



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–25

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water

Redirected to: N/A

Reference: Annual Report Environment

Hearing: 17 November 2025

In relation to: Close to the Edge Report

Question received: 25 November 2025

Answer Due: 02 December 2025

Page 186 of EPSDD Annual Report says “Investigations Close to the Edge – an investigation into the effects of urban expansion on the environment of the ACT was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 15 May 2025. The ACT Government will provide a formal response within 6 months of this date.”

- 1) Will the ACT Government provide a formal government response to the report?
- 2) Does the ACT Government consider that a formal government response is required under legislation?
- 3) If yes, when will the ACT Government respond?

Ms Suzanne Orr MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

- 1) The Government’s position on whether to make a formal response to the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment’s (Commissioner) self-initiated investigation into the effects of urban expansion on the environment remains under consideration.
- 2) Pursuant to s.21 of the *Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment Act 1993*, the Government does not have a statutory requirement to respond to the Commissioner’s self-initiated investigation. The City and Environment Directorate will progress in early 2026 a suitable corrigendum to page 186 of the EPSDD Annual Report 2024-25 to clarify this fact.
- 3) Refer question 1).

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a stylized, abstract shape.

Signature:

Date: 03/12/25

By the Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water, Ms Suzanne Orr MLA