

Virtue, Geoff

From: Virtue, Geoff
Sent: Friday, 18 October 2013 2:44 PM
To: Steed, Sarah
Subject: RE: Federal politicians at Gungahlin/Hub

Thanks – good email

From: Steed, Sarah
Sent: Friday, 18 October 2013 2:05 PM
To: Little, Vanessa
Cc: Van Aalst, Sally; Virtue, Geoff; McAlister, Kate
Subject: Federal politicians at Gungahlin/Hub

This occurred on Monday 23 September 2013, two weeks after the election.

Kate received a phone call just before midday on 23 September, from someone in ESDD (?) Communications. They had been contacted by Senator Kate Lundy's office who wanted to come to the ACT Digital Hub that afternoon and do a media announcement about the NBN. I believe they were contacted because of their contact with Ross James re NBN projects.

We contacted TAMS Communications for advice as we were unsure where things stood. Geoff contacted the Minister's media adviser, and you can see the message below which refers to the reply from the Minister's office saying it was ok to proceed.

Also, if I remember correctly, I went up and spoke briefly to Fay about it, although I'm not sure if she'd remember it.

It was agreed that the library being a public place, could be used as a venue, so long as staff were not required to speak or be on camera.

We also had to contact the DBCDE as they fund the Digital Hubs program and any media needs to be brought to their attention. They stated that we couldn't/shouldn't let any filming be done in front of anything that referred to the Digital Hub program. To that end we removed any portable signage to make sure it wasn't visible. Ultimately, they didn't end up going near the Hub at all.

Kate and I spoke to Gungahlin and Hub staff to make sure they knew what was happening and how to respond.

Kate and I went to Gungahlin and waited for the media and politicians to arrive. Everyone was met in the foyer and they made their way to the designated spot where interviews/questions took place.

Media arrived first at about 2pm and asked to set up cameras in the children's area which was empty and had space.

Politicians and advisors arrived between 2-2.30pm. Politicians were Andrew Leigh, Kate Lundy, Bill Shorten.

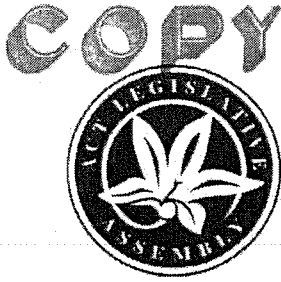
It was all over by about 3pm and everyone left.

From: Virtue, Geoff
Sent: Monday, 23 September 2013 12:02 PM
To: Steed, Sarah
Subject: Minister's office

Hi Sarah – Minister's office is fine with it and just agreed that our staff don't talk.

Thanks

Geoff



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL
SERVICES

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA (Chair), Mr Alistair Coe MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Chris Bourke MLA, Mr Andrew Wall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS

Asked by Alistair Coe MLA on 18 October 2013: Territory and Municipal Services took on notice the following question(s):

Ref: Hansard Transcript 18 October 2013 page 115-116

In relation to:

- 1) Announcement made by Mr Bill Shorten at Gungahlin Library - details of the approval processes and circumstances of the visit.
- 2) If any person wants to do a political announcement inside a library, am I able to just rock up there and put out the alert?

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

- 1) The visit you referred to occurred on Monday 23 September 2013. Libraries ACT received a phone call earlier on that day from the Economic Development Directorate's Business Development area. They had been contacted by Senator Kate Lundy's office with a request to visit the ACT Digital Hub that afternoon to make a media announcement.

Libraries ACT immediately sought advice from the TAMS Communications section, who then contacted my office. My office advised TAMS was that the event could proceed, provided that staff did not make comment. Libraries ACT staff also advised their Executive Director of the request and advice from my office.

I understand the reason for this request was because Gungahlin Library is the location of the ACT Digital Hub, which is part of the Federal Government's Digital Hubs program. This was funded through what was then the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE).

As a result of the agreements involved with that program, Libraries ACT is also required to notify the DBCDE of any potential media attention. They did this by phone and were asked to make sure filming and photography did not take place in front of anything that referred to the Digital Hub program.

Rather than use the ACT Digital Hub space, when they arrived the media asked to set up their cameras in an area of the library which had plenty of space and was empty at that time.

Two senior library staff attended the library for the afternoon and met the media and politicians in the foyer as they arrived from around 2 pm. The politicians present were Andrew Leigh, Kate Lundy and Bill Shorten. They made their way to the designated area where the statement and questions took place. The entire process was complete by about 3 pm, by which time everyone had left.

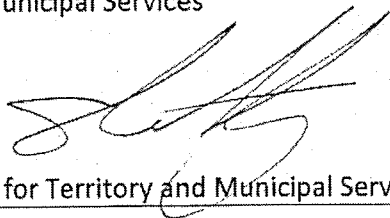
- 2) Our libraries are public places and this same process would have been followed for any of the parties, should they have made a similar request.

Any groups or individuals are able to access the public libraries, including politicians. Users are asked not to disrupt other users.

Requests for use of library community rooms (meeting/training rooms) for programs, events and other community activities are made using an official booking form and set terms and conditions.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services

Signature:



Date: 28/11/13

By the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services, Shane Rattenbury MLA



CHIEF MINISTER'S WEEKLY ISSUES BRIEF
26 SEPTEMBER 2013

TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Out of scope
information removed

National Broadband Network (NBN) media conference - Gungahlin Library

Federal Labour politicians held a media conference at Gungahlin Library on Monday 23 September 2013 to discuss the NBN. It was attended by Bill Shorten, Kate Lundy and Andrew Leigh.

Roach, Adam

From: Steed, Sarah
Sent: Monday, 6 January 2014 11:30 AM
To: Roach, Adam
Subject: For FOI request

From: McAlister, Kate
Sent: Monday, 6 January 2014 11:22 AM
To: Steed, Sarah
Subject: FW: NBN Hub

Hi Sarah

This is the only email that I have regarding the media interview with Shorten at Gungahlin library. All other correspondence was via the phone.

Cheers

Kate

From: Little, Vanessa
Sent: Tuesday, 1 October 2013 5:27 PM
To: Hansen, Karen
Cc: McAlister, Kate
Subject: RE: NBN Hub

ETD do not have to approve any such thing and in the future please make sure that it is TAMS protocols that are used.

Thanks

Vanessa

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[Read about important changes to the Libraries ACT Loans Policy](#)

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From: Hansen, Karen
Sent: Monday, 23 September 2013 12:49 PM
To: Little, Vanessa
Subject: NBN Hub

Hi Vanessa

Just to let you know that there has been a request today from Kate Lundy's office to film an interview with her and Bill Shorten at the Hub. This is reactive to the events of NBNCo over the weekend.

We have informed the Ministers Office, Comms team and Fay.

Geoff V has indicated that we cannot stop them filming outside, but unwise to open up the Hub. ETD need to approve filming in the foyer so they need to go through Gai.

Sarah will be out there this afternoon as an observer only.

Kind Regards

Karen

Karen Hansen | Manager, Operations

Phone 02 6207 5721 or 6205 9000 | Fax 02 6207 6461

Libraries ACT | Parks and City Services | Territory and Municipal Services Directorate | **ACT Government**

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