

# Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2021-22

Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Approved for publication

## About the committee

## **Establishing resolution**

The Assembly established the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services on 2 December 2020.

The Committee's areas of responsibility are:

- City Renewal Authority
- Suburban Land Agency
- Planning and land management (excluding parks and conservation)
- Transport
- City services including waste and recycling
- Housing (excluding service provision)
- Building and construction

You can read the full establishing resolution here.

## **Committee members**

Ms Jo Clay MLA, Chair Ms Suzanne Orr MLA, Deputy Chair Mr Mark Parton MLA

## **Secretariat**

Ms Miona Ikeda, Acting Committee Secretary

Ms Kate Mickelson, Assistant Secretary (Acting Committee Secretary until 21 November 2022)

Mr Adam Walker, Assistant Secretary

Ms Lydia Chung, Administrative Assistant

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# **About this inquiry**

Clause 3A of the establishing resolution refers all calendar and financial year annual and financial reports for 2021-2022 to the relevant standing committee for inquiry and report by 9 April 2023 of the year after the presentation of the report to the Assembly pursuant to the Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004.

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# **Acronyms and abbreviations**

Acronym	Long form			
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics			
ACT	Australian Capital Territory			
The Committee	Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services			
CMTEDD	Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate			
CRA	City Renewal Authority			
DA	Development Application			
DAS	Domestic Animal Services			
EPSDD	Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate			
FOGO	Food Organics and Garden Organics			
FTE	Full-time equivalent			
GST	Goods and Services Tax			
ILRP	Indicative Land Release Program			
LRV	Light Rail Vehicle			
MLA	Member of the Legislative Assembly			
MP	Member of Parliament			
MPC	Major Projects Canberra			
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility			
NSW	New South Wales			
QON	Question on Notice			
QTON	Question Taken on Notice			
RDOC	Recycling Drop Off Centre			
RFT	Request for tender			
RLC Project	Raising of London Circuit Project			
RMC	Resource Management Centre			
SLA	Suburban Land Agency			
TCCS	Transport Canberra and City Services			

## Recommendations

#### **Recommendation 1**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the cumulative environmental impact is considered with any environmental studies, lease variations and planning decisions in relation to the Western Edge.

#### **Recommendation 2**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government clarify and outline the steps it will take to meet the District Strategy target for 7-10 percent of all new developments to be social and affordable housing.

#### **Recommendation 3**

The Committee recommends that Transport Canberra publish six-monthly reporting against the *ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25* as per the measure in the TCCS Strategic Plan 2021-24.

#### **Recommendation 4**

The Committee recommends that Transport Canberra and City Services publish its Emissions Reduction Plan 2019-20 to 2024-25 and clarify which of the 24 emissions reduction actions assigned to TCCS have been completed to date on the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25.

#### **Recommendation 5**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government announce the estimated completion date for the raising of London Circuit as soon as practicable.

#### **Recommendation 6**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government announce the estimated completion date and cost for Stage 2B as soon as practicable, as well as updating the estimated timeframes after contracts are signed.

#### **Recommendation 7**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government considers publishing the procurement date for the 90 electric buses to be acquired in the near future, as soon as practicable.

#### **Recommendation 8**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish in their annual reports the number of buses and Light Rail Vehicles in the government fleet.

#### **Recommendation 9**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government require end-of-life reuse and recycling for electric bus batteries, just as solar panels will be recycled for the Big Canberra Battery.

#### **Recommendation 10**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government include the organics and composting sector businesses in their industry consultation as part of the procurement for the new FOGO composting facility.

#### **Recommendation 11**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government review the plant species on the Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects list, to ensure that the list only contains appropriate native and exotic species that will not spread to become an invasive species.

#### **Recommendation 12**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government advise what the after-hours arrangements are for animal welfare calls made to the Domestic Animal Services and advise what inspector and veterinary care options are available for these after-hours matters.

#### **Recommendation 13**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government report against the amount, incentives and outcomes of the education funds in the new household waste collections contracts.

#### **Recommendation 14**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the new contracts for household waste and recycling collections prioritise zero emissions trucks, and if this is not currently feasible, there be a provision in the new contracts to establish a transition to zero emissions trucks during the term of the contract.

#### **Recommendation 15**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government engage in targeted consultation with the residents of Belconnen and Gungahlin on the Feasibility Study - Mitchell RMC and Identification of Future Waste Sites in North Canberra report.

#### **Recommendation 16**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish in their annual and financial reports in detail the number of FTE rangers:

- employed in all fields, including land management, illegal dumping, illegal parking, and animal welfare; and
- that are available for after-hour calls.

#### **Recommendation 17**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish all of the waste and recycling audits recently conducted, as soon as practicable.

#### **Recommendation 18**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government continue to publish a time series of public transport usage as a Strategic Objective Indicator in annual and financial reports through:

- keeping patronage data reporting;
- adding journey data reporting; and
- adding the percentage of the population that uses public transport.

#### **Recommendation 19**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government considers continuing to publish a time series of Government subsidy per passenger boarding (or journey) in the TCCS Annual and Financial Reports.

#### Introduction 1.

# Presentation of 2021-22 annual and financial reports

- All annual and financial reports for the Territory were tabled between 12 October 2022<sup>1</sup> 1.1. and 13 October 2022<sup>2</sup> in the ACT Legislative Assembly. A collated list of annual and financial reports is available online.3
- 1.2. During its inquiry, the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services was required to examine all or part of the following annual and financial reports for 2021-2022:
  - Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate; and
  - Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate.
- The Committee's inquiry was undertaken amid the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. In light 1.3. of this, all annual and financial report hearings were conducted in the ACT Legislative Assembly Chamber to allow for appropriate social distancing and other control measures. Witnesses were also able to attend via Webex.

## **Public hearings**

- 1.4. The Committee held public hearings on 31 October 2022, 2 November 2022, 7 November 2022, 8 November 2022, 10 November 2022 and 14 November 2022. At the hearings, the Committee heard from ACT Government Ministers, Directorate officials, and statutory officers.
- 1.5. Witnesses who appeared before the Committee are listed at Appendix A. Transcripts from the public hearings are available on the ACT Legislative Assembly website. Footage of the public hearings are available on the ACT Legislative Assembly Video on Demand website.

## **Questions on Notice and Questions Taken on Notice**

- A total of 52 questions were lodged during the inquiry. Thirty-one questions were taken on 1.6. notice by Ministers and statutory office holders during the hearings, and 21 Questions on Notice were submitted by Committee Members and visiting MLAs following the hearings.
- 1.7. The list of questions lodged during the inquiry are available at **Appendix B**, and all answers have been published on the inquiry website.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ACT Legislative Assembly, *Minutes of Proceedings*, No 61, 12 October 2022, p 839.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ACT Legislative Assembly, *Minutes of Proceedings*, No 62, 13 October 2022, pp 849–850.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate, Annual Reports, https://www.cmtedd.act.gov.au/open\_government/report/annual-reports (accessed 13 January 2023).

