



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2024-25

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Sport and Recreation

In relation to: Soil Sensors Key Sites

Hearing: 19 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 23

Transcript provided: 27 November 2025

Answer Due: 4 December 2025

MS LEE: Can I go to turf maintenance? Page 74 of the TCCS annual report talks about soil moisture sensors being deployed across key sites. Can you inform the committee of where those key sites are?

Ms Berry: We did just talk about this in the last session. We can talk about it again.

MS LEE: How exciting. I do not remember.

THE CHAIR: I am going to dictate the question so if you can answer it, then fine.

Mr Fitzgerald: Bruce Fitzgerald, Deputy Director-General, City and Environment Directorate. I would need to take on notice a list of the actual sports fields that they are installed in, which we are happy to do. As I mentioned in the last session, they have been a game changer for us in terms of maintenance and the capabilities that they bring in measuring water levels. I am also informed that they measure salt content, measure pH levels so they are quite a wide-ranging tool for us to be able to then respond in both fertilising and irrigation,

MS LEE: You might need to take this on notice but how many sites?

Mr Fitzgerald: We will take that on notice.

MS LEE: That one is not—yes.

Mr Fitzgerald: Yes.

MS LEE: In terms of the criteria for how you determine what the key sites are, is that like a specific label or is it just a phrase that has been used in the annual report?

Mr Fitzgerald: It is a phrase that is been used. Key sites would be ones that are based on utilisation rates and so we have a very good handle on our utilisation of sports grounds, and we would preference those grounds that are heavily used so that we can respond with the appropriate maintenance.

MS LEE: Thank you. Mr Fitzgerald, whilst you are taking that on notice would you also mind giving information to the committee about how many of the total sites are classified as key sites?

Mr Fitzgerald: Yes.

MS LEE: So both numbers.

Mr Fitzgerald: Yes.

MS LEE: Thank you, appreciate it. Thank you, Chair.

Ms Yvette Berry: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

There are 99 irrigated sportsgrounds in the ACT, the 13 key sites host premier sport and represent a subset of this overall network.

Additionally, all other unenclosed turf sportsgrounds have soil moisture sensors installed, meaning the deployment covers 100% of both key sites and the broader network of turf sportsgrounds.

The 13 key sites that have soil moisture sensors installed are:

- Gungahlin Enclosed Oval
- Nicholls Enclosed Oval
- Kaleen Enclosed Oval
- Holt Enclosed Oval
- Jamieson Oval
- Ainslie Enclosed Oval
- O'Connor Enclosed Oval
- Phillip Enclosed Oval
- Woden Park
- Boomanulla Oval
- Narrabundah Ballpark
- Stirling Enclosed Oval
- Greenway Oval

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Economics, Industry and Recreation

Signature

By the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Yvette Berry MLA

Date:

28/11/25