

Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2006

Transport and Regional Services

Question No: NCA 01

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: **Parliamentary Zone Review Report and Access Survey**

Hansard Page: 117-118 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Senator LUNDY—Are you able to provide the Committee with a summary of your consultation with stakeholders in this regard or some evidence that these problems have been reported to you?

Ms Pegrum—I can table the Parliamentary Zone Review Report, because the primary issues are derived from that. There was also an access survey, from memory, of the Parliamentary Zone, and I can table that. We can table the design intent and the issues that it has addressed. But it is our intention, as I said, to come forward to Parliament in due course after EPBC considerations.

Senator LUNDY—If you could forward those to the Committee and highlight the references to the issues, that would be helpful.

Answer:

A copy of the Parliamentary Zone Review is **attached**. The Review drew on results collected from a Parliamentary Zone Access Study (referred to in the Bibliography on page 87).

[NCA 01 attachment – not included. Available from committee secretariat on request]

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Question No: NCA 02

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Land of the Canberra International Airport

Hansard Page: 122 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Senator LUNDY—So you can confirm that there is no other land in the ACT which has the same treatment now as the airport?

Ms Pegrum—I will take it on notice, but my best knowledge at this time is that that is correct.

Answer:

There is no other land in the ACT which has the same treatment as the airport.

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Question No: NCA 03

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Canberra International Airport - Planning

Hansard Page: 122 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Has the planning regime at the airport been considered an anomaly? That is probably not a fair question to ask the NCA, Minister. I do not know if that is one you could take on notice for the Minister for Territories or even the Minister for Transport. I am interested to know what prompted this change, particularly in the context that I do not think anyone would argue that the owners of the airport have had any grave difficulty in getting planning approval for some award-winning designs for their office buildings. I would like a bit of an insight from the Government as to what prompted this, I think quite substantial, change.

Answer:

The Department of Transport and Regional Services is responsible for amendments to primary legislation within the Portfolio.

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Question No: NCA 04

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Pierces Creek Settlement

Hansard Page: 125 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Senator LUNDY—I am at a bit of a loss. Can you run through your argument as to why you would prevent the ACT government from allowing that tenant to purchase that property?

Ms Pegrum—I think we have just done that. I am quite happy, once we have written to the territory, to provide a copy of that correspondence to the Committee, which will set out our reasons.

Answer:

A copy of correspondence to the ACT Government concerning the formal request to amend the National Capital Plan leases at Pierces Creek is **attached**.

[NCA 04 attachment]

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Question No: NCA 05

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Consultants for Virtual Canberra Website

Hansard Page: 125 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Who was the consultant and what was the value of the consultancy?

Answer

Two consultants below were engaged for the development of the Virtual Canberra Website:

Bearcage Productions - \$8955 (GST-exclusive)

NRS Group (Channelvision) - \$2288 (GST-exclusive)

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Question No: NCA 06

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Funding for Promotional Activities

Hansard Page: 125-126 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Senator LUNDY—All of those were within your existing budget?

Ms Pegrum—That is correct, yes. I should just clarify that they were all within the existing budget but I believe I said funded out of Output 2. In fact, I believe the film and the light show were funded in whole or in part also from our Administered side of the budget through the replacement programs, because the exhibition is an administered asset.

Senator LUNDY—If you could take on notice providing those details, that would be helpful.

Answer

The cost of producing the Story of Canberra Film was approximately \$80,000. The cost of installing the *Canberra Light Show*, including the new lighting effects, sound effects and narration in seven languages, projection equipment and modifications to the model and the exhibition infrastructure was \$187,845. Both projects were funded from the Administered budget as Capital replacement works.

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Question No: NCA 07

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Use of Lake Burley Griffin for Water Sports

Hansard Page: 129 (23/05/06)

Senator Lundy asked:

Senator LUNDY—Thank you. To wrap up, I note the efforts of the Minister to promote more expansive use of the lake for different water sports, particularly the waterskiing trial.

