

# REPORT ON ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS 2013- 2014

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND  
TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

MARCH 2015

REPORT 7



## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Ms Meegan Fitzharris MLA      Chair (from 25 February 2015)

Mr Alistair Coe MLA              Deputy Chair

Dr Chris Bourke MLA

Mr Andrew Wall MLA

Ms Yvette Berry MLA              Chair (until 19 January 2015)

## SECRETARIAT

Mr Hamish Finlay                  Secretary

Ms Lydia Chung                    Administrative Assistant

Mr Panduka Senanayake          Administrative Assistant

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Telephone      02 6205 0129  
Facsimile      02 6205 0432  
Post            GPO Box 1020, CANBERRA ACT 2601  
Email          [committees@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:committees@parliament.act.gov.au)  
Website        [www.parliament.act.gov.au](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au)

## RESOLUTION OF APPOINTMENT

On 27 November 2012 the ACT Legislative Assembly (the Assembly) agreed by resolution to establish legislative and general purpose standing committees to inquire into and report on matters referred to them by the Assembly or matters that are considered by the committees to be of concern to the community, including:

- (e) a Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services to examine matters related to planning, public works, land management, municipal and transport services, heritage and sport and recreation and matters related to all aspects of climate change policy and programs, water and energy policy and programs, provision of water and energy services, conservation, environment and ecological sustainability.<sup>1</sup>

The Assembly agreed that each committee shall have power to consider and make use of the evidence and records of the relevant standing committees appointed during the previous Assembly.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

On 25 September 2014, the Assembly referred the annual and financial reports for the calendar year 2014 and the financial year 2013—2014 to Assembly committees for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in March 2014, in accordance with a schedule.<sup>2</sup> The reports were presented to the Assembly pursuant to the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*.

The reports and parts of reports referred to the Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services were:

- Economic Development Directorate (sport and recreation services/ venues and events services);
- Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (including: ACT Heritage Council, ACT Planning and Land Authority, Conservator of Flora and Fauna, Environment Protection Authority);
- Land Development Agency;
- Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment; and
- Territory and Municipal Services Directorate (including: Arboretum, ACTION, ACT Public Cemeteries Authority, and Animal Welfare Authority)
- Capital Metro Agency.

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<sup>1</sup> Legislative Assembly for the ACT, Minutes of Proceedings No. 2, 27 November 2012, pp. 24-27, accessible at <http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/downloads/minutes-of-proceedings/MoP%202.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Legislative Assembly for the ACT, Minutes of Proceedings No. 73, 25 September 2014, pp. 787-797, accessible at [http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-the-assembly/minutes\\_of\\_proceedings/2014](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-the-assembly/minutes_of_proceedings/2014).

## ACRONYMS

AP2	Action Plan 2 (Climate Change Strategy)
DA	Development Application
DAS	Domestic Animal Services
EDD	Economic Development Directorate
EPD	Environment and Planning Directorate
ESDD	Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate
EEIS	Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme
FIT	Feed-in Tariff
ICC	International Cricket Council
JACS	Justice and Community Safety Directorate
JV	Joint venture
LDA	Land Development Agency
MW	Megawatts
NARCLIM	New South Wales and ACT Region Climate Model
OSCE	Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment
PwC	PricewaterhouseCoopers
SRS	Sport and Recreation Services
TAMS	Territory and Municipal Services Directorate

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RECOMMENDATION 1

**3.15** The Committee recommends that the Land Development Authority review its processes around joint ventures to ensure that all contracts that fall within the provisions of the *Government Procurement Act 2001* are appropriately reported.

### RECOMMENDATION 2

**4.9** The Committee recommends that the Minister for the Environment update the Assembly on the results of water quality monitoring of Yerrabi Ponds by June 2015.

### RECOMMENDATION 3

**4.22** The Committee recommends that when work is planned on ACT landfills that may result in increased odour the ACT Government alert nearby residents prior to the commencement of work.

### RECOMMENDATION 4

**4.26** The Committee recommends that the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment update the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on progress on defining ecologically sustainable development for annual reporting requirements.

### RECOMMENDATION 5

**5.8** The Committee recommends that the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services update the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on efforts to facilitate community involvement in the maintenance and enhancement of playgrounds.

### RECOMMENDATION 6

**5.11** The Committee recommends that TAMs review the policy around abandoned shopping trolleys, including the level of fine to owners, to encourage owners to take further steps to prevent theft.

### RECOMMENDATION 7

**5.14** The Committee recommends that TAMS review its Bushfire Operational Plan performance indicator and the way it is presented to ensure that it provides an accurate impression of the work done by the Directorate.

