

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 9

05 September 2025

Question No. 547

Chiaka Barry MLA: To ask the Chief Minister

1. Has the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) received any reporting on analysis of the Life Course Data Initiative (LCDI) data; if so (a) will this be published and where, or (b) can a copy be provided.
2. What plans does CMTEDD have to develop the pilot implementation of the LCDI.
3. Will the ACT have access to summary data at an individual level, given that the LCDI is managed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).
4. What steps have been taken by CMTEDD to assure itself that ABS data controls, particularly in relation to individual privacy, are effective.
5. What steps has CMTEDD taken to ensure data accuracy with the merging of unrelated data sets.
6. Will the pilot implementation of the LCDI just include data from the LCDI, or will it contain other sources of information.
7. What business use cases are being considered in relation to LCDI data.

ANDREW BARR MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. The Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) has not received any reporting on analysis of the Life Course Data Initiative (LCDI) as the pilot project has not yet reached the analysis and reporting stage.
2. The LCDI is being delivered, over the period 2023-24 to 2026-27, in partnership between the Australian Government (ABS) and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government along with South Australia (SA) through the SA Government. Decisions as to the further development of the LCDI will be taken by the parties to the pilot prior to the completion of the pilot project in June 2027.
3. Researchers who have been approved by the ACT Government, and by the ABS, will have access to de-identified data in relation to specifically approved projects.

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4. The Life Course Dataset is created and protected under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. The pilot LCDI complies with the Privacy Act, and its use is in line with ABS and relevant jurisdictional data custodian and ethics approval processes. Privacy considerations for the LCDI were explored in the 2024-25 Person Level Integrated Data Asset (PLIDA) Privacy Impact Assessment Update which is published on the ABS website. CMTEDD has separately sought legal advice in relation to individual privacy and related issues and has undertaken rigorous ethical approval processes in relation to the LCDI. These processes have included assurances regarding the data controls being applied by the ABS
5. The data that is being contributed by the ACT to the LCDI has been successfully linked to the Commonwealth LCDI data held in the PLIDA. The linkage success rates have been reported to the ACT by the ABS as being between 95% and 96% depending on the relevant data set being linked.
6. The pilot implementation of the LCDI only involves data that is an agreed component of the LCDI.
7. The currently approved project for the LCDI that the ACT has agreed to take responsibility for will, with the assistance of researchers from the Australian National University, explore factors that contribute to entrenched disadvantage in children and young people to identify a set of predictors of exit from (or persistence in) a state of entrenched disadvantage. Further consideration on the use of findings from LCDI projects will occur prior to the end of the LCDI pilot.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

Date: 2.10.25

This response required 1 hr to complete, at an approximate cost of \$170.