

2025

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

ELEVENTH ASSEMBLY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

—

REPORT 2 - INQUIRY INTO ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS 2023-24

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

**Presented by
Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister
September 2025**

Introduction

On Tuesday, 3 December 2024, the Legislative Assembly passed (with amendments) a motion to establish standing committees and stated calendar and financial year annual and financial reports stand referred to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report by 12 May of the year after the presentation of the report to the Assembly pursuant to the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*.

The 2023-2024 Annual and Financial Reports were reviewed by the relevant Standing Committees, and each Committee held hearings and reported separately. The below Government Response addresses the recommendations within the report from the Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services.

During its inquiry the Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services was required to examine all or part of the following Annual and Financial reports for 2023–24:

- Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate;
- Chief Minister, Treasury, and Economic Development Directorate;
- Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment; and
- Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate.

Standing Committee on Environment, Planning, Transport and City Services – Report 2 - Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023-24

RECOMMENDATION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE (AGREED/AGREED IN-PRINCIPLE/EXISTING GOVERNMENT POLICY/NOTED/NOT AGREED)
<p>Recommendation 1</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish the draft ‘missing middle’ design guide along with the ‘missing middle’ major plan amendment by the end of 2025 as part of community consultation on the ‘missing middle’.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The ACT Government published the proposed Missing Middle Housing Reforms that includes the draft Missing Middle Housing Design Guide and draft Major Territory Plan Amendment DPA-04 – Missing Middle Housing Reform on 20 May 2025.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2</p> <p>The Committee recommends the Government, as part of the ‘missing middle’ housing work, continues to explore how to unlock housing and transport corridors around shopping centres from small suburban shops through to group and town centres, ensuring all parts of Canberra are included in the discussions.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The ACT Government acknowledges the importance of continuing to explore opportunities to improve viability and unlock housing opportunities in and around local, group and town centres and more broadly across the Territory. The Government approach aligns with the objectives of the ACT Planning Strategy and the District Strategies, which seek to promote more diverse housing options, improved access to services, revitalisation of commercial centres and sustainable transport integration. The Government notes that this work must be informed by robust community engagement and technical analysis to make sure that planning outcomes reflect local character, infrastructure capacity, and broader strategic goals.</p> <p>The Government will continue to make sure that Canberrans are able to participate in these discussions as part of its commitment to the principles of good planning and engagement under the <i>Planning Act 2023</i>.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government investigate removing the size</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The proposed Missing Middle Housing Reforms released for public consultation on 20 May 2025 includes the removal of the maximum second dwelling size of 120m². The overall size and scale of</p>

<p>restriction on second dwellings under the RZ1 dual-occupancy policy.</p>	<p>second dwellings is proposed to be primarily controlled by site coverage and other key outcomes such as planting areas, canopy coverage and other living infrastructure considerations.</p>
<p>Recommendation 4</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government commences a study to establish a baseline understanding of the number of dwellings expected to be generated from the RZ1 dual occupancy zoning policy over the next ten years.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government considers this work to be part of its business-as-usual planning and monitoring activities, which include ongoing analysis of housing supply opportunities across the Territory. The implementation of missing middle housing reform will be monitored through existing planning and development assessment frameworks, supported by data collection and modelling to inform future policy refinement. The Government will continue to assess the impacts of these and other reforms as part of its commitment to evidence-informed planning and transparent reporting under the <i>Planning Act 2023</i>. The size restriction on secondary dwellings is proposed to be removed as part of the missing middle housing reforms released for public consultation on 20 May 2025.</p>
<p>Recommendation 5</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Minister for Planning undertake a review of the outcomes of the Mr Fluffy developments to inform future densification of residential areas.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government has now released the Missing Middle Housing Reforms to address and better facilitate more housing and more housing choices in established suburbs. Development of this reform considered analysis of Territory Plan Variation 343, relating to residential blocks surrendered under the Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication Scheme (often referred to as ‘Mr Fluffy’).</p>
<p>Recommendation 6</p> <p>The Committee recommends the ACT Government publish details on the reduced number of Das, including a breakdown of the number of individual dwellings/residents, in 2024-25 and publish projections / modelling on the impact this has on ACT’s target of 30,000 new homes by 2030.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The Territory Planning Authority currently reports on development applications (DAs) monthly on their website and annually through the annual report process.</p> <p>As part of the review of the planning system, opportunities for future housing were projected and outlined in District Strategies. However, these projections are dependent on market forces, societal preferences and Government intervention.</p> <p>The ACT Government, under the National Housing Accord 2022, has a plan to enable 30,000 new homes by 2030. The Housing Supply and Land Release Program already projects how the Government will significantly contribute to this target through the land release program.</p>