## 2. **Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate**

- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD) delivers on 2.1. the ACT Government's key planning, land management, climate action and environment priorities through a wide range of policies and programs.<sup>4</sup>
- 2.2. Responsibilities cover areas such as the built environment, land strategy, planning policy, urban renewal, building policy, development and leasing applications, environment, water policy, heritage, nature parks, nature conservation, climate change and energy.<sup>5</sup>
- 2.3. The EPSDD also provides corporate and governance support for the Suburban Land Agency (SLA) and the City Renewal Authority (CRA). When considered together, the ESPDD, SLA and CRA are referred to as the EPSDD Portfolio.6

# Minister for Planning and Land Management— **Administrative arrangements**

- 2.4. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Planning and Land Management with EPSDD are:
  - Government Architect;
  - Land release policy (including the land release program);
  - Parks and Conservation;
  - Planning and development;
  - Planning and development enforcement policy;
  - Site identification and facilitation for major land and property projects;
  - Strategic land use; and
  - Survey and leasing.<sup>7</sup>
- 2.5. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Planning and Land Management with CMTEDD are:
  - Access Canberra (only in relation to planning, development, land and lease regulation); and
  - Planning, development, land and lease regulation.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 16.

ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>8</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

## **Matters considered - Session 1**

- 2.6. During the Minister for Planning and Land Management's appearance before the Committee on 31 October 2022 (Session 1), the following matters were considered:
  - Development Applications (DAs);9
  - Planning System Review and Reform Project; 10
  - Territory Plan and District Strategies; 11
  - Indicative Land Release Program (ILRP);12
  - Delivery of affordable dwellings<sup>13</sup> and housing affordability;<sup>14</sup>
  - DA decision-making process;15
  - Staff qualifications;16
  - Registered degrees;<sup>17</sup>
  - Human resources and staffing;18
  - Unit Titles Reform Project;19
  - DA assessment timeframes;<sup>20</sup>
  - Western Edge<sup>21</sup> and Western Edge investigation studies;<sup>22</sup>
  - Private leaseholders;<sup>23</sup>
  - Environmental assessments;24
  - Gungahlin Community Centre feasibility study;25
  - Planning Bill 2022;<sup>26</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 1–2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 10–11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 18.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 20.

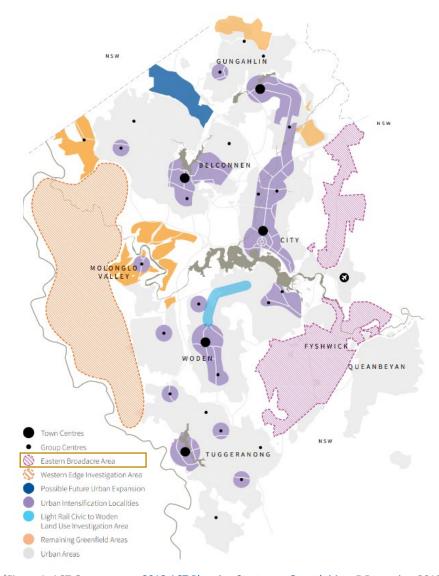
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 24.

- Community engagement practices<sup>27</sup> and strategy;<sup>28</sup> and
- DA finder app.<sup>29</sup>

## **Key Issues**

## Western Edge

2.7. The Western Edge investigation area is approximately 9,800 hectares and is bordered by the Murrumbidgee River and the existing urban areas of Weston Creek, Molonglo Valley, and Belconnen, as shown on the map below:30



[Figure 1: ACT Government, 2018 ACT Planning Strategy – Growth Map, 5 December 2018]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, Western Edge Investigation, https://www.planning.act.gov.au/planning-our-city/planning-studies/western-edge-investigation (accessed 8 March 2023).

- 2.8. According to the EPSDD's Annual and Financial Report 2021-22, one of the priorities during 2022-23 for the Directorate will be to continue the preliminary studies on the Western Edge, with a focus on the capability and suitability assessment, ecological habitat survey, and cultural values assessment.31
- 2.9. The Committee asked the Minister for Planning and Land Management how the ACT Government will take into account the cumulative environmental impacts at the Western Edge since investigations are still ongoing, especially in relation to private landholders.<sup>32</sup>
- 2.10. Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning and Land Management, responded:

There are leaseholders within the area of the western edge that will continue to operate within their lease conditions. They may seek to do different things that are within their lease conditions into the future. We will have to work with them to see what is available for them to do on their leases, whilst we work through this important work for the western edge as well.<sup>33</sup>

#### Committee comment

2.11. The Committee is concerned that there will be decisions taken on areas in the Western Edge while the investigations and strategic environmental assessments are still ongoing. The Committee is of the view that cumulative environmental impacts should be considered in this area, as the individual direct impacts of development may be relatively minor, but collectively over time, their impact can be significant.

#### **Recommendation 1**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the cumulative environmental impact is considered with any environmental studies, lease variations and planning decisions in relation to the Western Edge.

#### **Matters considered - Session 2**

- 2.12. During the Minister for Planning and Land Management's appearance before the Committee on 14 November 2022 (Session 2), the following matters were considered:
  - Consultation times for the District Strategies and Territory Plan;<sup>34</sup>
  - Consultation with community councils;35
  - Gungahlin District Strategy community and recreation facilities;<sup>36</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 19.

<sup>33</sup> Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning and Land Management, Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 14 November 2022, p 122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 124.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 126.

- Inner North and City District Strategy Thoroughbred Park;<sup>37</sup>
- Canberra Racing Park;<sup>38</sup>
- Information on the YourSay website;<sup>39</sup>
- Pop-up information sessions and workshops for the District Strategies and Territory Plan; 40
- Blue-green network on the District Strategies;<sup>41</sup> and
- Oaks Estate.42

# Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction— **Administrative arrangements**

- 2.13. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction with EPSDD are:
  - Asbestos Response Taskforce:
  - Building and construction industry liaison;
  - Building code of Australia ACT appendix;
  - Building policy;
  - Building quality;
  - Living infrastructure projects; and
  - Universal design standards.<sup>43</sup>

- 2.14. During the Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction's appearance before the Committee on 2 November 2022, the following matters were considered:
  - Building quality;44
  - Engineering licensing and registration scheme;<sup>45</sup>
  - Building certification and economic regulatory assessment; 46

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, pp 126–127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 128.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 129.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 130. <sup>42</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 14 November 2022, p 130.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, pp 53–54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 55.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 56.

- Apartment rectification processes;<sup>47</sup>
- Post-certification and post-settlement measures;<sup>48</sup>
- Dispute resolutions;49
- Developer licensing and regulation;<sup>50</sup>
- Property development in Canberra;51
- Seven-star building measures and the new Construction Code;<sup>52</sup>
- Climatic zone for energy efficiency;53
- Discussion paper consultation period;<sup>54</sup> and
- Loose-fill asbestos coordination team. 55

## **Chief Minister—Administrative arrangements**

- 2.15. The areas of responsibility covered by the Chief Minister with EPSDD are:
  - City Renewal Authority; and
  - Suburban Land Agency (as it relates to declared urban renewal sites). 56

- 2.16. During the Chief Minister's appearance before the Committee on 7 November 2022, the following matters were considered:
  - City Renewal Authority's engagement with the District Strategies and Territory Plan:57
  - Haig Park community centre;58
  - Haig Park accessibility of gravel paths;<sup>59</sup>
  - Woolley Street, Dickson streetscape upgrade; 60
  - Lonsdale Street, Braddon; 61 and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 58.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 60.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 63.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 65.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 66. <sup>54</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 67.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 2 November 2022, p 68.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 77.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 78.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 79.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 81.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 84.

