

## Answers to questions

### Florey shops—delivery vehicles (Question No 135)

**Mr Cain** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) How many times has Transport Canberra and City Services inspected Kesteven Street adjacent to the Florey Shops delivery area in 2021.
- (2) Can the Minister provide the date, time, and duration of those inspection/s referred to in part (1).
- (3) On how many occasions were delivery vehicles parked in the delivery area or on Kesteven Street during the inspections in 2021.
- (4) Can the Minister provide the date, time and duration that the delivery vehicle/s referred to in part (3) were observed.
- (5) For each of those occasions referred to in part (4), can the Minister advise the category of delivery vehicle, eg semi-trailer, delivery van, others.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) An officer from Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) inspected Kesteven Street, adjacent to the Florey Shops delivery area once in 2021 in response to the initial enquiry.
- (2) The Officer arrived on site around 8.50am and made observations over an hour period on Friday 26 February.
- (3) The officer did not observe any inappropriate parking of delivery vehicles during the inspection. TCCS will arrange for a traffic survey to be undertaken to identify delivery vehicle movements over a 7-day period.
- (4) Refer to answer 3.
- (5) Refer to answer 3.

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### Government—invoices (Question No 141)

**Mr Cain** asked the Special Minister of State, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) Does the ACT Government use e-invoicing.
- (2) Does the ACT Government plan to use e-invoicing; if so, can the Minister provide details on when e-invoicing will be implemented.

- (3) Does the ACT Government track invoice payment times to companies that contract to the ACT Government.
- (4) What are the target payment times by the ACT Government on company invoices and if the standard is not universal, can the Minister provide an appropriate breakdown to show how they differ across the ACT Government.
- (5) What are the average invoice payment times for companies that contracted to the ACT Government for the financial years of (a) 2017-18, (b) 2018-19, (c) 2019-20, (d) 2020-21 and (e) 1 July to 31 December 2020.
- (6) If there is a target payment time, what percentage of the invoices referred to in part (5) were paid on time and can the Minister provide a breakdown by directorate.
- (7) What are the average invoice payment times for companies that contracted to the ACT Government and invoiced less than \$100,000 for the financial years (a) 2017-18, (b) 2018-19, (c) 2019-20, (d) 2020-21 and (e) 1 July to 31 December 2020.
- (8) If there is a target payment time, what percentage of the invoices referred to in part (7) were paid on time and can the Minister provide a breakdown by directorate.
- (9) What are the average invoice payment times for companies that contracted to the ACT Government and invoiced less than \$20,000 for the financial years (a) 2017-18, (b) 2018-19, (c) 2019-20, (d) 2020-21 and (e) 1 July to 31 December 2020.
- (10) If there is a target payment time, what percentage of the invoices referred to in part (9) were paid on time and can the Minister provide a breakdown by directorate.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The ACT's invoice payment process is automated but at this stage does not incorporate e-invoicing. The ACT Government supports the e-invoicing initiative and is working with the Commonwealth Government to ensure national consistency for the planning and implementation of e-invoicing. As the ACT will be required to upgrade its current automated invoice system as part of the e-invoicing initiative, a body of work will be required to effectively scope, cost, procure and roll out a new e-invoicing capability.
- (2) Yes, refer to (1) above.
- (3) Yes, supplier payment times are tracked and currently 94 percent of invoices are paid within 14 days. Where a supplier has a contract with a specific payment term, payments are made in accordance with that contract.
- (4) As part of the ACT Government's commitment to support business during the Covid-19 health emergency, the Government announced it would reduce the standard payment terms from 28 days to 14 days. Currently all suppliers are paid within 14 days from the date of a correctly rendered invoice. Where a supplier has an agreed contract term which is less than 14 days, payments are made in accordance with that contract.
- (5) This data is not tracked for contracted companies.

- (6) Listed below is the average of suppliers being paid within standard payment times. Noting pre Covid-19 health emergency the standard payment terms were 28 days.

<b>Percentage of Invoices paid within standard timeframe</b>				
	<b>17/18</b>	<b>18/19</b>	<b>19/20</b>	<b>20/21</b>
<b>Reporting Entities</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
ACT Electoral Commission	99.2%	100.0%	98.8%	98.3%
ACT Veterinary Surgeon's Board	55.6%	88.9%	77.8%	100.0%
ACT Executive	86.1%	97.6%	96.5%	98.7%
ACT Insurance Commission	N/A	N/A	96.3%	95.2%
Canberra Institute of Technology	96.9%	95.9%	95.2%	97.7%
Chief Ministers, Treasury & Economic Development	98.5%	97.4%	98.6%	98.9%
Community Services Directorate	98.7%	98.5%	99.6%	99.7%
Environment Planning & Sustainable Development	96.4%	93.8%	95.6%	97.1%
Education Directorate	95.5%	92.6%	94.7%	97.0%
Gambling & Racing Commission	98.5%	98.4%	98.7%	100.0%
Health Directorate (HD)	97.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A
ACT Health Directorate (HD)	N/A	90.9%	94.3%	97.0%
Canberra Health Service (HD)	N/A	97.5%	98.0%	98.8%
Justice & Community Safety Directorate	97.1%	96.0%	97.4%	98.0%
Major Projects Canberra	N/A	N/A	89.3%	96.0%
Transport Canberra & City Services	96.7%	94.4%	96.7%	98.3%
WorkSafe ACT	N/A	N/A	N/A	94.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>97.7%</b>	<b>96.8%</b>	<b>98.0%</b>	<b>98.7%</b>

N/A - These are Directorates that either did not exist at the time, have since split or did not use Shared Services .

- (7) This data is not tracked for contracted companies. Currently Purchase to Payment (P2P) Contract Management solution is being rolled-out to most directorates/agencies and this will allow contracts to be linked to purchase orders and invoices which in turn enables better reporting.
- (8) The table in point 6 reflects the percentage of all invoices paid within standard timeframes, due to the nature of purchases many procurements do not require formal contracts to be entered into. As referred in point 7. The roll out of the P2P Contract Management Solution will assist in developing further reporting. this data requested is not currently tracked for contracted companies. Currently all suppliers are paid within 14 days from the date of a correctly rendered invoice. For contract suppliers with the terms less than 14 days, invoices are paid in accordance with the contract.
- (9) Refer to (7) above.
- (10) Refer to (8) above.

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### **Municipal services—footpaths (Question No 146)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) Can the Minister provide an update on requests made to Access Canberra on (a) 9 December 2019, (b) 28 February 2020, (c) 6 August 2020 and (d) 4 September 2020

in relation to complaints about dangerous footpaths around the Gungahlin Marketplace, particularly in front of the TAB on Gozzard Street.

- (2) Can the Minister provide advice on waiting times for Fix My Street requests such as those listed in part (1).
- (3) Can the Minister explain why Access Canberra has not responded to these requests.
- (4) When will Access Canberra fix the dangerous footpaths to ensure no more incidents occur.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has acted on the requests lodged on the above-noted dates in relation to Gozzard Street.
  - (a) 9 December 2019 - An inspection occurred and no defects were identified.
  - (b) 28 February 2020 – Following an inspection of the area repairs were completed on 8 July 2020.
  - (c) 6 August 2020 – Following an inspection repairs were completed on 14 April 2021.
  - (d) TCCS were unable to identify any data in our system which is associated with the request made on 4 September 2020.

Unfortunately, these defects can continue to occur due to misuse such as motor vehicles parking on pavers.

- (2) TCCS prioritises and inspects paths within 10 business days of receiving a request. Once the path has been assessed it is entered into Roads ACT's asset management database system for repair and/or replacement.

Any issue confirmed as posing an immediate safety risk to the public is made safe within three to 10 business day after the initial inspection depending on priority. Other works are packaged into larger contracts by locality for efficiencies. These are prioritised and repaired within 12 to 18 months after the initial inspection.

- (3) See (1).
- (4) See (1).

### **Municipal services—Gungahlin pond (Question No 147)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

In relation to the Gungahlin Pond that sits between Nicholls and the Gungahlin Lakes Gold Club, when will the minister prioritise improving the pond by installing more  
(a) lighting, (b) bins, (c) taps, (d) playgrounds and (e) barbeques.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

City Services currently has no plans to prioritise the installation of additional infrastructure to the Gungahlin Ponds parkland. The facilities currently provided by the ACT Government in the parkland include several seats, an electric BBQ with a picnic setting, a playground with a shade sail and a basketball court. Street lighting along the cycle path is provided.

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### **Roads—noise complaints (Question No 149)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Business and Better Regulation, upon notice, on 1 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Transport and City Services*):

- (1) In relation to road noise from Horse Park Drive which is affecting quality of life in Amaroo, can the Minister arrange for the Environment Protection Authority to visit houses with these complaints to take a noise reading.
- (2) Can the noise barrier be extended so it covers all areas affected.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Roads ACT, within the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate is responsible for managing, monitoring and responding to road related noise enquiries. As specific addresses of concern have not been identified, I would appreciate if you can please provide details of the affected houses to my office so that noise surveying can be undertaken.
  - (2) Should the noise levels identified through the survey exceed the current noise thresholds, then mitigation options will be identified and considered.
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### **Municipal services—community gardens (Question No 150)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) In relation to the process involved in starting community gardens in Gungahlin, can the Minister please advise when the Transport Canberra and City Services Public Land Use team considers granting a license for private use of public open space and what consultation occurs with the local community.
- (2) If there is consultation, how and when does it occur.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) TCCS considers approval for the use of public unleased land on a case-by-case basis, either under the *Public Unleased Land Act 2013* (for short term permits) or the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (for a longer term licence). Factors such as type of use, duration of use, availability/suitability of land and impact on the surrounding area (public spaces, neighbouring residents and businesses) guide consideration of proposals.

