

REPORT OF FACTUAL FINDINGS EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

To the Members of the ACT Legislative Assembly

Review opinion

I am providing an **unqualified review opinion** on the statement of performance of the Education Directorate (the Directorate) for the year ended 30 June 2017.

During the review, no matters were identified which indicate that the results of the accountability indicators reported in the statement of performance are not fairly presented in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1996*.

Basis for the review opinion

The review was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. I have complied with the requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

I believe that sufficient evidence was obtained during the review to provide a basis for the review opinion.

Responsibility for preparing and fairly presenting the statement of performance

The Director-General of the Directorate is responsible for:

- preparing and fairly presenting the statement of performance in accordance with the Financial Management Act 1996 and Financial Management (Statement of Performance Scrutiny) Guidelines 2017; and
- determining the internal controls necessary for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance so that the results of accountability indicators and accompanying information are free from material misstatements, whether due to error or fraud.

Responsibility for the review of the statement of performance

Under the Financial Management Act 1996 and Financial Management (Statement of Performance Scrutiny) Guidelines 2017, I am responsible for issuing a report of factual findings on the statement of performance of the Directorate.

As required by Australian Auditing Standards, the auditors:

- applied professional judgement and maintained scepticism;
- identified and assessed the risks of material misstatements due to error or fraud* and implemented procedures to address these risks so that sufficient evidence was obtained to form a review opinion; and
- reported the scope and timing of the review and any significant deficiencies in reporting practices identified during the review to the Director-General.

(*The risk of not detecting material misstatements due to fraud is higher than the risk due to error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions or misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.)

Limitations on the scope of the review

The review was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards applicable to review engagements, to provide limited assurance that the results of the accountability indicators reported in the statement of performance have been fairly presented in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1996*.

A review is primarily limited to making inquiries with representatives of the Directorate, performing analytical and other review procedures and examining other available evidence. These review procedures do not provide all of the evidence that would be required in an audit, therefore, the level of assurance provided is less than that given in an audit. An audit has not been performed and no audit opinion is being expressed on the statement of performance.

This review does not provide assurance on the:

- relevance or appropriateness of the accountability indicators reported in the statement of performance or the related performance targets;
- accuracy of explanations provided for variations between actual and targeted performance due to the often subjective nature of such explanations;
- adequacy of controls implemented by the Directorate; or
- integrity of reviewed statement of performance presented electronically or information hyperlinked to or from the statement of performance. Assurance can only be provided for the printed copy of the reviewed statement of performance.

Dr Maxine Coope Auditor-General September 2017