New hotel development in the City Renewal Authority precinct. 62

# Minister for Housing and Suburban Development— **Administrative arrangements**

- 2.17. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development with EPSDD are:
  - Suburban land development; and
  - Suburban Land Agency (with the exception of those matters assigned to the Chief Minister).63

- 2.18. During the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development's appearance before the Committee on 10 November 2022, the following matters were considered:
  - Social housing in the District Strategies;<sup>64</sup>
  - Social and affordable housing targets;<sup>65</sup>
  - Affordable home purchase scheme;<sup>66</sup>
  - Gungahlin East Town Centre engagement process;<sup>67</sup>
  - Gungahlin East Town Centre linear park;<sup>68</sup>
  - Taylor Stage 1B;69
  - Planning System Review and Reform Project;<sup>70</sup>
  - National housing crisis;71
  - National Housing Accord;72
  - Jacka community battery;73 and
  - Whitlam green certification process.74

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 84.

<sup>63</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 108.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 111.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 112.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 116.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 117.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 118.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 119.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 120.

## **Key Issues**

## Social and affordable housing

- The Committee examined the issue of social and affordable housing in the ACT, in light of 2.19. the new District Strategies and Territory Plan released a week prior to this session, on 1 November 2022.75
- 2.20. Future ACT-wide targets for planning were presented in the District Strategies, including targets to the year 2046. One of these targets for sustainable neighbourhoods was for an increase in the share of all dwellings that are considered as social housing. 76 Currently, the share of all dwellings that are considered as social housing is 5.7 percent in the Territory, based on the ABS 2016 Census. The new target was listed as 7-10 percent.<sup>77</sup>
- 2.21. During the public hearing on 10 November 2022, the Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Ms Yvette Berry MLA, told the Committee that the ACT Government was awaiting community feedback on the draft District Strategies:

We would work with Minister Gentleman in planning around the indicative land release program to understand the land release program and where we could purchase properties from the Suburban Land Agency to be able to meet those targets that are in the district strategy draft releases.<sup>78</sup>

#### Committee comment

- 2.22. The Committee understands that the 10 targets contained in the draft District Strategies are all set to be 'refined in the future to become key considerations across the ACT Government and used in the measurement of progress in delivery.'79
- 2.23. The Committee is of the view that, once the consultation period for the District Strategies has ended and the findings from it have been appropriately incorporated, the ACT Government clearly outline the steps it will take to meet the target for 7-10 percent of all new developments to be social and affordable housing, for inclusion in future ACT Government plans and strategies.

#### **Recommendation 2**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government clarify and outline the steps it will take to meet the District Strategy target for 7-10 percent of all new developments to be social and affordable housing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 10 November 2022, p 108.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, *Draft Inner North and City District Strategy*, (accessed 14 February 2023), p 72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, <u>Draft Inner North and City District Strategy</u>, (accessed 14 February 2023), p 72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Ms Yvette Berry MLA, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 10 November 2022, p 109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, <u>Draft Inner North and City District Strategy</u>, (accessed 14 February 2023), p 72.

## **3**. **Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate**

- The Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS) provides essential and core 3.1. city services and infrastructure to the ACT.80
- 3.2. Transport Canberra manages Canberra's public transport system (including buses, light rail, and other forms of transport) and city services delivered by TCCS include public libraries, the collection of recycling and waste, graffiti removal, shop and playground upgrades and grass mowing.81
- 3.3. TCCS is responsible for the management of urban trees, public open spaces and city places, domestic animal services, animal welfare, and other licensing and compliance services such as ranger services and permits for public land use. TCCS also manages roads, footpaths, streetlights, and cycle paths.82

# Minister for Transport and City Services—Administrative arrangements

- 3.4. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Transport and City Services with TCCS are:
  - Active travel (including road crossing supervision);
  - Autonomous vehicle policy;
  - Community transport;
  - Footpaths;
  - Mowing and verge maintenance;
  - Municipal services;
  - Parking policy;
  - Policy relating to transport regulation and safety;
  - Public space amenity;
  - Recycling and waste policy (including clinical waste policy);
  - Roads and bridges;
  - Stormwater;
  - Transport Canberra; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 14.

<sup>81</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 14.

<sup>82</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 14.

- Transport planning and reform.83
- 3.5. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Transport and City Services with Major Projects Canberra are:
  - Delivery of the City to Woden light rail project and finalisation of the Gungahlin to the City light rail project.84

#### Matters considered - Session 1

- 3.6. During the Minister for Transport and City Services' appearance before the Committee on 31 October 2022 (Session 1), the following matters were considered:
  - Reporting against the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25;85
  - TCCS emissions reduction plan 2019-20 and 2024-25;86
  - Gender-sensitive urban design guidelines;87
  - Cost and completion date for Light Rail Stage 2;88
  - Raising of London Circuit Project Light Rail;89
  - Construction works and impacts to existing Light Rail services;90
  - Active travel;91
  - Federal funding for Light Rail;92
  - Emissions reduction working group;93
  - Public transport services during COVID-19;94
  - Electric buses:95 and
  - Diesel buses.96

<sup>83</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>84</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

<sup>85</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 31–32.

<sup>86</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>87</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>88</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 33, 42.

<sup>89</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 33-34.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 35.

<sup>91</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 35.

<sup>92</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 37.

<sup>93</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 40.

<sup>94</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 41.

<sup>95</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 46.

## **Key Issues**

## **ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25**

- The ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-2025 sets out the pathway for the Territory to 3.7. reduce emissions by 50 to 60 per cent (below 1990 levels) by 2025 and achieving net zero emissions by 2045. The ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-2025 also includes a Zero Emissions Government Framework where the ACT Government has committed to reducing its greenhouse-gas emissions in its operations to zero by 2040.<sup>97</sup>
- 3.8. The Committee noted during the public hearing that in the TCCS Strategic Plan 2021-24, one of the identified measures for TCCS was six-monthly reporting against the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-2025, 98 along with performance data in the TCCS Annual and Financial Report's Ecological and Sustainable Development section, and asked the Minister for Transport and City Services whether these six-monthly reports have happened.<sup>99</sup>
- 3.9. Ms Alison Playford, Director-General of TCCS, stated that the Directorate will include some of this information in their future annual and financial reports: 100

I do not think it is included in this one because we are moving to our new reporting system. We already provide input into whole-of-government collection of reporting against the Climate Change Strategy, which is publicly available. 101

#### Committee Comment

3.10. The Committee is of the view that regular reporting can be used to assess performance and quantify rates of improvement or progress toward goals and objectives, and would therefore like for Transport Canberra to publish their six-monthly reporting against the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-2025 as per their commitment in the TCCS Strategic Plan 2021-24.

#### **Recommendation 3**

The Committee recommends that Transport Canberra publish six-monthly reporting against the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25 as per the measure in the TCCS Strategic Plan 2021-24.

#### Emissions Reduction Plan 2019-20 to 2024-25

The Committee noted during the public hearing that in the TCCS Annual and Financial 3.11. Report 2021-22, there is a reference to Emissions Reduction Plans: 102

<sup>97</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 97.