**RECOMMENDATION 8**

**5.18 The Committee recommends that TAMS amends its policy to ensure that victims of attacks by dangerous domestic animals are promptly informed in writing of process in deciding the fate of the animal and any conditions imposed on the release of the animal.**

**RECOMMENDATION 9**

**5.21 The Committee recommends that Libraries ACT update the Committee during public hearings into annual reports 2014-15 on progress in formulating a digitisation policy for the Heritage Library.**

**RECOMMENDATION 10**

**5.26 The Committee recommends that the Chief Minister report to the Assembly by June 2015 on progress on creating a comprehensive government bill and payment portal.**

**RECOMMENDATION 11**

**5.39 The Committee recommends that Roads ACT report to the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on the actual number of vehicle movements on Allara Street during morning peak hour following the conclusion of road works and the impact of the road works on residents and drivers.**

# 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 On 25 September 2014, the Assembly referred the annual and financial reports for the calendar year 2014 and the financial year 2013—2014 to Assembly committees for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in March 2015.
- 1.2 The following annual reports, or sections of annual reports were referred to the Standing Committee on Planning, Environment and Territory and Municipal Services (the Committee):
- Economic Development Directorate (sport and recreation services/ venues and events services);
  - Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (including: ACT Heritage Council, ACT Planning and Land Authority, Conservator of Flora and Fauna, Environment Protection Authority);
  - Land Development Agency;
  - Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment; and
  - Territory and Municipal Services Directorate (including: Arboretum, ACTION, ACT Public Cemeteries Authority, and Animal Welfare Authority)
  - Capital Metro Agency.

## CONDUCT OF THE INQUIRY

- 1.3 The Committee held five public hearings on 17, 19 and 21 November 2014, and 16 and 17 December 2014. At these hearings, the Committee heard evidence from 53 witnesses. Full details of witnesses who appeared are available in Appendix B of this report. Transcripts from the hearings are available at [www.hansard.act.gov.au/hansard/2013/comms/default.htm](http://www.hansard.act.gov.au/hansard/2013/comms/default.htm).
- 1.4 A total of 56 questions were taken on notice during the public hearings. Please refer to Appendix A for a list of the questions. Answers to the questions are provided on the inquiry webpage: [http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/standing\\_committees/Planning,-Environment-and-Territory-and-Municipal-Services/annual-and-financial-reports-2013-2014?inquiry=649348](http://www.parliament.act.gov.au/in-committees/standing_committees/Planning,-Environment-and-Territory-and-Municipal-Services/annual-and-financial-reports-2013-2014?inquiry=649348).
- 1.5 Responses to questions taken on notice at public hearings were received promptly. The Committee would like to thank Ministers and directorate staff for their prompt return of responses. References to questions taken on notice are included throughout this report in footnotes.

## STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

- 1.6 This report presents a summary of the Committee's inquiry into the annual reports listed in paragraph 1.2. In developing this report, the Committee has primarily focused on the issues that were raised at public hearings although some additional material has been drawn from annual reports documents.
- 1.7 The structure of this report is as follows:
- Chapter 1: Introduction;
  - Chapter 2: Annual reporting requirements
  - Chapter 3: Economic Development Directorate;
  - Chapter 4: Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate and Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment;
  - Chapter 5: Territory and Municipal Services Directorate; and
  - Chapter 6: Capital Metro.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 1.8 The Committee thanks relevant ACT Government Ministers and accompanying directorate officials, and the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment and his staff, for providing their time and expertise as witnesses at its annual reports hearings.

## 2 ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 The *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004* sets the framework for annual reporting across the ACT public sector. In accordance with the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004*, the Annual Reports Directions (the Directions) are issued annually to outline agency reporting requirements.
- 2.2 As specified in the Directions, annual reports are ‘reports from agency heads to their responsible Minister, the Legislative Assembly and the public’. Annual reports enable agencies to provide an account of their performance, through Ministers, to the Legislative Assembly and the wider community.<sup>3</sup>
- 2.3 The Directions state that an effective annual report will:
- provide clear information about the agency’s purpose, priorities, outputs and achievements;
  - focus on results and outcomes - communicate the success or shortfalls of the agency’s activities in pursuing government objectives in the reporting year, while accounting for the resources used in the process and explaining changes in performance over time;
  - discuss results against expectations - provide sufficient information and analysis for the Legislative Assembly and community to make a fully informed judgment on agency’s performance;
  - clearly identify any changes to structures or functions of the agency in the reporting period;
  - report on agency financial and operational performance and clearly link this with budgeted priorities and financial projections as set out in annual Budget Estimate Papers and the agency Statement of Intent and Corporate Plan;
  - provide performance information that is complete and informative, linking costs and results to provide evidence of value for money;
  - discuss risks and environmental factors affecting the agency’s ability to achieve objectives including any strategies employed to manage these factors, and forecast future needs and expectations;
  - recognise the diverse needs and backgrounds of stakeholder groups and present information in a manner that is useful to the maximum number of users while maintaining a suitable level of detail; and

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<sup>3</sup> *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Notice 2014* Notifiable Instrument NI2014—319, p. 6.

- comply with legislative reporting requirements including the *Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Act 2004* and the Annual Report Directions.<sup>4</sup>

2.4 Annual reports are public documents and available for use by stakeholders, including educational and research institutions, and the broader community. They provide a valuable tool for public reporting, accountability and transparency.