In light of the long-term tenure required to establish and operate a community garden, community gardens are licenced under section 303 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*. Once a proposal is received, the potential impacts on the surrounding area are considered and an appropriate consultation process determined. The proponent is required to address all criteria set within the 'Guide to Community Gardens in the ACT'.

- (2) Consultation can include onsite notification signage, letter box drops to adjacent residences, targeted notification to community groups and online notification. TCCS would require the proponent to begin consultation early in the approval process and generally allocate a minimum of four weeks for initial community consultation. However, if the proponent demonstrates that adequate consultation has previously been undertaken, TCCS may not require further consultation.

### **Domestic Animal Services—rangers (Question No 153)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) How many rangers are currently employed by Domestic Animal Services (DAS).
- (2) How many rangers were employed in the (a) 2019-20, (b) 2018-19, (c) 2017-18, (d) 2016-17 and (e) 2015-16 financial years.
- (3) How many rangers were employed at DAS (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casually in the (i) 2019-20, (ii) 2018-19, (iii) 2017-18, (iv) 2016-17 and (v) 2015-16 financial years.
- (4) What are the types of staff employed by DAS which undertake duties other than being rangers.
- (5) How many of the staff referred to in part (4) were employed in the (a) 2019-20, (b) 2018-19, (c) 2017-18, (d) 2016-17 and (e) 2015-16 financial years.
- (6) Why do MLAs continue to receive complaints from constituents that the number of rangers employed is not sufficient to service their complaints.
- (7) What plans are in place to ensure that DAS's resourcing is sufficient to ensure the safety of the community.
- (8) What communication does DAS have with Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council and how are dangerous animals managed that are being transported over the border from Queanbeyan.
- (9) What protocols does DAS have in place to ensure that complaints involving parties outside the ACT have a satisfactory outcome.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) DAS currently employs 14 rangers, as well as two Operations Managers who also perform the functions of rangers.

- (2) Domestic Animal Services (DAS) separated from the Licensing and Compliance (L&C) section of TCCS in 2018-19. Following this separation, a number of positions within the L&C team and within DAS are responsible for providing dog management services across the ACT.

The number of rangers employed full time by DAS for the last five financial years is listed below:

	No of Full Time Rangers.
2019-20	16
2018-19	14
2017-18	16
2016-17	6
2015-16	8

- (3) The DAS full time employee are as in response (2), there have been no part-time or casual staff for the periods listed.
- (4) DAS has staff who support a range of duties including customer service, licensing and permits administration, kennel management, education and animal welfare community support, volunteer management and investigation services.
- (5) The number of staff who performed duties as described in (4) excluding ranger services are listed below:

	Support	Senior Director
2019-20	16	1
2018-19	12	1
2017-18	12	1
2016-17	9	1
2015-16	7	1

- (6) The DAS Ranger team continues to grow to enable and support DAS' ability to respond to calls to ensure community safety. Complaints or emergency calls are prioritised by risk with teams needing to travel between locations. DAS is looking to implement satellite response teams to improve service availability to the community.
- (7) DAS frequently assesses resourcing requirements in relation to staff as needed and ensures current and new staff are trained to better service the community. In addition, our education strategy is currently being deployed to raise awareness of domestic animal welfare. It is intended that this approach will promote more responsible pet ownership and management resulting in a safer community.
- (8) If DAS receives notification that an animal that has been declared dangerous is moving to a new jurisdiction, it is obliged to inform the gaining jurisdiction of that animal's status.
- (9) DAS communicates with regional councils to ensure all animals are managed appropriately.

**Disability services—National Disability Insurance Scheme  
(Question No 159)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Disability, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) In relation to NDIS-registered behaviour support practitioners, how many practitioners in the ACT have submitted a positive behaviour support plan to the Senior Practitioner during the year 2019–20.
- (2) How many positive behaviour support plans have been received by the Senior Practitioner for the year 2019–20.

**Ms Davidson:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) A total of 38 behaviour support practitioners submitted behaviour support plans to the Senior Practitioner during the year 2019-20. In 2019, the NDIS allowed unregistered practitioners to write plans. NDIS registration is a matter between the NDIA and the practitioner. The Senior Practitioner does not have exact data on how many submitting practitioners were NDIS registered.
  - (2) A total of 86 positive behaviour support plans were received by the Senior Practitioner for the year 2019-20.
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**Trees—removal  
(Question No 164)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) When did the ACT Government first become aware of a property-damaging tree on the front yard of 36 Slessor Crescent, McKellar.
- (2) Did a resident on Slessor Crescent request the Government to cut down this tree; if so, what reasons were stated by the resident for the removal of this tree.
- (3) Were any of these reasons accepted by the ACT Government as grounds for removing this tree.
- (4) Why did the ACT Government agree to remove this tree.
- (5) Was there any cost to the resident on 36 Slessor Crescent for the removal of this tree.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) 16 November 2017.
- (2) The resident at 36 Slessor Crescent, McKellar submitted a claim for property damage caused by a street tree adjacent to the resident's property. Claimed property damage included: damage to a retaining wall, letter box, concrete pavement and blocked sewer within the lease boundary.

- (3) Yes. The property damage was considered substantial and provided sufficient grounds for removing two street trees within close proximity to each other.
  - (4) The ACT Government agreed to remove the two trees due to obvious and substantial property damage within the lease boundary of 36 Slessor Crescent, McKellar.
  - (5) No.
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**Municipal services—footpaths  
(Question No 165)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) In relation to a footpath being built on Blackman Crescent, Macquarie, on which side of Blackman Crescent will the footpath be built on the side closest to (a) Catchpole Street (b) Lachlan Street.
- (2) Will there be any footpath construction on the Blackman Crescent playground block or adjacent to the road surrounding the Blackman Crescent playground block.
- (3) What action will the Government take with the resident to achieve a mutually agreeable outcome in cases where the footpath must cut through obviously cared for gardens.
- (4) Does the Government, as a matter of course, offer compensation to residents if a footpath must cut through an obviously cared for part of their property.
- (5) Has the Government ever offered or agreed upon compensation to a resident if a footpath needs to cut through an obviously cared for part of their property.
- (6) Was there a possible discrepancy between the answer received to question on notice No 73 submitted to Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services during the February-March 2021 estimates hearings and the Freedom of Information Request – Reference 21-008, that lists the construction of a Blackman Crescent Footpath as relatively high.
- (7) Is it the case that individual community paths are not necessarily funded, but rather that community paths are funded as a whole.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) A community request was received for a new path to be constructed along Blackman Crescent, Macquarie. This footpath request has been assessed and ranked through the warrant system. A safe path alignment was identified as viable through the assessment for the north-eastern side of Blackman Crescent. As such, the proposed path along Blackman Crescent has been placed on the community path priority list.

More detailed investigations would be required to determine if the path construction works are feasible (i.e. considering site specific constraints not assessed through the warrant ranking assessment). Community consultation would be undertaken before any design or construction works are commenced.

- (2) See (1).
  - (3) See (1).
  - (4) In general, the ACT Government would aim to avoid the construction of a public footpath on residential property leases. For Blackman Crescent the proposed alignment would be limited to the street verge, which is public land between a residential property boundary and the roadside kerb. If the Blackman Crescent footpath was to be constructed, the ACT Government would not be responsible for reinstating any approved or unapproved landscaping or structures installed by residents on a nature strip, including irrigation systems, gravel, groundcover plants, garden edging and synthetic turf. Further details are available on through the Nature Strip Guidelines 2019 (Link: [https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/1392088/Nature-Strip-Guidelines-2019.pdf](https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1392088/Nature-Strip-Guidelines-2019.pdf)).
  - (5) As mentioned in (4) above, and noting that a nature strip is public land, the ACT Government is not responsible for reinstating any approved or unapproved landscaping or structures installed by residents on a nature strip.
  - (6) No. The priority order of community path requests is dynamic with new requests potentially changing the relative top priorities.
  - (7) Funding mechanisms for path projects vary depending on their scope, nature and value.
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### **Municipal services—tree management (Question No 168)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) Does the ACT Government have the capacity to detect roots underground from the surface; if so, how does the Government make use of this tool.
- (2) When was the last time the Government used this tool and for what purpose.
- (3) Does the Government ever use this tool to detect underground tree roots that may be damaging infrastructure or interfering with plumbing.
- (4) Why did the ACT Government undertake the mature tree transplant trial conducted in November 2019.
- (5) Does the ACT Government have the capacity to remove mature trees themselves without needing to engage a contractor.
- (6) Does the ACT Government have any plans to obtain the capacity, expertise and machinery to do mature tree transplants themselves.
- (7) Is tree transplantation being looked at as a way to avoid cutting down infrastructure-damaging trees.