<sup>98</sup> The obligation is set out at: Transport Canberra and City Services, TCCS Strategic Plan 2021-24, https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0005/1851008/Strategic-Plan-2021-24.pdf (accessed 13 March 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, pp 31–32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Ms Alison Playford, Director-General, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Ms Alison Playford, Director-General, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 32.

In 2021-22, TCCS continued to pursue activities identified in the TCCS Emissions Reduction Plan 2019-20 to 2024-25 to contribute to the whole of government target, reported in the 2020-21 Minister's Annual Report under the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010. 103

The Committee asked whether this is a public document, to which the response was that it 3.12. 'is a document that is still under development and finalisation.' 104 When the Committee asked whether it will be published when it is finished, Ms Alison Playford, Director-General of TCCS, stated that:

> That will be something we will need to consider when we finish it. We will certainly be looking to provide information around that document in our annual report going forward. 105

#### Committee Comment

3.13. The Committee would like for Transport Canberra and City Services to publish its Emissions Reduction Plan 2019-20 to 2024-25 when they have been finalised, and also clarify which of the 24 emissions reduction actions assigned to TCCS have been completed to date on the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25.

#### **Recommendation 4**

The Committee recommends that Transport Canberra and City Services publish its Emissions Reduction Plan 2019-20 to 2024-25 and clarify which of the 24 emissions reduction actions assigned to TCCS have been completed to date on the ACT Climate Change Strategy 2019-25.

#### **Raising of London Circuit Project**

- During the public hearing, Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, 3.14. told the Committee that contracts have been signed for the project to raise London Circuit (RLC Project), and that construction will take approximately two years. 106
- 3.15. However, the Minister also added that the ACT Government will not be providing an exact date as to when the raising of London Circuit is due to be completed, until the procurement process is finalised, and a specific date is determined in the contract: 107

We have provided as much certainty as we can around what the next milestones are for the project. The next milestone is the works approval, and next year we are looking forward to finalising the procurement. 108

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 97.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Ms Alison Playford, Director-General, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> Ms Alison Playford, Director-General, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 34.

- 3.16. The Committee asked the Minister what date was requested by the ACT Government as the completion date for the RLC Project when the tender was put out. 109 Mr Duncan Edghill, Chief Projects Officer from Major Projects Canberra (MPC), informed the Committee that the ACT Government 'did not put a date in the contract; rather, that was something for our tenderers to give back to the territory as part of the procurement process.'110
- 3.17. The Minister was also asked what the exact cost of the tender and the contract amount for the RLC Project would be. 111 The Committee was advised that the total value of the works is approximately \$100 million, and that the number in the contract is approximately \$60 million.112
- 3.18. In response to a Question Taken on Notice (QTON), the Minister provided the exact breakdown of the RLC Project:

RLC and associated works	Cost (GST excluded)
Early utility works	\$7,856,635
Design and planning costs	\$17,132,740
Main works construction costs	\$60,695,114
Other costs, including Territory-held contingency	\$17,146,511
Total	\$102,831,000

Table 1: Breakdown of Raising London Circuit Project, see Mr Chris Steel MLA, Response to QTON 9: MPC RLC Contract Cost, (received 9 November 2022), p 2.

3.19. In response to another QTON, the Minister provided a figure of \$7,856,635 (excluding GST) for the Early Utilities Contract of the RLC Project. 113

#### Committee Comment

3.20. The Committee is of the view that, since the contract has now been signed for the RLC Project and works have commenced, the ACT Government should provide more information to the people of ACT, such as a clear expected completion date, for the finalisation of the project, as soon as practicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Mr Duncan Edghill, Chief Projects Officer, Major Projects Canberra, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 33.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, pp 36, 44–45.

<sup>112</sup> Mr Duncan Edghill, Chief Projects Officer, Major Projects Canberra, Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 36

<sup>113</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Response to QTON 8: MPC RLC Utilities Works Costs, 31 October 2022 (received 9 November 2022), p 1.

#### **Recommendation 5**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government announce the estimated completion date for the raising of London Circuit as soon as practicable.

#### **Light Rail Stage 2B**

- 3.21. The Committee also examined the estimated timeframe and costs for delivery of Light Rail Stage 2B in relation to Light Rail Stage 2 as a whole. 114
- The Committee was concerned with some of the approximate figures which have been 3.22. talked about for Light Rail Stage 2, potentially costing over \$3 billion. 115 The Minister noted that 'this is a very significant, complex project—the largest in our city's history. It requires a significant amount of work to be able to get to a point where we can consider a business case, and that work is underway': 116

We have been very clear that we will consider the costs, the benefits of the project, and a range of other detail in the business case for stage 2B. That is where we will consider all of those issues. Until that point, and until that detail work has been done, particularly on some of the early design of stage 2B, to get an understanding of the cost and timing—the costs of delivering the project at the time that we actually assess the business case—it would be entirely speculative to come up with an assumption around costs right now. 117

3.23. The Minister also noted that the ACT Government's attention will move to stage 2B once contracts are signed with Canberra Metro. 118

#### Committee Comment

3.24. The Committee is of the view that the ACT Government should announce the estimated completion date and cost for Stage 2B as soon as practicable, as well as updating the estimated timeframes after contracts are signed.

#### **Recommendation 6**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government announce the estimated completion date and cost for Stage 2B as soon as practicable, as well as updating the estimated timeframes after contracts are signed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, pp 42–43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 31 October 2022, p 43.

#### **Electric buses**

- 3.25. According to the TCCS Annual and Financial Report 2021-22, TCCS have identified preferred suppliers for the first 12 battery electric buses for the ACT. 119 Work is also underway for the new Woden Bus Depot at Phillip, which will accommodate for a zero-emissions bus fleet in the future as well as the Territory's first electric bus depot. 120
- 3.26. The Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services for an update to the electrification of the ACT Government's bus fleet. 121 In his response, the Minister stated that 'before the end of the year [2022], TCCS are expecting the first 12 leased electric buses':122

We are looking forward to those being delivered and being on the road before the end of the year. TCCS is finalising the procurement at the moment for the 90 electric buses which we are buying, which we expect to be delivered over a number of years, with the preferred supplier. 123

#### Committee comment

- 3.27. The Committee understands that since the public hearings for this inquiry were held during October and November 2022, the ACT's first permanent electric bus is now operating on ACT roads, 'with 11 more battery electric buses to begin operations across Canberra in the coming weeks'. 124
- 3.28. The Committee would like for the ACT Government to advise when the additional 90 electric buses will be acquired as part of the Transport Canberra Zero Emission Transition Plan, which will transition the Territory to a completely zero emissions public transport network that is powered by 100 percent renewable electricity by 2040 or earlier.

#### **Recommendation 7**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government considers publishing the procurement date for the 90 electric buses to be acquired in the near future, as soon as practicable.

The Committee noted that in the TCCS Annual and Financial Report 2021-22, as part of 3.29. Sustainable Development Performance reporting, the total numbers of vehicles in the TCCS fleet and the total number of buses in the Transport Canberra/ACTION fleet (Table 26) are provided for, however, this was only for both the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years. 125

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, *Annual Report 2021-22*, October 2022, p 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 31 October 2022, p 45.

<sup>122</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, p 46.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, p 46.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Media Release – Travel the electric way on Canberra's first zero emissions bus, 25 January 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 102.

