



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES  
SUZANNE ORR MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2017–18 Annual and Financial Reports**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**15 November 2018**

Asked by Nicole Lawder MLA:

Ref: TCCS, City Maintenance Services, 2.3

In relation to: Mowing

1. What is the reason for TCCS responsibility for mowing being reduced by 300 hectares when compared to 2016-17?
2. Where were the 300 hectares? Was it sports grounds? Arterial roads? Town districts? - Local parks? Fire hazard protection zones? Other? Please Explain?
3. Was all 4,326km mowed five times throughout the year? If not why was some of it missed? What areas?

**Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–**

1. During 2017-18 TCCS undertook a comprehensive review of mowing areas (mowing maintenance maps) which involved extensive ground truthing and analysis of aerial photos. This resulted in the reclassification of some areas from regular mowing to fire reduction or conservation areas as well as the temporary removal of areas due to construction such a road works.
2. The review of mowing maps included fire protection zones where mowing widths exceeded the requirement of the Bushfire Operation Plan, areas where road works were underway and mowing is not required inside the work zone such as Horse Park Drive and Gundaroo Drive duplication and some verge areas that should not have been identified for mowing.
3. TCCS is responsible for mowing 4326 hectares of suburban land in the ACT. This includes several land categories including irrigated, non-irrigated and fire hazard reduction areas that have different maintenance regimes. In general, irrigated areas are mown approximately 26 times a year while most dryland areas were cut five times in 2017-18. Fire hazard reduction mowing is carried out twice a year.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Transport and City Services

Signature:

Date:

5/4/18

By the Minister for City Services, Chris Steel MLA