

PREFACE

The 2003-04 Budget

The 2003-04 Budget reflects a number of key events that occurred during the 2002-03 financial year.

Ministerial Portfolios

On 19 December 2002 the Chief Minister, Mr Jon Stanhope, announced revised Ministerial portfolios to coincide with the introduction of a 5th Minister into the Legislative Assembly.

Subsequently, the administrative orders were changed on 23 January 2003, to give the Chief Minister formal Ministerial responsibility for the Bushfire Recovery.

Financial Statements presented in the 2003-04 Budget Papers reflect the current composition, as further outlined in the Structure of the ACT Government and Classification of ACT Entities chapters. The revised Ministerial portfolios are summarised below.

Mr Jon Stanhope	- Chief Minister - Attorney-General - Minister for Corrections - Minister for Environment - Minister for Community Affairs - Bushfire Recovery	Mr Ted Quinlan	- Deputy Chief Minister - Treasurer - Minister for Economic Development, Business and Tourism - Minister for Sport, Racing and Gaming
Mr Bill Wood	- Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services - Minister for Urban Services - Minister for Police and Emergency Services - Minister for the Arts and Heritage	Mr Simon Corbell	- Minister for Health - Minister for Planning
Ms Katy Gallagher	- Minister for Education, Youth and Family Services - Minister for Women - Minister for Industrial Relations		

Land Development Agency

From 1 July 2003, the new Land Development Agency will take over the functions of:

- all activities undertaken by the Land Group within the Department of Urban Services, relating to:
 - the development of land;

- carry out works for the development and enhancement of land; and
- strategic or complex urban development projects.
- all activities undertaken by the Gungahlin Development Authority; and
- all activities undertaken by the Kingston Foreshore Development Authority.

ACT Planning and Land Authority

From 1 July 2003, the new ACT Planning and Land Authority will take over the functions of:

- all activities undertaken by the Department of Urban Services as they relate to:
 - administering, assessing and proposing amendments to the Territory plan;
 - planning and regulation the development of land;
 - advise on planning and land policy;
 - maintenance of the digital cadastral;
 - making available land information;
 - grants, administration, variation and end leases on behalf of the Executive;
 - the granting of licences over unleased Territory land;
 - decisions on applications for approval to undertake development;
 - regulation of the building industry;
 - orders under the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991, part 6 (Approvals and orders);
 - provision of planning services;
 - review its own decisions;
 - provision of administrative support and facilities for the Planning and Land Council;
 - ensuring community consultation and participation in planning decisions; and
 - promoting public education and understanding of the planning process.

The Department of Health and Community Care

Following the repeal of the *Health and Community Care Services Act 1996* on 31 December 2002, The Canberra Hospital and ACT Community Care both ceased to operate as separate entities and were incorporated into the accounts of the Department of Health and Community Care.

The 2002-03 estimated outcomes represent the un-audited accounts for the six-month period of 1 July 2002 to 31 December 2002. The Statements of Financial Position shows no net assets as at 31 December 2002, as all assets and liabilities for both entities were transferred across to the Department of Health and Community Care.

Activities of The Canberra Hospital and ACT Community Care for the last six months of 2002-03 and for the whole of 2003-04 and each of the outyears are contained in the Financial Statements of the Department of Health and Community Care.

Supplementary Appropriations 2002-03

The 2002-03 Appropriation Act No. 2 was passed by the Legislative Assembly on 20 February 2003 providing additional appropriations totalling \$17.295m for the Government's immediate response to the January 2003 Bushfires.

A report on the inquiry into the 2002-03 Appropriation Bill No. 2 was presented by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts 2002-03 on 4 March 2003.

The 2002-03 Appropriation Bill No. 3 is to be presented to the Legislative Assembly on 6 May 2003 providing additional appropriations totalling \$23.993m to meet the costs associated with the clerical Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, several bushfire related initiatives commencing this financial year and other cost pressures.

The 2002-03 Budget Papers are prepared on the basis of the inclusion of items noted in the 2002-03 Appropriation Act No. 2 and 2002-03 Appropriation Bill No. 3 within the estimated outcome column for 2002-03.

Accounting for the January 2003 Bushfire

Relevant revenue and expenditure arising from the bushfire have been treated as 'extraordinary items' as required under Australian Accounting Standards Board 1018.

For effected agencies, this will result in the appearance of additional line items within the financial statements presented with Budget Paper No. 4, representing these extraordinary items.