3.30. The Committee also noted that the number of electric Light Rail Vehicles (LRV) in the TCCS fleet was not clearly stated in this table. 126

#### Committee comment

3.31. The Committee would like for the ACT Government to publish, as part of future Development Performance Reporting, a time series of the number of buses and LRVs in the Transport Canberra/ACTION fleet per financial year.

#### **Recommendation 8**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish in their annual reports the number of buses and Light Rail Vehicles in the government fleet.

## **Matters considered - Session 2**

- 3.32. During the Minister for Transport and City Services' appearance before the Committee on 8 November 2022 (Session 2), the following matters were considered:
  - Public transport usage and patronage; 127
  - Electric bus batteries; 128
  - Well Station Drive park-and-ride facility; 129
  - Food organics and garden organics (FOGO) composting facility; 130
  - 2021-22 financial year tree planting target; 131
  - Planting of diverse tree species; 132
  - Domestic Animal Services; 133
  - Kerbside recycling and waste contracts; 134
  - Electric garbage trucks; 135
  - Textile waste; 136
  - Improving technology in public libraries; 137
  - Home delivery of library books; 138

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 86.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 88.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 95.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, pp 97–98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 99.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 101.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 102.

- ACT rangers; 139
- Waste sent to Woodlawn, NSW;140
- Resource recovery;141
- Waste audits; 142 and
- Feedback from the disability reference group. 143

## **Key Issues**

#### **Electric bus batteries**

- 3.33. The Committee told the Minister for Transport and City Services, Mr Chris Steel MLA, that they had heard from the Chief Minister, Mr Andrew Barr MLA, during the public hearings that the Big Canberra Battery will include end-of-life recycling in its procurement of battery and solar panel equipment. 144 The Committee was interested to know whether the same contract terms as the Big Canberra Battery will be used for electric vehicles such as electric buses and electric garbage trucks. 145
- 3.34. Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General of Transport Canberra and Business Services at TCCS, told the Committee that:

Speaking in general terms about the batteries on electric buses, some providers provide separate warranty periods and separate responsibilities around how batteries are managed, compared to the bus infrastructure itself; they do have, potentially, different life cycles. With the re-use of those batteries, there are different companies that do different things with them and give them a second life. A battery that is designed for a vehicle has a particular life in a moving environment and a different life cycle in a static environment. There are certain providers that are looking at the second life of those batteries and the responsibility for decommissioning them at end of life. That product stewardship piece is built into our contracts, and we will continue to look at options to do that. 146

3.35. The Minister for Transport and City Services provided further information on end-of-life arrangements for batteries in a response to a QTON:

> In relation to battery recycling for electric garbage contracts, given the advanced stage of the procurement for a new Household Waste Collection Service it is not possible to provide specific information on the requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>139</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>140</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 106.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 106.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, pp 106–107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 7 November 2022, p 81.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 88.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 89.

Transport Canberra is undertaking a procurement to purchase 90 x battery electric buses. These assets (vehicles) will be purchased as a whole, inclusive of the battery. Transport Canberra will be responsible for recycling options once the battery's useful life has been reached.

The useful life of a battery is up to eight years and could be longer with unknown influences and charge cycles. End of life arrangements will be put in place ahead of batteries reaching their end of useful life as energy for transport vehicles. Transport Canberra will be evaluating the options for repurposing batteries as part of its strategic asset management plan. 147

#### Committee Comment

3.36. The Committee is of the view that there should be a standard contract provision to require end-of-life reuse and recycling for electric bus batteries as part of their contracts, to reduce the number of batteries being disposed into landfill.

#### **Recommendation 9**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government require end-of-life reuse and recycling for electric bus batteries, just as solar panels will be recycled for the Big Canberra Battery.

## **FOGO** composting facilities

- 3.37. During the public hearings, the Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services for an update on the procurement process for a FOGO composting facility. 148
- 3.38. Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager of Infrastructure Delivery and Waste at TCCS, stated that the ACT Government is 'currently working through quite a complex procurement process for FOGO' and 'at this stage we are looking at a two-stage procurement process—a request for a proposal and then a request for tender.'149
- 3.39. The Committee asked whether any different consultations would occur; for example, whether any targeted consultation would occur with people who are already working in the organics and composting sector. 150
- 3.40. Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager of Infrastructure Delivery and Waste at TCCS, responded that it will be part of the ACT Government's schedule to undertake the consultation, but that level of consultation has not begun 'at this stage' as the request for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, Response to QTON 16: Battery recycling for vehicles, (received 18 November 2022), p 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, pp 89–90.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 90.

tender will be occurring around Christmas (note: this matter was examined during the public hearing on 8 November 2022). 151

## Committee comment

3.41. The Committee understands that TCCS will be undertaking consultation as part of the procurement for the new FOGO composting facility in early 2023, and urges the ACT Government to specifically undertake industry consultation with those who are already in the FOGO sector.

#### **Recommendation 10**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government include the organics and composting sector businesses in their industry consultation as part of the procurement for the new FOGO composting facility.

## **Plant species**

- The Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects 152 list contains 210 species (including 77 3.42. new species) which have been evaluated and deemed by the Urban Treescapes Unit as suitable for use in specified areas and conditions within the ACT. 153
- 3.43. During the public hearing on 8 November 2022, the Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services whether he has heard any feedback or concern from the community about pest tree species. 154
- 3.44. The Minister recognised that 'there are tree species where we have more of them in the Canberra environment than we probably should', such as the Red Spotted Gum Tree: 155

Eucalyptus mannifera comprises about 24 per cent of all of the trees in Canberra. There are a huge number of them. There are significant numbers in the top 10 as well; they make up by far, I think, almost the majority of trees in the ACT.

We want to get more diversity into the system. That is why we have updated the tree planting species guides and the municipal infrastructure standards, to inform our own planting program, and private plantings as part of developments as well. But we do, clearly, need to manage the buffer zones between some of our nature reserves and the suburban streets. That is being managed with more of those exotic species being planted, typically, on a street verge rather than necessarily close to a buffer zone, where the seeds could spread. 156

<sup>151</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 90.

<sup>152</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Municipal Infrastructure Standards: Part 25 Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects, January 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, *Tree species for Canberra*, <a href="https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/trees-and-">https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/trees-and-</a> <u>nature/trees/tree-species-for-canberra</u> (accessed 8 March 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 92.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>156</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 92.

#### Committee comment

- 3.45. The Committee was pleased to hear that there has been an update to the Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects list to incorporate a more diverse range of tree species.
- 3.46. The Committee is of the view that now with over 200 species listed on the Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects list, that the list be reviewed to ensure that only appropriate native and exotic species are contained on the list, so that the trees being planted in the Territory are not invasive species, and are wildlife-friendly and would be an asset to the biodiversity of the region.

#### **Recommendation 11**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government review the plant species on the Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects list, to ensure that the list only contains appropriate native and exotic species that will not spread to become an invasive species.