- (8) Is the ACT Government considering using tree transplantation to resolve residents' concerns about trees that may be damaging their property but are not allowed to cut the tree down.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) No.
- (2) See response to question 1.
- (3) See response to question 1.
- (4) The mature tree transplanting trial undertaken in 2019 was undertaken by the City Renewal Authority in collaboration with TCCS. The objective of the transplanting project was to assess the viability of transplanting as a way to avoid the loss of mature trees in development situations where they are unable to be retained.
- (5) No.
- (6) No.
- (7) No. The process involved in transplanting a mature tree that is impacting on infrastructure is likely to cause further damage to nearby infrastructure.
- (8) No.

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**Planning—Charnwood  
(Question No 169)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) In relation to Development Application DA20213858 Octavia development at 117 Tillyard Drive, Charnwood, and given the former childcare centre located at 117 Tillyard Drive has been demolished and development of 8 units will soon commence at this location, does the ACT Government have a traffic management plan for this busy street; if so, can the Minister attach a copy of the plan as part of the answer to this question on notice; if not, what measures will the ACT Government take to ensure safe and uncongested traffic for the construction period, as well as after the completion of the development.
- (2) What consultation was undertaken with nearby residents prior to the approval of the development application and when did consultation occur.
- (3) What feedback was received from nearby residents regarding traffic and noise management.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Development Application (DA) 202138358 relating to 117 Tillyard Drive (Block 13, Section 31) is currently being assessed by the ACT Planning and Land Authority. The

DA was published on the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate's website including plans relating to vehicle turning movements.

- (2) The DA was subject to a public notification period from 31 March 2021 to 23 April 2021 and is still being assessed by the ACT Planning and Land Authority.
- (3) As indicated in response to question 1, the DA is currently being assessed by the ACT Planning and Land Authority.

### **Parking—ownership and management (Question No 170)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) How many car parks does the ACT Government own and manage as of 31 March 2021.
- (2) How many car parks did the ACT Government own and manage at the end of (a) 2020, (b) 2019, (c) 2018, (d) 2017 and (e) 2016.
- (3) How many car parks has the ACT Government sold or given up management of since 2016 and how many of these car parks are now owned or managed by private enterprise.
- (4) Was the car park behind ACT Housing on the corner of Chandler Street and Benjamin Way ever owned or managed by the ACT Government.
- (5) Does Wilson's Security now own or manage the car park.
- (6) Does Wilson's Security share any of the parking fees generated by this car park with the ACT Government.
- (7) When did the ACT Government remove their signs from this car park.
- (8) When did the ACT Government sell or give up management of this car park to Wilson's Security.
- (9) If the car park was sold, how much did the ACT Government sell the car park for.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) currently own 535 off-street car parks.
- (2) The details are:
  - a. At the end of 2020 TCCS owned 536 off-street car parks.
  - b. At the end of 2019 TCCS owned 537 off-street car parks.
  - c. At the end of 2018 TCCS owned 513 off-street car parks.
  - d. At the end of 2017 TCCS owned 483 off-street car parks.
  - e. At the end of 2016 TCCS owned 497 off-street car parks.

- (3) Since 2016, 22 carparks are no longer managed by TCCS due to brownfield developments and are no longer carparks. This includes the construction of community facilities and/or Government Department buildings (e.g. police and fire stations, parks and playgrounds and transport interchanges).
  - (4) No.
  - (5) Wilsons Security manages the carpark on behalf of the private leaseholder.
  - (6) No.
  - (7) The carpark is part of the Lakeview Square mixed-use development completed in 1991. It has always been a privately operated carpark.
  - (8) See (4).
  - (9) See (4).
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**Municipal services—contracting policy  
(Question No 171)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) What job positions within Transport Canberra and City Services are considered to fulfill essential government services.
- (2) Is lawn mowing considered an essential government service.
- (3) Is the locking and unlocking of public toilets considered an essential government service.
- (4) Can the Minister explain the reasoning behind engaging Wilson’s Security for the purpose of “locking and unlocking of gates and toilets” in Contract No. 2018.27994.210.
- (5) Are there any current public service roles that provide similar services to those described in the contract; if so, can the Minister explain why this service was outsourced to a private business if the Government already employs people to fulfill these services.
- (6) In relation to the answer to question on notice No 103, about moving services, during the March 2021 estimates hearings in which the Minister informed that the Government had employed private contractors for mowing, can the Minister explain why private contractors were employed when there are public service employees who fulfill the same role.
- (7) When did the Government engage these private contractors.
- (8) Why is the Government ending the contract in March 2021.
- (9) Can the Minister attach the relevant tender for the contract in his response.

- (10) Can the Minister explain how these are not an example of the Government privatising jobs.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) All TCCS positions.
- (2) Yes.
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Wilson's Security were engaged by TCCS through a tender process to undertake gate and toilet locking and unlocking services. This service was put out to tender as no TCCS staff hold the requirements for delivering the service which are:
  - a) a Security Master Licence;
  - b) Australian Security Industry Association Ltd (ASIAL) Certification; and
  - c) a security employee licence for each Patrol Officer.
- (5) See (4).
- (6) Contractors were engaged to supplement in-house mowing capacity during peak grass growing periods when the in-house mowing capacity was unable to adequately meet mowing demand.
- (7) November 2020.
- (8) The contract was intended to cover peak mowing demands in the period November 2020 to March 2021.
- (9) TC2200950 RFQ Statement of Requirements 05-Nov-2020 is provided at [Attachment A](#).
- (10) Contractors were engaged to supplement in-house mowing capacity during peak grass growing periods when the in-house mowing capacity was unable to adequately meet mowing demand. Contractors were used in addition to, not instead of, public service employees.

*(A copy of the attachment is available at the Chamber Support Office).*

### **Trees—canopy (Question No 173)**

**Mr Braddock** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) Does the Urban Forestry Strategy state that i-Tree software was used to model the number of trees needed to reach the 30 percent canopy cover and has Transport Canberra and City Services also previously estimated the per tree cost of establishing trees; if so, what is the anticipated tree canopy cover by 2045 for each suburb.

- (2) Can the Minister provide the next most detailed information, by area, on the anticipated tree canopy cover by 2045, if the anticipated tree canopy cover per suburb is not available.
- (3) What resources are needed, per suburb, to reach 30 percent tree canopy cover by 2045.
- (4) Can the Minister provide the next most detailed data possible for the resourcing needs to reach tree canopy cover by 2045, if suburbs are not available.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Yes, modelling undertaken by the CSIRO in 2019 using the i-Tree software estimates that approximately 450,000 trees will need to be planted on public land by 2045 to achieve the 30 percent canopy cover target.

Yes, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has estimated the per-tree cost for the establishment of trees on public land.

In relation to the anticipated 2045 tree canopy cover by suburb, the CSIRO report did not model where trees could or should be located to meet the canopy cover target. While current canopy cover data shows coverage at the suburb level, data is not available to determine the anticipated tree canopy cover by 2045 for each suburb. Forecast modelling at the suburb level to identify planting opportunities and therefore canopy cover is difficult due to the detailed site assessment requirements for each new planting. Such forecast modelling would require consideration of:

- land use planning and policy (including custodianship).
- location of utility services.
- existing canopy.
- surface permeability.
- climate variables (canopy growth and loss).
- species variability.
- lifespan of existing trees.
- public requests.
- environmental and recreation considerations (e.g. native grassland sites or sportsgrounds).

Detailed site assessments for planting opportunities are currently undertaken in a progressive manner in the lead up to seasonal planting programs.

- (2) As outlined in the response above, detailed information on anticipated tree canopy cover by 2045 for each suburb is not available. The 2045 tree canopy coverage has been modelled for the entire urban area of the ACT.
  - (3) Resources required to reach the 30 percent tree canopy cover target across Canberra by 2045 will be calculated across the complete urban area. As outlined in the Urban Forest Strategy, achieving the target will require a range of actions with varying resource requirements. These will be determined and sought through future budget processes.
  - (4) Resourcing requirements to work towards the 30 percent tree canopy cover target are being developed in accordance with the actions in the Urban Forest Strategy.
-

### **Schools—concept of consent (Question No 176)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

- (1) Why is consent not specifically outlined as a concept in the Respectful Relationships Education Program for ACT government schools, as seen in the Resources for Teachers ACT Education Directorate webpage.
- (2) What steps will the Government take to ensure that the concept of consent is safely introduced into the Respectful Relationships Education Program for government schools.
- (3) If consent as a specific concept is already being taught in ACT government schools, what resources are available to teachers and how can parents and carers access these resources.

**Ms Berry:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

1. Consent education is taught as part of the Australian Curriculum primarily through the Health and PE content area. The Australian Curriculum is taught in all ACT public schools. The Australian Curriculum supports students to develop knowledge, understanding and skills that will help them to establish and manage respectful relationships. This includes elements such as teaching about consent and refusal strategies, the development of protective behaviours and the understanding of physical and emotional development. The content and elaborations provide teachers with information that is age, year level and developmentally appropriate.