<p>Recommendation 7</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government continue to improve the planning portal in line with feedback from the building and development sector and ensure all applicants have access to and know the gateway phone line for assistance.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The ACT Government is investing in a replacement of the current ‘eDevelopment’ system. The new system will deliver a more efficient and user-friendly digital portal for a range of planning applications including development applications and building approvals. The program is underway, and a contract has been signed with the successful tenderer.</p> <p>To support applicants and customers, the DA Gateway phone line is available and listed on all relevant information pages on the ACT Planning website. Contact details are also included in all published guides, factsheets and advisory notes to ensure easy access to assistance.</p>
<p>Recommendation 8</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government speak to the Australian National University about acquiring Block 402 to protect Bluetts Block and that Government lift the Future Urban Area overlay for Bluetts Block as a priority.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The Government recognises that Block 402 Stromlo is important for nature connectivity and is likely to contain important ecological values. The Government agrees that further engagement with the Australian National University (ANU) is necessary to enable further ecological assessments and discussions about the ANU’s long-term plans for the block.</p> <p>The Territory Planning Authority is preparing a draft major plan amendment to the Territory Plan to remove the Future Urban Area overlay for Block 403 Stromlo and part Block 12 Section 2 Denman Prospect for release for public consultation by mid-2025.</p>
<p>Recommendation 9</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government protect the environmental values of the Western Edge.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The ACT Planning Strategy 2018 identified a strategic direction to investigate land to the west of Canberra’s metropolitan area (the Western Edge investigation area) for potential urban development and environmental conservation, such as new nature reserves.</p> <p>This area is home to a substantial array of flora and fauna, with some requiring study and assessment over multiple years to understand habitat use over lifecycles and connection and movement through the habitat.</p> <p>The ACT Government is undertaking investigations and there has been no government decision in relation to whether there will be urban development in the western edge and where protections may apply.</p>

<p>Recommendation 10</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the 2018 ACT Planning Strategy be updated in 2025.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The ACT Government acknowledges the importance of maintaining a contemporary and responsive planning framework and that the 2018 ACT Planning Strategy has provided a strong foundation for guiding sustainable growth and development across the Territory.</p> <p>Under the <i>Planning Act 2023</i> (the Act), there is a legislative requirement for the ACT Planning Strategy to be reviewed at least every five years to make sure it remains aligned with community needs, environmental priorities, and infrastructure planning objectives. In 2023, the government decided that the ACT Planning Strategy 2018 still represented the strategic priorities of the Territory and did not need to be updated. Under the Act, the Strategy is due to be reviewed again by or before 2028. Updating the Strategy involves comprehensive data analysis, cross-agency coordination, and meaningful community and stakeholder engagement. Government is currently considering the scope, timing, and resourcing required to undertake this review in accordance with the legislation.</p> <p>It is noted that District Strategies, that provide further strategic direction at a district scale were released in 2023.</p>
<p>Recommendation 11</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government report all household waste and recycling, including CDS, in measured or estimated tonnes to allow comparison.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The amount of kerbside waste sent to landfill and the material recovered is recorded at ACT weighbridges and already reported in tonnes in the TCCS Annual Report. The ACT Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) recycling rates are measured by the ACT CDS scheme coordinator (not the ACT Government). This is reported as the number of containers collected through the scheme. This is consistent with all other Australian jurisdictions. Any changes in reporting requirements would require contractual changes which may impact on the current fee structure.</p>
<p>Recommendation 12</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government estimate the climate emissions impact of major decisions like delaying FOGO to 2026, decisions to delay the rollout of Light Rail and delaying the construction of</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>ACT Government is investigating the use of ACT specific carbon values in decision making and the development of an appropriate framework for emissions assessment.</p>

<p>the Woden bus depot, and cost this at the social cost of carbon or another rate.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 13</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government develop criteria for determining the areas to be declared nature reserves under the Nature Conservation Act 2014, and ensure that relevant government entities have the resources to protect and maintain it.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The mechanisms for establishing new nature reserves are defined in the Planning Act and are a responsibility of the Territory Planning Authority. These mechanisms include provisions for the Conservator of Flora and Fauna to make recommendations to the Territory Planning Authority about the creation of new nature reserves.</p>
<p>Recommendation 14</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government improve water quality in Canberra’s lakes and rivers during peak periods.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government has built 27 wetlands and other water quality assets since 2019 to help clean up stormwater. The government continues to run programs that encourage residents and businesses to adopt waterway friendly practices for the management of road verges and green space. Plans for further improvements to water quality have been drafted for Lake Tuggeranong.</p>
<p>Recommendation 15</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government allocate sufficient funding for the new Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Visitor Centre, with a clear budget and timeline to ensure timely completion.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>In the 2024-25 budget, the ACT Government provided funding over 2 years to support further planning for the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.</p>
<p>Recommendation 16</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government undertake genuine consultation with First Nations communities and the public during the development of the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve master plan</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government recognises the importance of consulting with Traditional Owners and First Nations communities and the cultural importance of the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.</p>