#### **Domestic Animal Services**

- 3.47. Domestic Animal Services (DAS) is the domestic animal management service for the ACT and sits within TCCS. These services include dog registration, nuisance and attack investigations, collection of stray and roaming dogs, community education about responsible pet ownership, and the Symonston dog shelter's management. 157
- 3.48. According to the DAS Service Handbook, DAS is open from Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm, with on-call rangers able to provide a 24/7 response for high priority jobs such as dog attacks on a person. <sup>158</sup> Rangers respond to complaints in the field including dog attacks, roaming dogs, dogs within prohibited areas, and animal nuisance complaints, and are responsible for the enforcement of regulatory actions under the Domestic Animals Act 2000 and Animal Welfare Act 1992. 159

#### Committee comment

3.49. The Committee appreciates that there are rangers at DAS to provide after-hour services and attend to complaints from the public in relation to animal welfare matters. The Committee would like for the ACT Government to advise in detail what inspector and veterinary care options are available for after-hour matters, to assure and inform the residents of the ACT that help is ongoingly available after-hours.

#### **Recommendation 12**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government advise what the after-hours arrangements are for animal welfare calls made to the Domestic Animal Services and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>157</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 62.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, *Domestic Animal Services Service Handbook*, October 2020, p 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, *Domestic Animal Services Service Handbook*, October 2020, p 18.

advise what inspector and veterinary care options are available for these after-hours matters.

#### **Education funds in contracts**

- 3.50. The Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services whether education funds will be captured in the new contracts for the household waste collections contracts. 160 An education fund would incentivise operators to educate the public (e.g., ways to keep contamination rates down, how to recycle bulky items), which will ultimately benefit service providers.
- 3.51. Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager of Infrastructure Delivery and Waste at TCCS, stated that education funds are 'a key consideration of the request for tender (RFT)':161

Those type of details will be subject to responses through the RFT. We accept that an essential part of delivering a waste service is the education component, so we are looking at ways to best do that. Part of that will be engaging with industry through the RFT process to understand how best to manage that process. 162

#### Committee comment

- 3.52. Previously, the Committee had recommended the ACT Government to 'ensure sufficient funds are allocated on education to ensure the upgraded MRF and new FOGO facility provide low contamination and high recovery rates', in the Committee's report on the Appropriation Bill 2021-22.163
- 3.53. In its Government response, the ACT Government had agreed in principle to the recommendation:164

The Government will continue to explore the best approach to achieving desired outcomes from its waste management services. The Government has recently commenced a bin tagging trial for household recycling bins, and a range of engagement and education methods are being used with the FOGO Pilot which commences in Belconnen on 22 November 2021. The evaluation of these activities will help inform the design of future services to ensure efficient and effective use of education resources. 165

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

<sup>161</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services, Report 6 – Appropriation Bill 2021-2022 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2021-2022, November 2021, p 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 81.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 81.

3.54. The Committee is of the view that the ACT Government should continue to deliver programs for waste education and community outreach activities, and include an education fund into the new household waste collections contracts.

#### **Recommendation 13**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government report against the amount, incentives and outcomes of the education funds in the new household waste collections contracts.

#### Zero emissions trucks

- 3.55. The Committee understands that during the 2021-22 financial year, TCCS trialled new electric vehicles including an electric tipper truck, garbage truck, mower and street sweeper. 166
- 3.56. When examining the matter on kerbside recycling and waste contracts, the ACT Government explained that there certainly was a trial for an electric garbage truck; however, this was for City Presentation to assist with local shops' garbage collection. 167
- 3.57. When the Committee asked whether electric garbage trucks could be captured in the household waste collection contracts, the Committee was told that there would be some difficulties due to the current contract term:

We know other jurisdictions are getting trials of trucks through the fleet. We are in a difficult situation at the moment. We are at the end of our current household waste collection contract, so it makes the provision of new trucks to the fleet difficult. It is difficult to justify the investment at this stage. Where there is opportunity for us to embrace the trial of a truck for household waste collection, we are seeking every opportunity to do that. 168

#### Committee comment

3.58. The Committee is of the view that the ACT Government prioritise zero emissions trucks for the new contracts for the household waste and recycling collections, and if this is not currently feasible, there should be a provision inserted in new contracts to ensure that there will be a transition to zero emissions trucks during the term of the contract, so that the ACT is not stuck in a situation where zero emissions vehicles cannot be onboarded due to contractual loopholes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 98.

#### **Recommendation 14**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government ensure the new contracts for household waste and recycling collections prioritise zero emissions trucks, and if this is not currently feasible, there be a provision in the new contracts to establish a transition to zero emissions trucks during the term of the contract.

## Mitchell Resource Management Centre

- 3.59. In late 2020, a project to investigate the feasibility of Mitchell Resource Management Centre (RMC) upgrades and the identification of future waste sites in North Canberra commenced. The purpose of this project was to assess all available options for the relocation or upgrade of the Mitchell RMC. The feasibility study also provided information about the appropriateness of any future sites for new facilities or potential upgrades to the Mitchell RMC. 169
- 3.60. The Feasibility Study – Mitchell RMC and Identification of Future Waste Sites in North Canberra report was released in late 2022. 170
- 3.61. The Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services and TCCS officials to respond to the community's concerns that there may be a new waste management centre being built in Belconnen. The Minister stated that:

There is no proposed new tip in Belconnen. We are going through the planning process at the moment for a green waste drop-off in west Belconnen, which is continuing the existing green waste drop-off that is currently located at Parkwood and moving it to a new site in Belconnen. 171

3.62. Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager of Infrastructure Delivery and Waste at TCCS, further added:

> The document in relation to Belconnen originated from a need to look at the Mitchell Resource Management Centre, to identify, particularly with some of the urban development that has been happening within Mitchell, what is the longterm strategy for its replacement or its supplementation.

> With the report that was conducted, it was not a landfill site; it was around what sites were available for something similar to the Mitchell site. We also used that report to understand what the feasibility was, as the minister pointed out, for the green waste facility that we need to replace what is currently on Parkwood Road.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Mitchell RMC proposed relocation, https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/Infrastructure-Projects/programs/waste-and-recycling-infrastructure/mitchellrmc-proposed-relocation (accessed 12 March 2023), p 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> Cardno (NSW/ACT) Pty Ltd, Feasibility Study – Mitchell RMC and Identification of Future Waste Sites in North Canberra, October 2022, p 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 100.

The intention was never to provide a new site; it was around locations for a possible site in the future. 172

#### Committee comment

3.63. The Committee is of the view that now that Stage 1 of the Mitchell (RMC) planning project has been completed, in Stage 2, the ACT Government should engage in targeted consultations with the Belconnen and Gungahlin community about the feasibility study to ensure that residents in North Canberra are aware of this study.

#### **Recommendation 15**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government engage in targeted consultation with the residents of Belconnen and Gungahlin on the Feasibility Study -Mitchell RMC and Identification of Future Waste Sites in North Canberra report.

#### **FTE rangers**

- 3.64. During the public hearing on 8 November 2022, the Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services how many full-time equivalent (FTE) rangers were employed at TCCS, to respond to issues such as illegal dumping and parking. <sup>173</sup> This was taken as a question on notice. 174
- 3.65. In his QTON response, the Minister for Transport and City Services gave the below figures, along with an explanation that:

Unit	2016	2022
City Rangers	7	10
Compliance Targeting Team	0 (this team did not exist)	7
Investigations	1	5
Licensing	4	8

Table 2: Breakdown of FTE rangers in the ACT, see Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, Response to QTON 22: FTE City Rangers, (received 17 November 2022), p 1.