Respectful Relationships Education (Gender Equality Education) is a school-based approach to the primary prevention of domestic and family violence. It aims to develop skills and attitudes early to prevent gender-based violence from happening in the future. It includes content that relates to consent, taught in an age-appropriate way. Information about Respectful Relationships Education, as well as a range of resources for families and schools are provided on the Education Directorate website

2. The concept of consent is included and taught in Respectful Relationships Education (Gender Equality Education) which is available in all ACT public schools.
3. Teachers are provided with resources and supports to provide Gender Equality Education to our students to address topics such as respect in relationships and consent. Schools work with parents and carers to engage them and ensure learning programs are sensitive to families' cultural and religious beliefs and preferences. Parents and carers can access resources supplied on the Directorate website at <https://www.education.act.gov.au/schooling/resources-for-teachers/respectful-relationships-education#rf>.

### **Roads—traffic data (Question No 177)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 1 April 2021:

Can the Minister advise what days of the week and what times was the data collected in relation to the assessment of traffic data on Callaway Crescent that indicated it carries around 384 vehicles per day travelling at an average speed of 46 km/h.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

Traffic data was collected continuously over a seven-day period, starting on a Wednesday.

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### **Lake Tuggeranong—waste dumping (Question No 178)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Business and Better Regulation, upon notice, on 23 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Transport and City Services*):

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Lake Tuggeranong waterway on Drakeford Drive is being used as a dumping point for toxic waste by vacuum trucks.
- (2) What action will the Minister take to ensure this does not happen.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The Drakeford Drive Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) assists to prevent negative water quality impacts in Lake Tuggeranong from sediment and debris captured in the stormwater system. It includes a designated drying pad. This site is used to dry the collected waste from the stormwater network before disposal in landfill. The GPT is designed and operated specifically to improve water quality in Lake Tuggeranong. Removing debris like organic material and litter from waterways is a critical activity to protect the lake from excessive nutrient pollution which may lead to algal outbreaks.
  - (2) This large trap is cleaned between four and eight times per year depending on the number of rainfall events.
- 

### **Municipal services—Bonner (Question No 179)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) What is the ACT Government doing to clean up public spaces in Bonner, including poorly maintained trees causing hazards on walking and bike paths, weeds and inadequate mowing.
- (2) Why are Fix My Street responses not answered and what is the process and timeframes for responses.
- (3) What are the waiting times for Fix My Street requests as outlined in part (1).
- (4) What action will the Minister take to ensure the area is better maintained to a standard all residents expect and deserve.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The ACT Government manages its streetscapes, urban open space and assets according to programmed and reactive maintenance and servicing activities. Due to the recent La Nina weather event, plants, grass and weeds around the Canberra region have seen significant growth over the warmer months. This is a challenge that Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has been working to manage and has implemented a number of measures to get grass and weeds back within specification.

During the 2020/21 mowing season, the Gungahlin region including Bonner was serviced from September to April with seven mowing passes completed at monthly intervals. There are a number of grassland reserves and rocky outcrops in the Gungahlin region which are "no mow" zones due to the nature of the sites and/or conservation values.

Bonner shops and nature strips with plantings along Mabo Boulevard are the responsibility of the residents and the shops. There are regular requests from members of the community to manage weeds in this area. There is a crushed concrete drainage swale down the centre of Mabo Boulevard that is subject to a regular spray program to keep the weeds under control. TCCS has confirmed that grass and weeds along Mabo Boulevard in Bonner were sprayed in late February-early March 2021 with further follow up completed at the end of March 2021.

TCCS tree maintenance crews have commenced an extensive formative pruning program across Gungahlin to address lines of sight and public access issues. Further juvenile tree maintenance programs are being developed to support the significant increase in planting currently underway to achieve the ACT Government's target of 30% tree canopy cover by 2045. Trees are being planted across Bonner this autumn and will continue to be planted as priorities dictate in future programs.

- (2) TCCS officers address around 40,000 maintenance requests each year through Access Canberra including the Fix My Street portal. Ensuring public safety is the highest priority when triaging requests generated by the community. TCCS employs a team of skilled and experienced staff that assess requests based on need and determine the appropriate management action. All programmed works are allocated a priority with a corresponding estimation of scheduled timing. However, additional unexpected works of a higher priority, such as storm events, can extend the period of time in which previously programmed works are undertaken. Teams must often reschedule routine maintenance work to allow urgent response to address risks to the community following these unforeseen events.
- (3) TCCS received 38 requests for tree related maintenance in Bonner in 2020, with five requests prioritised as low to medium, yet to be completed. To date in 2021, 12 requests for tree related maintenance have been received and seven have been completed. The remaining five have been allocated a low to medium priority. All uncompleted requests remain within the estimated time of completion according by their priority status.

TCCS received 91 requests for action on other open space maintenance during the last 12 months. 59 of these were for mowing/weed removal, nine for cleaning, 18 for illegal dumping and five for graffiti. 13 requests for mowing were prioritised for action and 46 of those requests were or will be actioned during scheduled activities. 11 illegal dumping cases were resolved with seven under investigation. Three cleaning and maintenance requests were resolved with six actioned during scheduled

activities. Four requests for graffiti removal were actioned with one under investigation.

- (4) Public safety, particularly line of sight, access and fire fuel reduction remains a priority when delivering maintenance programs. As a result, activities for these purposes take priority when all available resources are fully engaged, such as during the peak of the mowing season. Individual residents are encouraged to play their part in maintaining their local areas, for example by watering their street tree, picking up after their pets and maintaining their nature strip. Some in the community choose to undertake voluntary activities like picking up rubbish or removing weeds and this is very much appreciated.

### **Motor vehicles—registration (Question No 181)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Business and Better Regulation*):

What was the number of registered vehicles in the ACT on (a) 30 June 2012, (b) 30 June 2015, (c) 30 June 2019 and (d) 30 June 2020.

**Ms Cheyne:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- a) 30 June 2012 – 300,488
- b) 30 June 2015 – 316,485
- c) 30 June 2019 – 339,897
- d) 30 June 2020 – 342,953

### **Domestic animal services—dog registration cost (Question No 182)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

What was the cost to register a dog on (a) 30 June 2012, (b) 30 June 2015, (c) 30 June 2019 and (d) 30 June 2020.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

a.	30 June 2012	\$46.00
b.	30 June 2015	\$49.30
c.	30 June 2019	\$56.15
d.	30 June 2020	\$57.55

### **Municipal services—fix my street (Question No 183)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many “Fix my Street” requests were received for the financial years (a) 2019-2020 and (b) 2018-2019.
- (2) Of those requests referred to in part (1), what was the number of requests made for the category of (a) abandoned vehicles, (b) bus stops, (c) domestic garbage bins and collections, (d) footpaths, (e) graffiti, (f) mowing, (g) litter and illegal dumping, (h) illegal parking, (i) road maintenance, (j) street lighting, (k) street sweeping, (l) tree related, (m) traffic/traffic lights and (n) parks and playgrounds.
- (3) What was the average time to complete requests for the periods referred to in part (1).
- (4) How many of those requested were not completed.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member’s question is as follows:

- (1) (a) 34,707, (b) 35,682.
- (2) (a) 4,480.  
(b) 182.  
(c) 380.  
(d) 2,063.  
(e) 1,592.  
(f) 910.  
(g) 4,434.  
(h) 4,940.  
(i) there is no category for road maintenance however potholes, road safety and road condition are 5,803.  
(j) 10,196.  
(k) 1,380.  
(l) 8,663.  
(m) 2,821.  
(n) 4,021.
- (3) Access Canberra does not have aggregate data for this metric as workorders arising from the requests received through Fix My Street are managed in a range of business information systems administered by TCCS. New systems currently being implemented will improve integration between Access Canberra and TCCS and improve future reporting capability. For details see the joint media release issued by the Minister for Transport and City Services and Minister for Business and Better Regulation on 27 April 2021.
- (4) See response to Question 3.

**Parks and reserves—budget  
(Question No 185)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

Out of the 66 local shopping centres that are maintained by Transport Canberra and City Services which shopping centres have (a) rubbish bins, (b) recycling bins, (c) public toilets and (d) drinking fountains.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The table below outlines the requested assets located at the local shopping centres maintained by Transport Canberra and City Services.

