



Jon Stanhope MLA
CHIEF MINISTER

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINISTER FOR LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS AND HERITAGE
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

MEDIA RELEASE

208/10

27 May 2010

CANBERRA RANKED AMONGST THE WORLD'S MOST LIVEABLE CITIES

The results of a new survey just released has proven what most Canberrans already know; we live in one of the world's most liveable cities, says ACT Chief Minister Jon Stanhope.

The Mercer Worldwide Quality of Living Survey ranked Canberra 26th globally, the fourth highest ranked Australian city behind Sydney (10th) and Melbourne (18th) and Perth (21st).

"This is a great result for Canberra. This survey puts us well ahead of other Australian cities such as Brisbane, Hobart and Adelaide," Mr Stanhope said.

"It also shows we are streets ahead of many of the great cities of the world such as New York, San Francisco, Barcelona, London, Singapore and Tokyo.

"This is the first time Canberra has been included in this survey which ranks cities on a variety of criteria including its economic stability, infrastructure and transport facilities, crime rates and its relative strength in areas of education, the environment, housing, sporting facilities and even the range and quality of restaurants, theatres and cinemas.

"We are particularly pleased that Canberra was ranked 21st in the world's top 100 eco-cities.

"This is a strong endorsement of the government's ongoing commitment to maintaining Canberra's strengths as a beautiful city in a bush setting with our clean air, our parks, our first-class schools and healthcare. These are the same messages we use in promoting Canberra globally through the *Live in Canberra* program and the survey results will be a great addition to our already strong case to attract new skilled workers to the city.

"While these results are welcome, the Government also recognises that some Canberrans are doing it tough and we remain committed to helping those who need a little extra support. It remains our goal that everyone in Canberra can enjoy living in such a special city and community," Mr Stanhope said.

The Mercer Worldwide survey ranked Vienna in Austria as the world's most liveable city and Calgary in Canada as the number one eco-city. The annual survey evaluates 420 cities worldwide based on 10 categories.

Statement Ends

Media Contact: **Jess Wurf**

6205 0504

0411 772 700

jess.wurf@act.gov.au

ACT Government

Phone (02) 6205 0104 Fax (02) 6205 0433