The TCCS Licensing and Compliance unit is responsible for licensing and regulating public land and municipal services in the ACT. The Licensing and Compliance unit is made up of four teams being the Land Use Licensing, City Rangers, Investigation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, pp 100–101.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 102.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, Response to QTON 22: FTE City Rangers, (received 17 November 2022), p 1.

and the Compliance Targeting Team. These teams work as an integrated collegial unit, with all sections contributing to the overall outcomes. 175

- 3.66. Further, the Committee asked the number of rangers that work outside business hours to respond to enforcement matters and whether those rangers cover all areas across the Territory. 176
- 3.67. Mr Daniel Iglesias, Executive Branch Manager of City Presentation at TCCS, acknowledged that compared to the resources that the Directorate has during business hours, the resources are limited, but rangers do respond each time a complaint of issue is received:

We do have the capacity to respond to people after hours, on an on-call basis. That would cover a range of eventualities, but it would not be so much based on geographic but rather the actual need. If a need was there, we would respond to wherever that need was. 177

#### Committee comment

- 3.68. The Committee recognises that there would certainly be a cross-over between roles in the Licensing and Compliance Unit; however, the Committee would like to see a detailed breakdown of the number of FTE rangers specifically assigned to respond to land management, illegal dumping, illegal parking, and animal welfare matters.
- 3.69. Additionally, the Committee would like for the ACT Government to publish the number of FTE rangers who are available to take after-hour calls (after business hours during the weekdays and on weekends), as a way to ensure there is adequate staffing to respond to the community and for the rangers to not be under undue resourcing pressures.

#### **Recommendation 16**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish in their annual and financial reports in detail the number of FTE rangers:

- employed in all fields, including land management, illegal dumping, illegal parking, and animal welfare; and
- that are available for after-hour calls.

#### Waste audits

- 3.70. The Committee understands that there have been nine waste audits between 2009 and 2015:
  - ACTNOWaste Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Residual Waste Audit (July 2009);
  - ACTNOWaste Kerbside Domestic Waste & Recycling Audit (December 2009);

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, Response to QTON 22: FTE City Rangers, (received 17 November 2022), p 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 103.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>177</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 103.

- ACTNOWaste ACT Landfill Audits (July 2010);
- ACTNOWaste Skip Bin Waste Composition Audit at Mugga Lane Landfill (May 2011);
- ACTNOWaste ACT Recycling Drop Off Centres (RDOC) Co-mingled Recycling Composition Audit (June 2014);
- ACTNOWaste Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) Audit (November 2014);
- ACTNOWaste Landfill and Transfer Station Waste Audits (July 2015);
- ACTNOWaste ACT Domestic Waste Audit (November 2015); and
- Review of monitoring and forecasting practices associated with Mugga Land Resource Management Centre landfill capacity (January 2015). 178
- 3.71. The Committee asked the Minister for Transport and City Services why there have been no published waste audits since 2015, and whether the Directorate was continuing to undertake data analysis done in previous years' audit reports. 179
- 3.72. Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager of the Infrastructure Delivery and Waste Unit at TCCS, stated that the fieldwork for a recent audit has been completed: 180

We are expecting a draft report. I will not say that we will have it before Christmas, but we are expecting that that will come through in the not-too-distant future. It is a key element for us to make sure that we have our settings, particularly for a number of our waste procurements, at the right level. 181

3.73. When the Committee asked whether the 'not-too-distant future' meant in the year 2023, Mr Bruce Fitzgerald replied 'yes'. 182

#### Committee comment

3.74. The Committee would like for TCCS to publish the waste audit report they recently conducted, and recommends the process be made a regular occurrence, in order to promote best practices for controls and ensure that there is compliance with relevant government policies and regulations.

#### **Recommendation 17**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish all of the waste and recycling audits recently conducted, as soon as practicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>178</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, Waste strategies – Reports and audits, https://www.cityservices.act.gov.au/recycling-and-waste/waste-strategies/reports-audits (accessed 12 March 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>179</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, pp 106–107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>180</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>181</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>182</sup> Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 107.

#### **Public transport reporting indicators**

- 3.75. During the public hearings, the Committee examined the ACT Government's goal of increasing public transport usage, and asked the Minister for Transport and City Services what percentage of Canberrans use public transport. 183
- 3.76. The Committee also questioned the Minister on the issue of declining public transport patronage, citing a chart on page 27 of the TCCS Annual and Financial Report 2021-22, which, the Directorate is looking to remove from future annual reports. 184
- 3.77. In response to a question as to why TCCS is removing that table going forward, Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General of Transport Canberra and Business Services at TCCS, stated that it is the Directorate's intention that the data be replaced with 'something that has a better demonstration of the data':185

That graph currently presents that we have maintained our targets; it is how we achieve those targets that will become more important as we recover from the impacts of COVID. We want to be able to reflect that in more detail. As you have identified, without an explanation, that graph can be quite misleading in terms of the drop-off in patronage. 186

#### Committee Comment

- 3.78. The Committee is of the view that the ACT Government should continue to publish a time series of public transport usage as a Strategic Objective Indicator in annual reports, and should keep patronage data reporting as it is the basis of public transport usage and recording.
- 3.79. The Committee also recommends that journey data reporting and the percentage of the population that uses public transport be included in future annual reports, as it will provide insights on how public transport usage is trending, which is pertinent data for operational efficiency.

#### **Recommendation 18**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government continue to publish a time series of public transport usage as a Strategic Objective Indicator in annual and financial reports through:

- keeping patronage data reporting;
- adding journey data reporting; and
- adding the percentage of the population that uses public transport.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>183</sup> Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services, *Proof Committee Hansard*, 8 November 2022, p 86.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>184</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 87; Transport Canberra and City Services, Annual Report 2021-22, October 2022, p 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>185</sup> Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General, Transport Canberra and Business Services, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 88.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>186</sup> Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General, Transport Canberra and Business Services, TCCS, Proof Committee Hansard, 8 November 2022, p 88.

3.80. The Committee also understands from the TCCS Annual and Financial Report 2021-22 that the Directorate is proposing to remove the time series of Government subsidy per passenger boarding from future annual reports, 'pending implementation of the new ticketing system currently being procured, which will provide more reliable passenger information'. 187

#### Committee Comment

3.81. The Committee is of the view that the ACT Government considers continuing to publish in its annual reports the time series of Government subsidy per passenger boarding (or per journey), as there is no guarantee that the new passenger information extracted from the new ticketing system will automatically produce a better dataset for inclusion in annual reports.

#### **Recommendation 19**

The Committee recommends that the ACT Government considers continuing to publish a time series of Government subsidy per passenger boarding (or journey) in the TCCS Annual and Financial Reports.

# Minister for Sport and Recreation—Administrative arrangements

- 3.82. The areas of responsibility covered by the Minister for Sport and Recreation with TCCS are:
  - Sports ground management. 188

- 3.83. During the Minister for Sport and Recreation's appearance before the Committee on 7 November 2022, the following matters were considered:
  - Sportsground facility maintenance and cleaning contract; 189
  - Maintenance of ovals; 190 and
  - Female-friendly upgrades to pavilions and sports facilities. 191

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>187</sup> Transport Canberra and City Services, <u>Annual Report 2021-22</u>, October 2022, p 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>188</sup> ACT Government, Administrative Arrangements 2022 (No 2) https://legislation.act.gov.au/View/ni/2022-697/current/html/2022-697.html (accessed 23 January 2023).