Shopping Centre Name	Number of rubbish bins	Number of recycling bins	Number of public toilets (within 50m)	Number of drinking fountains (within 20m)
AINSLIE SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	1	0
BRADDON SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
CAMPBELL SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	1	0
CASTLEY CIRCUIT SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
CHAPMAN SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	1
CHARNWOOD LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE (TILLYARD DR)	1	0	0	1
CHIFLEY SHOPPING CENTRE	5	0	1	0
COOK SHOPPING CENTRE	2	3	1	1
DEAKIN SHOPPING CENTRE	5	0	1	1
DOWNER SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
DUFFY SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	1
EVATT SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	0
FADDEN SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
FARRER SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	1
FISHER SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	0
FLOREY SHOPPING CENTRE	3	2	0	0
FORDE SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
FRASER SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
GARRAN SHOPPING CENTRE	7	0	0	0
GIRALANG SHOPPING CENTRE	0	0	0	0
GORDON SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
GOWRIE SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
GRIFFITH SHOPPING CENTRE	6	0	1	1
HACKETT SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
HIGGINS SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	1
HOLDER SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	0
HOLT SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	1
HUGHES SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	1	1
ISAACS SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	1
ISABELLA PLAINS LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
KALEEN SHOPPING CENTRE (BOYNE PL)	1	0	0	0
KALEEN SHOPPING CENTRE (GWYDIR SQ)	2	0	0	1
KAMBAH LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE (Livingston Ave)	0	0	0	0
KAMBAH LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE (Marconi Cres)	0	0	0	0
KAMBAH LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE (Carleton St)	2	0	0	0

KAMBAH LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE (Mannheim St)	1	0	0	1
LATHAM SHOPPING CENTRE	0	0	0	0
LYNEHAM SHOPS	5	1	1	0
LYONS SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	1
MACGREGOR SHOPPING CENTRE	0	0	0	0
MACQUARIE SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
MCKELLAR SHOPPING CENTRE	0	0	0	0
MELBA SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
MONASH SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
NARRABUNDAH SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	1	0
NGUNNAWAL SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
NGUNNAWAL SHOPS (PAUL COE CRESCENT)	1	0	0	1
NICHOLLS SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
NORTH LYNEHAM SHOPPING CENTRE	1	0	0	0
O'CONNOR SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	1	0
OAKS ESTATE SHOPS	2	0	0	0
PAGE SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
PALMERSTON SHOPPING CENTRE	0	0	0	0
RED HILL SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	0	1
RICHARDSON LOCAL SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
RIVETT SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	0	0
SCULLIN SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	1	1
SPENCE SHOPPING CENTRE (COPLAND DR)	1	0	0	0
SPENCE SHOPPING CENTRE (GLASSEY PL)	5	2	0	1
THEODORE SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
TORRENS SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	0	1
WANNIASSA LOCAL SHOP	1	0	0	0
WARAMANGA SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	0	1
WATSON SHOPPING CENTRE	3	0	0	1
WEETANGERA SHOPPING CENTRE	2	0	0	0
YARRALUMLA SHOPPING CENTRE	4	0	1	0

### Energy—gas meters (Question No 186)

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Business and Better Regulation, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) Given the ActewAGL website quotes a cost for installing a gas meter as \$1,095 and noting that a constituent has been quoted \$28,303.30 for the installation of a new gas meter in the city area due to the fact that the existing meter is not up to standard with current gas service and installation rules and needs to be replaced, can the Minister explain why the cost is so high given this is an historical fault not caused by the constituent.

- (2) Can the Minister advise if the constituent has any other option other than paying \$28,303.30 to have a new gas meter installed.

**Ms Cheyne:** The member's constituent is referring to a commercial agreement with a utilities supplier. Though Government has no influence over his arrangement, I sought advice from ActewAGL on the Member's questions and the following response was provided:

- (1) This is a request for a new gas connection that requires substantial civil and capital works to enable the connection. In such circumstances where the costs of work required substantially exceeds the standard connection fee, the customer is required to contribute to the costs to ensure that other customers are not subsidising the connection.
- (2) Evoenergy is working with subcontractors Jemena and Zinfra to review the proposal and see if there is a more cost-effective engineering solution. Evoenergy and ActewAGL will continue to liaise with the customer.

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### **Access Canberra—working with vulnerable people applications (Question No 187)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Business and Better Regulation*):

- (1) Can the Minister advise why it is taking over four months for a constituent to receive a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card and as a consequence the constituent has missed out on three job offers.
- (2) Can the Minister advise why the constituent was not contacted by Access Canberra when further information was required in relation to their application and only became aware of the need for further information after following up on their application.
- (3) Can the Minister advise how much longer the constituent will have to wait to get the WWVP card.

**Ms Cheyne:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) There are a range of factors that may influence the length of time to process a WWVP application, including the risk assessment process as outlined under Division 5.3 of the *Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011* ('the Act'). A number of these factors are outside the control of Access Canberra and directly impact on timeframes for a decision. As information relating to applicants and registered people is protected under s 65 of the Act, it is not appropriate to disclose information relating to specific matters.
- (2) As information relating to applicants and registered people is protected under s 65 of the Act, it is not appropriate to disclose information relating to specific matters.

In recent months, there have been legislative amendments that resulted in changes to the WWVP scheme, and a large number of incomplete applications were received in January and February 2021.

This increased volume of applications has led to some delays in contacting applicants to finalise their WWVP applications. Access Canberra has put into place process improvements to make it easier for customers to provide the necessary information that has seen the number of incomplete applications being reduced.

- (3) Further to my response to question (1), any applicant who has questions about their WWVP application is encouraged to contact Access Canberra on 13 22 81 or via its website: [www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au](http://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au).

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### **Municipal services—mowing (Question No 188)**

**Ms Castley** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

In relation to the moving of lawns around the Gungahlin Pond, given the recent schedule of mowing this area is 9 December, 20 January and 16 March, can the Minister advise why these areas are not mown in accordance with the Government's policy on grassed areas in parks, open spaces, pathways and laneways which states these areas will be mown every four weeks.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

The schedule of mowing is indicative and subject to seasonal conditions. The urban open space around Gungahlin Pond has been mown five times this mowing season. Mowing was completed the week of 14 September 2020, 2 November 2020, 7 December 2020, 18 January 2021 and 15 March 2021. Mowing was scheduled for action in February 2021, however due to the significant rainfall and high soil saturation, mowing activities were postponed.

Mowing program timelines were challenged throughout the 2020/21 season due to rapid grass growth caused by consistent rainfall as a result of the La Nina weather event. Rapid and thick grass growth makes mowing slower, while mowing time is lost on rainy days due to the difficulty of cutting wet grass and the risk of bogging or other safety issues.

Areas around the edge of the Gungahlin Pond are not mown due to safety issues and the action of natural filtration that these grasses provide.

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### **Housing—rates (Question No 191)**

**Ms Lee** asked the Treasurer, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) What is the annual interest rate that is charged to overdue rates accounts.
- (2) What modelling or assessment was done to determine that interest rate and can the Treasurer provide a copy.
- (3) How does this compare to the current market interest rate.

- (4) What is the difference between the interest rate charged to overdue rates accounts and the market interest rate and what is the justification for this difference.

**Mr Barr:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) For the period 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021, the annual interest rate on overdue debts for rates is 8.02 per cent (compounded monthly).

Interest rates for tax debts are publicly available from the ACT Revenue Office website, see <https://www.revenue.act.gov.au/rights-and-obligations/interest-and-penalty-tax>.

- (2), (3) & (4) –

Under the *Taxation Administration (Amounts Payable—Interest Rates) Determination 2017 (No 1)*, the interest rate for section 21 of the *Rates Act 2004* comprises the market rate component and the premium component prescribed under section 26 of the *Taxation Administration Act 1999* (TAA).

The market rate component is prescribed under section 26 (2) of the TAA. It is applied for 6 months of a year based on monthly 90-day bank bill rates (for either the previous May or November, as relevant) as published by the Reserve Bank of Australia.

The premium component is prescribed under section 26 (3) of the TAA and is specified as 8 per cent.

As described in Revenue Circular GEN009.4 *Interest – Taxation Administration Act 1999* (available on the ACT Revenue Office website, [www.revenue.act.gov.au](http://www.revenue.act.gov.au)) interest plays an integral role in tax administration as it aims to:

- deter non-compliance by making it unprofitable for taxpayers;
- promote equity among taxpayers by ensuring that those who meet their obligations are not disadvantaged in comparison with those who do not;
- encourage the full and immediate disclosure of any tax default;
- encourage the payment of tax liabilities by the due date; and
- compensate the government for being denied the use of funds to which it is entitled.

### **Litter—offences (Question No 193)**

**Ms Lee** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) How many fines have been issued in the ACT for littering cigarette butts in (a) 2016-17, (b) 2017-18, (c) 2018-19, (d) 2019-20 and (e) 2020-21 to date.
- (2) How many reports have been made through Access Canberra to report someone littering a cigarette butt.

- (3) How many of the reports referred to in part (2) have been followed up on and fines issued.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Fines issued for littering of cigarette butts are as follows:

2016-17	0
2017-18	0
2018-19	0
2019-20	9
2020-21	15

- (2) A breakdown of reports of littering of cigarette butts is not available. Complaints are received as general littering complaints and include all littering offences.
- (3) All complaints are followed up; however, compliance action can be undertaken only when sufficient evidence is available. Of the complaints received about the littering of cigarette butts through Access Canberra, fines have been issued as follows:

2016-17	0
2017-18	0
2018-19	0
2019-20	9
2020-21	4

### **Lake Tuggeranong—water quality (Question No 196)**

**Ms Lawder** asked the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, upon notice, on 23 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Business and Better Regulation*):

- (1) Can the Minister advise how many times areas of Lake Tuggeranong have been closed to the public due to algae blooms since January 2020.
- (2) Further to part (1), can the Minister list the areas that have been closed and the number of times individually.