Ms Pegrum—Yes.

Senator LUNDY—Can you tell me what is happening with that, please?

Ms Pegrum—We have completed the trial and the Authority has made a decision on that which we are about to go forward to the Minister on.

Senator LUNDY—Are you able to speak about that in advance of telling the Minister?

Ms Pegrum—I would prefer to brief the Minister first. I would be happy to provide that to the Committee afterwards.

Answer

The ACT Water Skiing Association has undertaken a trial of water skiing training in East Basin of Lake Burley Griffin from November 2005 – February 2006.

The trial has been assessed by external environmental experts against a range of environmental parameters including noise, silt disturbance, turbidity, bank erosion and the impact on wild life.

The NCA has consulted on the trial with lake users through the Lake Users Group and other stakeholders including the ACT Hospice and the Boathouse Restaurant which are located nearest the training course.

An announcement on the outcome of the trial was made by the Minister on 22 June 2006 when a report on the impact of the trial on the lake environment was also available on the NCA website.

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Question No: NCA 08

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Expenditure on Legal Services

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ludwig asked:

What sum did the Department or Agency spend during 2005-2006 on external legal services (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others)?

Answer:

Legal services are provided to the NCA by the Australian Government Solicitor. The total cost of these services including GST from 1 July 2005 to 31 May 2006 was \$114,938.63

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Question No: NCA 09

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Expenditure on Legal Services

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ludwig asked:

What sum did the Department or Agency spend on internal legal services?

Answer:

Nil response.

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Question No: NCA 10

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Expenditure on Legal Services

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ludwig asked:

What is the Department or Agency's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007.

Answer:

The National Capital Authority has budgeted for the same order of costs as for 2005-2006 (in the order of \$115,000).

Legal costs are subject to external demands, including litigation before the Courts, which are not able to accurately be estimated.

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Question No: NCA 11

Division/Agency: National Capital Authority

Topic: Executive Coaching and Leadership Training

Hansard Page: Written Question

Senator Ludwig asked:

The following questions relate to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services by the Department/agency, broken down for each of the last four financial years.

Where available, please provide:

1. Total spending on these services.
2. The number of employees offered these services and their salary level.
3. The number of employees who have utilised these services and their salary level.
4. The names of all service providers engaged.
5. For each service purchased from a provider listed in the answer to the previous question, please provide:
 - a. The name and nature of the service purchased.
 - b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based.
 - c. The number of employees who received the service.
 - d. The total number of hours involved for all employees.
 - e. The total amount spent on the service.
 - f. A description of the fees charged (e.g. per hour, complete package).
 - g. Where a service was provided at any location other than the Department or Agency's own premises, please provide:
 - i. The location used
 - ii. The number of employees who took part on each occasion.
 - iii. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part.

Answer:

2002/03 Financial Year

1. \$18,726.50
2. three – two EL 2s and one EL 1
3. two – one EL 2 & one EL 1
4. Mt Eliza Melbourne Business School and Australian Public Service Commission
5. **Mt Eliza Melbourne Business School**
 - (a) Leadership Development Program (b) group-based (residential) (c) one (d) 5-day residential (e) \$7,226.50 (f) complete package (g) (i) Mt Eliza (ii) one (iii) 5-day residential.

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Australian Public Service Commission

(a) Senior Women in Management Program (SWIM) (b) group-based program (c) one (d) 12-month program (e) \$11,500.00 (f) complete package (g) (i) various placements in other organisation/agencies as part of the program (ii) one (iii) 12-month program

2003/04 Financial Year

Nil

2004/05 Financial Year

Nil

2005/06 Financial Year

1. \$7,226.50
2. one - EL 2
3. one – EL 2
4. Mt Eliza Melbourne Business School
5. (a) Leadership Development Program (b) group-based (residential) (c) one (d) 5- day residential (e) \$7,226.50 (f) complete package (g) (i) Mt Eliza (ii) one (iii) 5-day residential.