 $<sup>^{189}\,</sup>Proof\,Committee\,Hansard,\,7$  November 2022, pp 71–72 .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>190</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 74.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>191</sup> Proof Committee Hansard, 7 November 2022, p 75.

#### 4. **Conclusion**

- The Committee thanks everyone who participated in, or otherwise assisted, this inquiry. 4.1. This includes the ACT Government Ministers, Directorate officials, and statutory officers. The Committee wishes to extend its appreciation to the Hansard and broadcasting staff of the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- 4.2. The Committee makes 19 recommendations.

Ms Jo Clay MLA Chair 16 March 2023

# **Appendix A: Witnesses**

## Monday, 31 October 2022

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning and Land Management

## **Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate**

- Mr Ben Ponton, Director-General
- **Dr Erin Brady**, Deputy Director-General, Planning and Sustainable Development
- Mr James Bennett, Executive Branch Manager, Building Reform, Housing and Design Services
- Mr George Cilliers, Executive Group Manager, Statutory Planning
- Mr Ben Green, A/g Executive Group Manager, Development and Implementation
- Ms Alexandra Magee, Executive Branch Manager, Communications, Engagement and Media
- Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services

#### **Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate**

- Ms Alison Playford, Director-General
- Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General, Transport Canberra and Business Services
- Ms Sophie Clement, A/g Executive Branch Manager, Infrastructure Delivery
- Ms Cherie Hughes, Chief Operating Officer

#### **Major Projects Canberra**

- Mr Duncan Edghill, Chief Projects Officer
- Mr Ashley Cahif, Project Director, Light Rail

## Wednesday, 2 November 2022

Ms Rebecca Vassarotti MLA, Minister for Sustainable Building and Construction

#### **Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate**

- Dr Erin Brady, Deputy Director-General, Planning and Sustainable Development
- Mr James Bennett, Executive Branch Manager, Building Reform, Housing and Design Services
- Mr Ben Green, A/g Executive Group Manager, Development and Implementation

## Monday, 7 November 2022

Ms Yvette Berry MLA, Minister for Sport and Recreation

#### **Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate**

- Mr Daniel Iglesias, Executive Branch Manager, City Presentation
- Mr Jeremy Smith, Executive Group Manager, City Services
- Mr Andrew Barr MLA, Chief Minister

## **City Renewal Authority**

- Mr Malcolm Snow, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Craig Gillman, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

## Tuesday, 8 November 2022

Mr Chris Steel MLA, Minister for Transport and City Services

#### **Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate**

- Mr Ben McHugh, Deputy Director-General, Transport Canberra and Business Services
- Mr Jim Corrigan, Deputy Director-General, City Services
- Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Executive Group Manager, Infrastructure Delivery and Waste
- Mr Daniel Iglesias, Executive Branch Manager, City Presentation
- Ms Vanessa Little, Executive Branch Manager, Libraries ACT

## Thursday, 10 November 2022

Ms Yvette Berry MLA, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development

#### **Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate**

- Mr Ben Ponton, Director-General
- Dr Erin Brady, Deputy Director-General, Planning and Sustainable Development

#### **Suburban Land Agency**

- Mr John Dietz, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Neil Bulless, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Tom Gordon, Executive Director, Development Delivery

## Monday, 14 November 2022

• Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning and Land Management

## **Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate**

- Mr Ben Ponton, Director-General
- **Dr Erin Brady**, Deputy Director-General, Planning and Sustainable Development

# **Appendix B: Questions On Notice / Questions Taken** on Notice

# **Questions on Notice**

No.	Date	Asked of	Subject	Response received
1	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	TCCS emissions reduction reporting	09/11/2022
2	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Garden City Cycle Route	10/11/2022
3	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Disability Discrimination Act non-compliant diesel buses	10/11/2022
4	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	TCCS emissions reduction working group	09/11/2022
5	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Light Rail Stage 2A	17/11/2022
6	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Potholes	18/11/2022
7	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Light Rail Stage 2A – Federal Payment	18/11/2022
8	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Light Rail Stage 2A – Reporting	17/11/2022
9	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Development Applications	21/11/2022
10	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Soft plastics	22/11/2022
11	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Firewood delivery	17/11/2022
12	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Mowing and waterways	22/11/2022
13	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Introduction of fees for Flexible Bus Service	18/11/2022
14	08/11/2022	Minister Berry	Sportsground fertilising	22/11/2022
15	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Stromlo Park sponsorship (re-directed to the Standing Committee on Economy and Gender and Economic Equality)	22/11/2022
16	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Domestic Animal Services	22/11/2022
17	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Cost breakdown of Molonglo Valley Playground	23/11/2022
18	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Fadden Pines	22/11/2022
19	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Pothole compensation claims	22/11/2022
20	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Tree planting loss rate	22/11/2022
21	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Breakdown of sales, Suburban Land Agency Annual Report, page 30	18/11/2022

# **Questions Taken on Notice**

No.	Date	Asked of	Subject	Response received
1	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Delivery of Affordable Housing	08/11/2022
2	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Development Application assessment staff	07/11/2022
3	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Percentage of applications made under section 144 and 141 of the <i>Planning and Development Act 2007</i>	07/11/2022
4	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Western Edge Lease Holders	07/11/2022
5	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Western Edge Investigation Funding	09/11/2022
6	31/10/2022	Minister Gentleman	Indicative Land Release Program – Molonglo 3 East (QTON answered in the Chamber)	31/10/2022
7	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Letter from The Hon Catherine King MP	08/11/2022
8	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Light Rail Stage 2A and raising London Circuit contract (1)	09/11/2022
9	31/10/2022	Minister Steel	Light Rail Stage 2A and raising London Circuit contract (2)	09/11/2022
10	02/11/2022	Minister Vassarotti	National Construction Code Energy Efficiency	10/11/2022
11	07/11/2022	Minister Berry	Female friendly pavilion upgrades	16/11/2022
12	07/11/2022	Minister Berry	Topsoil Amendment Program	17/11/2022
13	07/11/2022	Minister Barr	Dickson Woolley Street upgrade (1)	11/11/2022
14	07/11/2022	Minister Barr	Dickson Woolley Street upgrade (2)	11/11/2022
15	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Percentage usage of public transport	18/11/2022
16	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Battery recycling for vehicles	18/11/2022
17	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Well Station Drive Park 'n' Ride	23/11/2022
18	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Tree planting statistics	18/11/2022
19	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Municipal infrastructure floating wetlands	22/11/2022
20	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Floating wetlands	22/11/2022
21	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Maintenance of floating wetlands	22/11/2022
22	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	Full-time equivalent ACT Rangers	17/11/2022
23	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	ACT Rangers (QTON answered in the Chamber)	08/11/2022
24	08/11/2022	Minister Steel	ACT Ranger callouts on weekends	16/11/2022
25	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Gungahlin Town Centre East Panel	18/11/2022

26	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Linear Park Development	18/11/2022
27	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Builders handing back affordable housing blocks	18/11/2022
28	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	2021-22 affordable, public and community housing numbers	18/11/2022
29	10/11/2022	Minister Berry	Jacka Community Battery	18/11/2022
30	14/11/2022	Minister Gentleman	Gungahlin District Strategy – aspirational indicators	23/11/2022
31	14/11/2022	Minister Gentleman	Gungahlin District Strategy – green-blue connections	23/11/2022