**Ms Cheyne:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Lake Tuggeranong was closed to primary contact due to blue green algae on five separate occasions between January 2020 to May 2021. Primary contact is considered as whole-body contact in which the entire body or face or trunk are frequently immersed, or the face is frequently wet by spray, where it is likely that water may be swallowed, inhaled, come into contact with ears, nasal passages, mucous membranes or cuts to the skin.
- (2) The closure of Lake Tuggeranong for primary contact due to blue green algae applies to the entire Lake.

**Public housing—Strong Connected Neighbourhoods program  
(Question No 197)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Attorney-General, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) How much is being funded to the Building Strong Connected Neighbourhoods for this financial year.
- (2) Is there any funding for this program for the next three financial years.
- (3) What changes will be made to the program following the independent evaluations done on this program in 2018.
- (4) Which communities in Canberra will be receiving this funding.
- (5) Were evaluations conducted on any of the other public housing sites; if so, can the Minister provide these evaluation report.
- (6) Are there any ongoing Building Strong Connected Neighbourhood programs besides the ones in Braddon, Reid and Belconnen.
- (7) Have any of the programs in Braddon, Reid or Belconnen ceased.

**Mr Rattenbury:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The funding for Building Strong Connected Neighbourhoods for this financial year 2020-21 is \$515,000.
- (2) Funding for the program is as follows:

<b>2019-20 Budget</b>	<b>2020-21 Budget</b>	<b>2021-22 Estimate</b>	<b>2022-23 Estimate</b>
<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
527	515	578	541

- (3) The 2018 evaluation of the program by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC),<sup>1</sup> reported that the program met its objectives by:
  - reducing violent crime by 50 per cent
  - reducing property crime by 60 per cent
  - reducing disturbance incidents by 49 per cent
  - increasing levels of social cohesion among residents at public housing sites across Ainslie Avenue, and
  - providing a realised saving to government (of police time alone) through reduced crimes of at least \$0.42 to \$0.51 for every \$1 invested.

These results supported the expansion of the program and Reclink are engaged to run the program until June 2022.

In response to recommended improvements in the evaluation report, the current program contract includes outputs related to increasing participation rates, increasing awareness of program activities, working with partner agencies and community safety assessments.

The program will be further evaluated in 2021-22 through the ANU Research Collaboration that supports the RR25by25 Plan. This will inform the direction of program beyond June 2022.

(4) Reclink is currently funded to run the program in the following Housing ACT sites:

- Kanangra Court
- Jerilderie Court
- Reid Court
- Braddon Court
- Illawarra Court

(5) The High Density Housing Project (now Strong Connected Neighbourhoods program), was only running in the Ainslie Ave precinct at the time of the evaluation. The focus of the evaluation was that project / program and no other Housing ACT sites were within that scope.

(6) See the list of sites provided in response to question (4).

(7) No.

In 2020, the Strong Connected Neighbourhoods program was modified to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, normal program activities are resuming.

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<sup>1</sup><https://aic.gov.au/publications/rr/rr6>

## **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders—legal services (Question No 201)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Attorney-General, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) In relation to the Justice Housing Program, is the Ngurrambi program still being funded; if not, why is this program not receiving any funding and which community organisations were consulted before decided to cut funding; if so, how much funding is the program receiving this year and over the forward estimates until 2024.
- (2) Which community organisations will the ACT Government be partnering with to deliver the Ngurrambi Program.
- (3) Are there any plans to expand the program to non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

- (4) Has this trial concluded; if so, has the evaluation commenced/finished; if not, when will the trial conclude.
- (5) If the evaluation has finished, can the Minister provide the results of the evaluation.

**Mr Rattenbury:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The Ngurrumbai Bail Support Program is currently funded for the financial year 2020-21. Funding for the current financial year 2020-21 was \$495,000 and for financial year 2021-22 is \$482,000.
  - (2) Service delivery for the Ngurrumbai Bail Support Program is currently contracted to Aboriginal Legal Service.
  - (3) At this time, the program is targeted at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, however the scope of the service may be considered during the evaluation process.
  - (4) The program is being evaluated in 2021-22 as part of evaluations under the Reducing Recidivism by 25% by 2025 plan.
  - (5) The program will be evaluated in 2021-22.
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**Parking—limited time  
(Question No 203)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) Can the Minister provide a list of each precinct that has had free 15-minute parking areas added since the beginning of the COVID-19 health emergency.
- (2) For each of these precincts referred to in part (1), how many (a) free 15-minute parking bays does each have, (b) existed before the declaration of the COVID-19 health emergency, and (c) have been added as part of the Government's commitment to supporting local businesses during the pandemic.
- (3) What guidelines and which data did the ACT Government use to determine which precincts should receive new/additional free 15-minute parking.
- (4) Has the ACT Government assessed the success of this parking scheme in any way; if so, what were the outcomes; if not, why not.
- (5) How long is it expected that this parking scheme will last.
- (6) In what cases would the ACT Government determine to leave this scheme in permanently in place.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) (2) (a) (b) (c)

The 15-minute parking areas have been provided in the following locations:

Location	Existing Spaces	Covid 19 Response '15 Min Free' Spaces	Total Spaces
Anketell Street, Tuggeranong	0	7	7
Lathlain Street, Belconnen	0	14	14
Lonsdale Street, Braddon	0	15	15
London Circuit, City	0	3	3
Ainslie Place, City	0	3	3
Furneaux Street, Forrest	0	3	3
Flinders Way, Manuka	0	5	5
Giles Street, Kingston	4	11	15
Jardine Street, Kingston	3	5	8
Genge Street, City	2	2	4
Bunda Street, City	0	2	2
Whitney Place, Weston	4	9	13
Totals	13	79	92

- (3) 15-minute parking was provided at the group centres and at local precincts where demand for takeaway pick up parking during the COVID-19 pandemic was foreseeable. Local businesses were consulted about the parking changes as they were implemented and were generally supportive of the parking changes as part of the various measures required within the hospitality industry to keep businesses viable during the pandemic.
- (4) A review of the parking changes has not been undertaken yet. TCCS will consult with affected businesses prior to removing the temporary restrictions to determine if some 15-minute parking may be required in the longer term.
- (5) See (4).
- (6) See (4).

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### **Parking—limited time (Question No 204)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) When free 15-minute parking was introduced in restaurant and café precincts to collect takeaway food and drinks, was the consideration primarily for those picking up their own food and drinks, delivery drivers picking up food and drinks, or both.
- (2) Does the ACT Government have any data about which areas are most heavily used for pickups by delivery drivers; if so, what is it.
- (3) Does the ACT Government have any data to indicate that delivery drivers have access to sufficient short-term parking near restaurants and cafés to be able to perform their work efficiently.

- (4) Does the ACT Government have any policies or guidelines regarding food-and-drink delivery services and the need for short-term parking for their drivers; if so, what are they; if not, why not.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) The 15-minute parking was introduced to facilitate the safe collection of take away food to support small businesses during the COVID 19 crisis.
- (2) No.
- (3) No.
- (4) The ACT Government has a policy of providing short stay high turnover parking close to commercial centres to support local businesses. This policy also supports delivery drivers, either private or operating commercially.

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### **Transport—Lawson bus services (Question No 206)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Transport and City Services, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) Given that in Question Time on 31 March 2021, the Minister stated that regular bus service cannot commence in Lawson until the completion of Stage 2 because the buses are too big for the existing streets, but existing unused bus stops indicate that the plan is for buses to travel along Stockman Avenue, what is preventing Transport Canberra buses currently servicing Lawson, the width of streets other than Stockman Avenue, the fact that the narrow streets make it impossible for buses to turn corners, or both.
- (2) Which streets in Lawson Stage 1 are wide enough to accommodate standard Transport Canberra buses.
- (3) Which intersections in Lawson Stage 1 can be navigated by a Transport Canberra bus turning left.
- (4) Which intersections in Lawson Stage 1 can be navigated by a Transport Canberra bus turning right.

**Mr Steel:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) As part of the suburb's planning, the identified bus route through Lawson is along Stockman Avenue between Ginninderra Drive and Baldwin Drive. Bus stops have been constructed in preparation for the future route connection from Stockman Avenue onto Ginninderra Drive. Stockman Avenue was designed and constructed as a 'collector' road, with a carriageway width suitable for bus movements. All other roads within Lawson have been designed as 'local access' streets, in line with the original estate development plan. This is consistent with the approach adopted in other newly-developed suburbs in Canberra including Ginninderry and Whitlam.

The width and general alignment of local access streets does not accommodate bus routes, or facilitate bus turning movements to or from Stockman Avenue. Upon extension of Stockman Avenue through to Ginninderra Drive, Transport Canberra will expedite delivery of a bus route that runs through Lawson on this collector road.

- (2) Only Stockman Avenue is wide enough to accommodate Transport Canberra's bus fleet.
- (3) Other than the intersection of Baldwin Drive and Stockman Avenue, there are no intersections within Lawson Stage 1 that can facilitate a bus turning left or right because the planning intent is for buses to travel directly through the suburb via Stockman Avenue.
- (4) See answer above.