<p>to ensure cultural collaboration and inclusivity.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 17</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government consider establishing a public native snake management service with trained rangers and public education to ensure safety and protect wildlife.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The Government has no plans to establish a public native snake management service and remains of the view that snake management services are best delivered by the non-government sector under a licence arrangement.</p> <p>The Government recognises the importance of educating the Canberra community about living with snakes and will continue to deliver community education programs.</p>
<p>Recommendation 18</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government develop a plan for the naturalisation of Yarralumla Creek.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The ACT Government is undertaking flood modelling of the Yarralumla Creek catchment, which is intended to account for anticipated increases in future rainfall events, which forecast to be substantial. Further consideration may be given at the completion of this work.</p>
<p>Recommendation 19</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish heritage representations just as it publishes DA submissions, and make these publicly available via the heritage database.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The Government acknowledges that there may be some appetite for increased public accessibility to heritage representations. However, due to privacy, legislative and resource considerations, the Government has no plans or capacity to progress increased reporting at this time.</p>
<p>Recommendation 20</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly amend the Heritage Act 2004 to require the Heritage Council to publish non-sensitive heritage ownership changes.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The Heritage Act states that the Council must keep a register of heritage places and objects including the details of the place and other specifically detailed information. This does not include ownership information.</p> <p>For privacy reasons the Government does not believe it is appropriate for ownership information to be published.</p>
<p>Recommendation 21</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p>

<p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government continue to work with the New South Wales and the Federal Governments to deliver express rail Canberra to Sydney in 3.5 hours this term.</p>	<p>A Sydney – Canberra Rail Improvement Steering Committee has been established to investigate and report to Government on potential improvements to the train service between Canberra and Sydney.</p>
<p>Recommendation 22</p> <p>The Committee recommends the Government continues to work with Leader Holdings to explore potential housing developments, including Build-to-Rent, public and community housing around South Point Shopping Centre.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The ACT Government will continue to work with the private sector to explore options for Build-to-Rent housing, including affordable rental.</p>
<p>Recommendation 23</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government incorporate the Future Urban Area adjacent to the Strathnairn School into the school’s playing fields, to address the anticipated shortage of playing fields and ensure adequate play areas for school students and the wider community.</p>	<p>Not Agreed</p> <p>The Future Urban Area adjacent and to the west of the Strathnairn school is currently subject to a sales process via tender for the future use. The expected outcomes will encompass residential and community uses. The future outcome is being guided by a recently updated Community Needs Analysis.</p> <p>The adjacent Strathnairn school site already has a masterplan including a dedicated sporting field, which will be open for public use, as well as a separate ‘kick about’ area.</p> <p>Further, the Ginninderry Joint Venture plans to develop a residential and recreation precinct including a series of sporting fields. With playing fields to be provided at each of the four expected schools across Ginninderry and a dedicated recreation precinct, the community will have access to a wide variety of recreational spaces.</p>
<p>Recommendation 24</p> <p>The Committee recommends the Government establish the cost per unit for public housing, community housing and the</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The ACT Government already considers the costs of different forms of housing assistance, including affordable and social housing, to inform investment decisions.</p>

<p>Affordable Home Purchase Scheme to explore which provides the best assistance to low- and moderate-income Canberrans buying their first home.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 25</p> <p>The Committee recommends the ACT Government take effective action to reduce the year- after-year decline in the natural environment and the year-on-year increase in habitat destruction.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government acknowledges the importance of protecting, conserving, and enhancing the ACT’s natural environment and biodiversity which remain under significant threat from loss of habitat, fragmentation, invasive plants and animals, and climate change.</p> <p>The Government continues to make significant investment in land management and conservation activities including invasive plant and animal control, restoration, resilience building and habitat preservation.</p>
<p>Recommendation 26</p> <p>The Committee recommends the ACT Government reconsider its decision not to establish a Chief Heat Officer.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The ACT Government recognises that heat impacts on health are a major climate change issue. Cross-government leadership and coordination is of value to address these risks, noting the designation of a ‘Chief Heat Officer’ role is only one of several possible approaches to address the issue. Ongoing climate change policy development includes addressing rising heat and heat impacts.</p> <p>The ACT Government undertakes a range of activities to support heat preparedness, planning, response and recovery. These activities span a range of agencies across the whole of government. There needs to be careful consideration for existing or potential future initiatives that take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • existing Territory emergency planning, preparedness and response activities; • existing and future work around climate change adaptation; • the recommendation for the establishment of a Chief Heat Officer, made by the Commissioner for the Environment and Sustainability; and • how to deliver best positive outcomes for the ACT community.
<p>Recommendation 27</p>	<p>Noted</p>

