*in reply to a question and supplementary questions by Mr Coe and Mr Parton on Wednesday, 5 June 2019*):

- 1) In the 2018-19 financial year to 30 June 2019, eight households have been relocated to new homes.
- 2) Once the eight households were assessed as priority, they were rehoused, on average, in 8 days.
- 3) In the last six months to 30 June 2019, two formal complaints were received by Housing ACT’s Complaints Unit regarding antisocial behaviour at the complex. Within that six months, three complaints were received by Housing ACT at ministerial level through my office. Housing ACT is unable to report on complaint numbers made to RecLink.

Government—fees and charges

Mr Barr (*in reply to a question by Mrs Dunne on Thursday, 6 June 2019*):

A total of 373 ratepayers have elected to have their rates liability deferred. The following is an itemisation of this total:

Deferment Type	Total Number	Amount Deferred	Interest Deferred	Total Amount Deferred
Pensioner	273	\$1,634,545.17	\$216,567.98	\$1,851,113.15
Hardship	55	\$386,804.48	\$68,765.26	\$455,569.74
Aged	45	\$259,728.68	\$5,258.52	\$264,987.20
Total	373	\$2,281,078.33	\$290,591.76	\$2,571,670.09

ACTION bus service—network

Ms Fitzharris (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mr Wall on Thursday, 6 June 2019*):

We have received correspondence on a range of matters in relation to the New Bus Network. To provide the exact numbers as requested would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

Community housing—land release

Ms Berry (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Mr Le Couteur on Thursday, 6 June 2019*):

In 2017-18 the Government released 20 of the 34 sites which had targets applied to them. The 14 not released were within Strathnairn and were delayed by a matter before the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal. The Government is continuing to work with community housing providers for the release of the remaining 14 sites. Any sites which had a target applied for 2017-18 which have not been released, will continue to have the target applied in the future.

In 2018-19, sites in Giralang and Scullin had community housing targets applied to them. Following finalisation of due diligence processes, these sites are now likely to be released in early 2019-20. The Giralang site, which is the former Giralang Community Centre, is currently tenanted, and ACT Property Group is working with the tenant to facilitate its departure. The Suburban Land Agency is also looking to release 59 sites in Taylor to community housing providers as part of a broader Expression of Interest process in late June 2019. Any sites which had a target applied for 2018-19 which have not been released, will continue to have the target applied in the future.

Community housing blocks released under the Indicative Land Release Program (IRLP) will be sold under a competitive tender process open to Community Housing Providers (CHPs) only. This ensures competitive neutrality for the tender, giving each CHP a chance to bid for the assigned blocks, but restricts the process and final sale to CHPs only which has an impact on the final price.