### **Building—quality (Question No 209)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Planning and Land Management, upon notice, on 23 April 2021 (*redirected to the Minister for Business and Better Regulation*):

- (1) Are the props installed by the ACT Government at the Kingston Place apartments, following the Morris Construction Corporations refusal to install them, still in place; if so, for how much longer will they be in place; if not, why were they removed.
- (2) What was the cost to the ACT Government to have these props installed.
- (3) How many props were installed.
- (4) Following the serving of an emergency order issued from Access Canberra to the Morris Construction Corporation in relation to the Kingston Place apartments, has the Morris Construction Corporation complied to date; if not, is the Morris Construction Corporation still refusing to comply.
- (5) What attempts has the ACT Government made to enforce their compliance with the emergency order.
- (6) Has the Morris Construction Corporation paid any fines to the ACT Government related to non-compliance with the referenced emergency order; if so, how much was paid in fines and for what fines were they paid; if not, and if the Morris Construction Corporation has not complied with the emergency order, why has the ACT Government not received payment for the fines.
- (7) What attempts has the ACT Government made to enforce payment of the fines.
- (8) What legal actions or sanctions has the ACT Government made against the Morris Construction Corporation for failure to pay the fine.
- (9) What current projects in Canberra is the Morris Construction Corporation working on.

**Ms Cheyne:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Matters associated with building quality at Kingston Place Apartments are currently part of an ongoing investigation, may be subject to rectification orders and may also be subject to a civil matter in the Supreme Court. As such, I am limited in what I can say about this matter at this time.
- (2) The cost for the supply and installation of props was \$184,008. Access Canberra is recovering this amount from Morris Construction Corporation.
- (3) 234.
- (4) Please see response to question 1 above.
- (5) Please see response to question 1 above.
- (6) Please see response to question 1 above.
- (7) Please see response to question 1 above.
- (8) Please see response to question 1 above.
- (9) Morris Construction Corporation Pty Ltd have no current building projects in Canberra. Morris Construction Corporation Pty Ltd no longer hold an ACT Builders licence. The previous Class A builder licence 2009969 expired on 14 October 2018 and was not renewed.

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**ACT Health—psychiatry registrars  
(Question No 211)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Health, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) How many psychiatry registrar positions were there at The Canberra Hospital (TCH) at the end of (a) December 2020, (b) January 2021, (c) February 2021 and (d) March 2021.
- (2) How many of these positions were filled at the end of each of these months.
- (3) How many psychiatry registrar positions are there at TCH as of 23 April 2021.
- (4) How many of these positions are currently filled.
- (5) How many of the currently filled positions are held by (a) full-time, (b) part-time and (c) casual employees.
- (6) How many of the currently filled positions are held by Canberra based employees as opposed to locum employees.

**Ms Stephen-Smith:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

Please see table below in response to questions 1-4 and 6.

Psychiatry Registrar positions across Canberra Health Services	Budgeted FTE	Actual FTE	Locum FTE	Variance
End of December 2020	37.75	30.5	4.0	-3.25
End of January 2021	37.75	30.5	4.0	-3.25
End of February 2021	37.75	32.39	4.0	-1.36
End of March 2021	37.75	33.2	5.0	0.49*
On 23 April 2021	37.75	33.2	5.0	0.49*

\*Variance due to maternity leave.

- (5) (a) 30.0 FTE at full-time  
 (b) 8.2 FTE at part-time  
 (c) 0 casual

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### **Alexander Maconochie Centre—oversight committee (Question No 221)**

Mrs Kikkert asked the Minister for Corrections, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) On what date was the prison oversight committee established, and how many times has the committee met since that date.
- (2) How often are they intended to meet.
- (3) How many members are on there on the committee, what are their names and what are each of their relevant qualifications.
- (4) Which organisations are represented on the committee.
- (5) Are any members of the committee also working as staff under Minister for Corrections.
- (6) Are any members of the committee also working in ACT Corrective Services.
- (7) What is the anticipated completion date for the committee's blueprint for change.
- (8) Are there any sharing protections on the information generated at committee meetings i.e. minutes, draft blueprints etc; if so, how is this information protected.
- (9) What actions has the committee taken so far since its establishment to the date this question on notice was published.
- (10) What recommendations has the committee made to the ACT Government, if any?
- (11) If recommendations have been made to the ACT Government, what has so far been actioned by the Government in response.
- (12) Are members of the committee receiving any remuneration for their position on the committee; if so, can the Minister provide the details.

**Mr Gentleman:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

1. The ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Blueprint for Change Oversight Committee (the Committee) was established on 3 March 2021. The Committee has met twice, the first meeting held on 24 March, and the second taking place on 19 April 2021.
2. The Committee plans to meet on a monthly basis, or as agreed.
3. There are a total of 12 Committee members, including Ms Christine Nixon as the independent Chairperson. Members have been selected on the basis of their broad-ranging expertise and experience.
4. Members include representatives from:
  - the Human Rights Commission;
  - Official Visitors;
  - the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community;
  - Visiting Elders;
  - the Community and Public Sector Union;
  - staff representatives from the Alexander Maconochie Centre and Court Transport Unit; and
  - Senior Executive representatives from ACTCS and the Justice and Community Safety Directorate.
5. No, there are no Committee members who are also working as staff under the Minister for Corrections.
6. Yes, the Committee includes several ACTCS staff members (see response to Question 4 above).
7. The Committee has been appointed for an initial period of twelve months, and it is anticipated that the Blueprint for Change will be developed within that timeframe.
8. Information is shared between Committee members in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference.
9. The Committee has met twice and considered a number of issues relating to staff training, policy and practice.
10. The Committee has not yet made any recommendations to the ACT Government.
11. Please see response to Question 10 above.
12. Yes. As previously advised, Ms Nixon is remunerated for her work as independent Chairperson of the Committee. Please refer to my response to Estimates Question on Notice 118 for further information.

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**Alexander Maconochie Centre—nicotine replacement therapy  
(Question No 222)**

**Mrs Kikkert** asked the Minister for Justice Health, upon notice, on 23 April 2021:

- (1) What nicotine replacement therapies (NRTs) are currently available at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) including nicotine (a) patches, (b) lozenges and (c) gum.
- (2) Were there any NRTs that used to be available at the AMC and is no longer available; if so, (a) what NRTs, (b) when were they available and (b) what was the reason for its removal at the AMC.
- (3) Are all NRTs available free of charge for any inmate at the AMC.
- (4) Is there a time limit given for conducting nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) free of charge; if so, at what point in time will an inmate need to pay for NRT and what is the cost.
- (5) Do staff have access to NRTs through the ACT Corrective Services, and at what cost.
- (6) How many detainees underwent NRT for each financial year from 2017–18 to date.
- (7) Are there any dedicated nicotine addiction counsellors at the AMC; if so, (a) how many and what are each of their relevant qualifications, (b) do the counsellors conduct their work in group sessions or individual sessions, and what is the duration of each session and (c) is there a waiting list for access to these counsellors.
- (8) Where there is a waiting list referred to in part (7)(c), how many people are currently on the waiting list and what is the average waiting time.
- (9) What has been the total cost of NRT delivery at the AMC borne by the ACT Government for each financial year since 2017–2018 to the date this question on notice was published.

**Ms Davidson:** The answer to the member's question is as follows:

- (1) Nicotine Patches and lozenges are available to detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) as a Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT). Under the *Corrections Management (Prohibited Things) Declaration 2019 (No 3) Notifiable Instrument NI2019-659* made under the *Corrections Management Act 2007, s81 (Prohibited things)*, chewing gum is listed as a prohibited item.
- (2) No.
- (3) All NRT is free of charge to all detainees within the AMC.
- (4) There is no time limit for NRT being free of charge.
- (5) Justice Health Services (JHS) staff have access to NRT, free of charge, through Canberra Health Services.

NRT is not currently accessible via ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS). Staff who wish to reduce their consumption of nicotine-containing products are encouraged to discuss options with their health care provider and may seek up to \$100 reimbursement each year for smoking cessation programs as part of the Justice and Community Safety Directorate Staff Health and Wellbeing Program.

- (6) This data is not recorded. Information regarding NRT is contained within an individual's clinical record.
- (7) JHS in conjunction with Alcohol and Drug Services and ACTCS Therapeutic Community, is piloting a quit smoking program within the AMC for detainees within the Therapeutic Community, Accommodation Unit East and for female detainees in the Special Care Centre. This work is being undertaken within existing resources by JHS Alcohol and Drug Nurses, the Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol and Drug Services Comorbidity Clinician and the Corporate Health Management team. The pilot is due to commence on 31 May 2021.
- (8) Please see response to question 7.
- (9) The following includes the total cost of NRT stock:
- FY 2017/18 – \$20,052.87
  - FY 2018/19 - \$19,876.79
  - FY 2019/20 - \$19,857.67
  - FY 2020/21 YTD - \$14,769.84
- \*The stock costs do not factor in the staff time taken to provide this service.
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## Questions without notice taken on notice

### Molonglo Valley—community facilities

**Mr Gentleman** (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mr Hanson on Tuesday, 30 March 2021*):

The ACT Government recognises that the current rental arrangements at the Coombs Community Activity Centre are not satisfactory to the Coombs community and is looking at options to make the space more accessible to community groups. The Coombs Community Activity Centre is privately owned, and an opening date is a matter for the private owner.