<p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the next climate strategy include Scope 3 tracking and reduction, transport and waste reduction, adaptation measures and equity measures like solar for public housing and financial support for ebikes.</p>	<p>Planning for the next climate change strategy is currently underway. The Government is considering how to build on existing work and continue to address transport, waste and scope 3 emissions, adaptation, and equity measures in the development of the strategy. The final content and measures have not yet been finalised but will be informed by ongoing analysis and public consultation.</p>
<p>Recommendation 28</p> <p>The Committee recommends the ACT Government act on the advice of the ACT Climate Change Council and bring forward its emission reduction target to net zero by 2040.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Climate action is a shared responsibility of Government, community, business and industry.</p> <p>The ACT Government notes that it already has ambitious targets of net zero emissions for the Territory by 2045 and zero emissions for government operations by 2040. This is more aggressive than many other comparable jurisdictions.</p> <p>Transitioning an economy to net zero emissions by 2045, in a safe and equitable manner, will take time.</p>
<p>Recommendation 29</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the ACT Climate Change Council is given an opportunity to review a working draft of the Strategic Bushfire Management Plan v5.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>The Government will invite the ACT Climate Change Council to participate in the consultation on the draft Strategic Bushfire Management Plan v5.</p>
<p>Recommendation 30</p> <p>The Committee recommends the ACT Government continues plans for stages 2A and 2B of light rail to Woden and starts exploring plans for stage 3.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The ACT Government is committed to progressing the planning and delivery of an expanded light rail network. Early investigations and feasibility assessments into light rail stages is vital in informing broader infrastructure development, including roads and private and commercial property to ensure all future stages deliver positive outcomes for all Canberrans.</p>

	<p>Delivery of Light Rail Stage 2A is already underway. Following execution of the Contract in December 2023, construction commenced in February 2025, with the Gungahlin to Commonwealth Park expanded network expected to be operational in early 2028.</p> <p>Planning for Light Rail Stage 2B is progressing, with the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement complete, to be placed on public exhibition around mid-2025.</p> <p>The Government's priority is stage 2 to Woden and this will remain the focus for this term.</p>
<p>Recommendation 31</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government confirm the Light Rail 2B route as soon as possible and the Light Rail 3 route by the end of 2026.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The Government has already determined that the preferred alignment of Light Rail Stage 2B is the State Circle East alignment option. However, two alignment options are being considered as part of the light rail stage 2B Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Circle East alignment option • The National Triangle-Barton alignment option. <p>Following the public exhibition of the Draft EIS, on the route alignment, the final alignment will be included in the final EIS.</p> <p>The ACT Government will consider the detailed route planning at a future point in line with government's priorities for expanding light rail, but not by the end of 2026.</p>
<p>Recommendation 32</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government confirm if its plan to build one stage of Light Rail per decade means the Civic to Woden route will be complete in ten years and the Civic to Kippax route will be complete in the following ten years.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The Government's priority is Stage 2 to Woden. The timing of Stage 2A of light rail and indicative timeline for Stage 2B is available at https://www.act.gov.au/builtforcbr/browse-all-projects/transport/light-rail-to-woden.</p>
<p>Recommendation 33</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The ACT Government released indicative plans and destinations as outlined in the Light Rail Network Plan in 2015, including:</p>