### Budget—capital works

**Ms Berry** (*in reply to a question and supplementary questions by Ms Lee and Ms Lawder on Tuesday, 30 March 2021*):

The ACT infrastructure investment program is a rolling program with most projects being allocated funding over the four-year budget cycle. Annual funding allocations for projects are determined on the basis of information available on project delivery timelines. However, timing of actual expenditure may differ from the original schedule due to unforeseen circumstances which may result in delay or acceleration of the delivery of specific projects.

Total capital works program expenditure in 2019-20 was \$603.8 million, compared to a program forecast at 2019-20 Budget Review of \$856.4 million. A key reason for this

underspend is the disruption to the delivery of the 2019-20 capital works program caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Other factors included wet weather, extreme weather events (eg bushfires, hailstorms), defect periods for projects resulting in financial completion of a project lagging physical completion by 3-12 months and, in a small number of cases, ongoing planning approval processes delaying commencement. Access to skilled workforce and certain construction materials has also been a problem faced not just in the ACT but around Australia, and this will continue to impact on the ability to progress quickly with major infrastructure projects.

As a mechanism to protect jobs in the short term, the Government prioritised the procurement of smaller projects through the Fast-Track Infrastructure program that delivered funding for projects that were ready to progress more quickly. This was a very deliberate action from the Government in response to the pandemic.

Details on the underspend by project is available in Appendix 1 of the *Capital Works Program—Assembly Progress Report—June Quarter 2019-20*. Information on the expected completion date for individual projects is available in the 2020-21 Budget Statements for individual delivering agencies.

Information on progress to date in the delivery of the 2020-21 capital works program is available in the *Capital Works Program—Assembly Progress Report—YTD December 2020* and the accompanying Appendix 1.

### **Casey—community recreation park**

**Ms Berry** (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Castley on Wednesday, 21 April 2021*):

The ACT Government has engaged SGS Economics and Planning to undertake a Community and Recreational Facilities Assessment for Gungahlin. The analysis as part of this work will identify the types of community and recreational facilities that may be needed in Gungahlin, including in Casey, which will help inform future directions for the site.

The Community and Recreation Facilities Assessment for Gungahlin is expected to be finalised by the end of July 2021 at which point the report will be considered by the ACT Government.

### **Energy—cost**

**Mr Rattenbury** (*in reply to a question by Ms Lee on Thursday, 22 April 2021*):

The \$43 cited during the election campaign related to the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission's (ICRC) price investigation and new price determination that was issued in June 2020. ACT residents were delivered a \$43 reduction in 2020-21. For more information on this finding, please visit the ICRC's website <https://www.icrc.act.gov.au/energy/electricity/retail-electricity-prices-2020-24>.

Any increase in electricity costs is of concern. In relation to the announced potential network charge increases by Evoenergy, I note that this is just one part of what makes up retail electricity prices in the ACT. The announced potential network cost increases are expected to be partially offset by a reduction in the wholesale electricity purchase costs. Wholesale electricity purchase costs account for approximately 30 per cent of a retail electricity bill.

The net effect of the network price increase and wholesale electricity purchase cost reduction will not be known until June when the ICRC makes its annual update to the standing offer retail price.

I also note that Evoenergy's proposal suggests the cost of the ACT large-scale Feed-in Tariff could rise by around \$3.70 per week in 2021-22, or around \$193 per year, not \$300.

### **Arts—dementia-friendly access**

**Ms Cheyne** (*in reply to a question by Ms Lawder on Thursday, 22 April 2021*):

I am advised that the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) has commissioned an access expert, who has inspected the ramp and is providing advice on the most appropriate way of overcoming the depth perception issue and improving the functionality of the ramp.

The timing of works to achieve this outcome will depend on the complexity of modifications required, and I will provide a further update once this is known.

CMAG is respectful of the visiting public, especially people living with dementia, and view this as an opportunity to improve access to their open collections space (which is one that engages the community through the profiling of collections from individuals and groups in the local community).

### **Arts—dementia-friendly access**

**Ms Cheyne** (*in reply to a supplementary question by Ms Lawder on Thursday, 22 April 2021*):

Whether an ACT Government owned arts facility is a suitable environment for a person living with dementia and their carer depends on the individual's abilities and interests, the design of the physical spaces as well as appropriate community programs. Given this, it is difficult to quantify how many facilities are not dementia friendly.

New spaces at arts facilities are designed in accordance with current accessibility standards. For example, the recently completed Belconnen Arts Centre Stage 2 is fully accessible for visitors. The building is easy to move around as it is on one level and is also evenly lit. Both these design features promote safety, security and comfort which align with dementia enabling environment principles. Belconnen Arts Centre also runs

a Dance for Wellbeing with Dementia community program which enables people with dementia to visit the centre and to participate in arts activity with the appropriate supports in place.

### **Canberra—growth**

**Ms Vassarotti** (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mrs Kikkert on Thursday, 22 April 2021*):

This has not been modelled or measured by the ACT Government.

### **Environment—dredging**

**Mr Steel** (*in reply to a question and a supplementary question by Ms Lawder on Friday, 23 June 2021*):

TCCS is the custodian of, and responsible for, the maintenance of stormwater and waterways infrastructure in the ACT. TCCS works closely with environmental protection agencies to ensure the best environmental outcomes, including for water quality, environment protection, aquatic and riparian outcomes. Measures such as Environmental Management Plans and cross agency collaboration are implemented to ensure that maintenance works will generate the least disturbance to the environment and at the same time, improve water quality outcomes for the Territory.

The Fadden Pond is an important part of the stormwater infrastructure. It collects stormwater from the drainage channel upstream of Fadden, captures sediment and then, through other channels, feeds to Isabella Pond and others in the area which are part of the Healthy Waterways system. The method of removal of sediment from the Fadden Pond has been extensively consulted with environment protection agency subject matter experts and the outcomes of these consultations have been approved in the form of an Environmental Management Plan.

The removal of the sediment will be completed using a long reach excavator. This method is preferred by the environmental protection agencies to dredging and use of the eductor truck. It is also a more efficient and cost-effective method. The pond will not be emptied completely during the dredging process. Rather, the water level will be lowered to allow removal of the debris, service the overflow inlet and remove the excess sediment with a lesser disturbance to the wildlife.

The sediment material will be stored on a drying pad consisting of temporary fence panels and geotextile fabric around the perimeter to allow for the water to flow down, back to the pond. This method has been approved by the environmental protection agency as the movement of wet sediment pollutes roads during transportation. The scheduling of works during a dry weather spell will ensure the shortest drying time. The impact on residents should be minimal as the drying pad is located in an open space and behind a buffer of trees.

Leaving of sediment around the stormwater infrastructure is standard and is the preferred method as it minimises pollution during transportation and drying of a

sediment in a new location. The sediment is left for drying at all Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs) and trash racks as well as in sediment ponds, including those cleaned during last two months at Nicholls, Bowen Park in Kingston Foreshore, Curtin and Conder.

### **Environment—dredging**

**Mr Steel** (*in reply to a supplementary question by Mr Parton on Friday, 23 April 2021*):

In the new financial year (2021-2022), TCCS is planning to perform maintenance works including removal of sediment in the following locations: Giralang, Gordon and O'Connor.

Smaller ponds and other stormwater infrastructure may be included in the maintenance plan if required.

### **Environment—green buildings**

**Mr Steel** (*in reply to a supplementary question by Ms Castley on Friday, 23 April 2021*):

In response to the question taken by Minister Rattenbury, I can advise of the eleven (11) proposals in the Registration of Interest (ROI) stage of the Civic Office project, six (6) companies were invited to provide detailed submissions in the Request for Tender (RFT) stage. None of the 6 submissions included an electric heating, ventilation, and cooling (HVAC) system, as gas-fired HVAC systems are predominantly used in commercial buildings in Australia.

An approach was subsequently made to the winning tenderer, Capital Property Group (CPG), to determine whether it was willing to include an all-electric HVAC solution in the new building. However, CPG considered that the base building design was substantially advanced, and the risks and costs associated with a change from a gas to an electric HVAC system were too great to include such a system in their building.

### **Family and domestic violence—legislation**

**Mr Rattenbury** (*in reply to a question by Ms Lee on Friday, 23 April 2021*):

The Review of the *Family Violence Act 2016* was commenced in June 2019. The Government commissioned the Review to gauge the impact of the Act and inform the Government's family violence work going forward.

An initial draft report was provided by the consultants to the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) in January 2020. A copy of this document was shared with stakeholders who participated in the review, and they were invited to provide their feedback to the consultants. An updated version of the report was provided to JACS in late March 2020.

Detailed consideration of the updated version of the report was delayed due to COVID-19, and the unprecedented re-direction of resources required to respond to the

pandemic. Between March and December 2020 JACS progressed six emergency bills as part of the Government's legislative response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this time further feedback from stakeholders in relation to the report was received. It is standard government practice for draft reports to be received by government agencies and for clarifications to be sought or for some areas to be subject to requests for further consideration of issues. JACS liaised with the consultants and a (further updated) final report was provided to JACS on 14 December 2020.

A copy of the final report was published online by the ACT Government on 23 February 2021.

In accordance with the motion passed in the Legislative Assembly on 30 March 2021, the Government will provide a formal response to the report during the August – September 2021 sitting period.