<p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government disclose a schedule for the full delivery of the Light Rail network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gungahlin to City, - Parliamentary Triangle, - Woden to City, - Tuggeranong to Woden, - Eastern connections (Fyshwick and Airport), - Belconnen to City, and - Molonglo to City. <p>The Government’s priority is Stage 2 to Woden. The timing of Stage 2A of light rail and indicative timeline for Stage 2B is available at https://www.act.gov.au/builtforcbr/browse-all-projects/transport/light-rail-to-woden.</p> <p>Timing of other stages are subject to future decisions of Government.</p>
<p>Recommendation 34</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government disclose the cost for each of Light Rail stage 1, stage 2A, stage 2A extension, and stage 2B.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The ACT Government requires the publication of all contract costs above \$25k on the Contracts Register. The costs for Light Rail Stage 1 and Light Rail Stage 2A have already been published on the Contracts Register.</p> <p>The costs for Light Rail Stage 2B will be released, following entering into a contract for the delivery of the works (including posting the contract and costs on the Contracts Register).</p>
<p>Recommendation 35</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government improve bus service frequency including hourly Sunday services and provide better connectivity, to meet increased community demand.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>The Government announced an increase in weekend services on 9 June 2025. Sunday services will be progressively increased to an hourly schedule from Term 3 2025.</p>
<p>Recommendation 36</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government publish its plan to achieve the</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>Transport Canberra has publicly available on the intranet the TCCS Strategic Plan which includes the overarching plan to achieve 85% customer service satisfaction target.</p>

<p>Government bus operations customer satisfaction target of 85%.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 37</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government update driver guidelines and training and review its timing points, so that bus drivers wait at sufficient timing points when running early, or take some other measure required by Government, so bus users do not show up at the stop on time and miss the bus.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>Transport Canberra regularly reviews training modules and updates accordingly.</p> <p>MyWay+ will provide data to assist with planning and also assist drivers with timing points.</p>
<p>Recommendation 38</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Government update the MyWay+ app so that bus stop information on forthcoming buses is accurate and does not include buses that have already passed the stop.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>Changes made to Real-Time Passenger Information (RTPI) and to timings on long routes has already resulted in improvements in this performance.</p>
<p>Recommendation 39</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish a list of meetings attended by the Minister for Transport or the Minister for Business with businesses affected by London Circuit roadworks.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>Ministerial Diaries Disclosure is published on the ACT Government website: Ministerial Diaries Disclosure - Open Access Information. Note: Reports are published by the end of the second month in the following quarter.</p>
<p>Recommendation 40</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish its monthly fare revenue forecasts and actuals (to date) for</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Transport Canberra is working together with the MyWay+ supplier NEC Australia for the provision of data for the purpose of fare revenue recognition.</p>

<p>2024/25 and publish this information on a regular basis going forward.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 41</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish advice received about functionality prior to the launch of MyWay+.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>This advice has been provided to the Standing Committee’s Inquiry into the procurement and delivery of MyWay+. Once the Inquiry concludes and publishes its output, this advice will be publicly accessible.</p>
<p>Recommendation 42</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government provide a complete list of MyWay+ functionality, showing which were fully/partially/not functional at launch and at present.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>This advice has been provided to the Standing Committee’s Inquiry into the procurement and delivery of MyWay+. Once the Inquiry concludes and publishes its output, this advice will be publicly accessible.</p>
<p>Recommendation 43</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish a list of incurred expenses relating to MyWay+ which were not forecast before the launch.</p>	<p>Agreed in-principle</p> <p>The analysis and production of this information is usually an output of a post-implementation review, noting program delivery is not expected to be concluded until 31 December 2025.</p>
<p>Recommendation 44</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish a list of infrastructure projects which received ACT Government investment without a positive Benefit-Cost Analysis or a Benefit-Cost Ratio of less than one-to-one.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The Government considers a wide range of evidence to determine which infrastructure projects to invest in. Cost-benefit analysis is only one measure of value for money in public infrastructure investment and does not provide a complete picture.</p> <p>For many public infrastructure projects—including schools, hospitals and public housing—a cost-benefit analysis may pick up easily quantifiable benefits, but may exclude other important benefits which are difficult to measure. Combined with typically easily quantified costs, this will often produce a cost-benefit ratio of less than one, even for projects with high social value. Social value is centred around three primary pillars: economic prosperity, wellbeing and quality of life.</p>

	<p>Relying on cost-benefit analysis as the key determinant of value for money and whether governments should invest in public infrastructure would unreasonably set aside consideration of these harder to quantify social benefits. For public infrastructure projects, the role of cost-benefit analysis is often to aid comparison of different options for achieving the same or similar outcomes, and may reveal that certain options provide better value for money outcomes for the community than others.</p>
<p>Recommendation 45</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish any advice, once received, from Infrastructure Australia relating to Light Rail Stage 2B.</p>	<p>Existing Government Policy</p> <p>Infrastructure Australia's evaluation of Light Rail Stage 2B will be publicly available on their website.</p>
<p>Recommendation 46</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure that all of the ACT's Libraries remain open and operating at their historical capacities and operating hours.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>An Independent Working Group is currently reviewing public library operations and will produce recommendations to improve service reliability and ensure sustainability.</p>