## TIMING AND PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

2.5 The Directions for 2013-14 required annual reports to be presented to the responsible Minister before the close of business on Thursday 18 September 2014. Unless an extension of time was granted under section 14 of the Act, annual reports were required to be given to the Speaker's Office by the close of business on Thursday 25 September 2014.

2.6 All reports examined by the Committee were presented to the Speaker by the required date.

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<sup>4</sup> Annual Reports (Government Agencies) Notice 2014 Notifiable Instrument NI2014—319, p. 8.

## 3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

### INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The Economic Development Directorate (EDD) states that its primary purpose is “to contribute to the economic and social development of the Canberra region, through facilitating productivity growth, securing jobs and delivering infrastructure, and through these, to improve the Territory’s economic performance and the wellbeing of its people.”<sup>5</sup>
- 3.2 EDD brings together units of the ACT Government that focus on economic activity including: land release and development, coordination of major projects, business development, sporting, tourism and events.<sup>6</sup> On 7 July 2014 (after the period covered in the annual report) EDD became part of Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate.
- 3.3 On 17 November 2014, the Committee examined the following areas of the Economic Development Directorate’s 2012-13 Annual Report:
- infrastructure and capital works;
  - sport and recreation services; and
  - venues and event services.
- 3.4 Others areas of the EDD Annual Report were considered by the Public Accounts Committee.

### SPORT AND RECREATION SERVICES

- 3.5 Sport and Recreation Services (SRS) is responsible for the management and planning of ACT Government sporting facilities and the delivery of targeted programs and professional development training for the ACT community. SRS also supports local athletes through the ACT Academy of Sport.<sup>7</sup> The Committee discussed the following issues:
- Sport and recreation highlights<sup>8</sup>;

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<sup>5</sup> Economic Development Directorate, *Annual Report 2013-14*, p. 10.

<sup>6</sup> ACT Government Information Portal, accessible at: <http://www.act.gov.au/browse/act-government/act-government-directorates>.

<sup>7</sup> Economic Development Directorate Annual Report 2013-14, p. 47.

<sup>8</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 65-66.

- Weetangera and Kingston Ovals<sup>9</sup>;
- ACT Academy of Sport<sup>10</sup>;
- Dickson pool parking<sup>11</sup>;
- Civic pool<sup>12</sup>;
- Off-line sporting fields and ovals<sup>13</sup>;
- Facilities for emerging sports<sup>14</sup>;
- Woden oval<sup>15</sup>; and
- Narrabundah ballpark.<sup>16</sup>

## VENUES AND EVENT SERVICES

3.6 Venue and Event Services is responsible for the management of Canberra's elite sporting venues, major sporting events and the delivery of Canberra's major tourism and community-related events and supporting programs. Venue and Event Services consists of two units: Territory Venues and Events, and Events ACT<sup>17</sup>. The Committee discussed the following issues:

- Events update<sup>18</sup>;
- Manuka oval lights<sup>19</sup>;
- Capital works upgrades, including for the Asian Cup<sup>20</sup>; and
- Asian cup and Cricket World Cup.<sup>21</sup>

## LAND STRATEGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

3.7 The Infrastructure and Capital Works Branch of EDD identifies, manages and delivers capital projects that support the Government's Land Release Program.

3.8 The following issues were discussed:

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<sup>9</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 66-68.

<sup>10</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 68-69.

<sup>11</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 69.

<sup>12</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 70.

<sup>13</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 71-75.

<sup>14</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 75-76.

<sup>15</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 76-77.

<sup>16</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 77-78.

<sup>17</sup> Economic Development Directorate Annual Report 2013-14, p. 52.

<sup>18</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 43-45.

<sup>19</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 45-48.

<sup>20</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 47-50.

<sup>21</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 50-51.



- The timing of infrastructure delivery in new developments<sup>22</sup>;
- IKEA infrastructure<sup>23</sup>; and
- Whole of Government Accommodation Strategy.<sup>24</sup>

## LAND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

3.9 The Land Development Agency (LDA) is the ACT government agency responsible for the development and release of Territory owned land for residential, commercial, industrial, and community purposes. The LDA is a Territory authority established by section 31 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*.<sup>25</sup>

3.10 The Committee met with the Minister for Planning and officials from the LDA at a public hearing on 19 November 2014. The following issues were discussed:

- Land release and Mr Fluffy homes<sup>26</sup>;
- Stamp duty concessions<sup>27</sup>;
- One third, one third, one third land development framework<sup>28</sup>;
- Riverview joint venture<sup>29</sup>;
- Crace development<sup>30</sup>; and
- Lower revenue than budgeted from land sales.<sup>31</sup>

## MR FLUFFY ASBESTOS HOMES AND LAND RELEASE

3.11 The Committee inquired about changes to land release in response to market pressure caused by the remediation of Mr Fluffy loose fill asbestos affected homes. The Committee was advised that an additional 300 detached dwelling sites will be released, increasing the planned release for 2015-16 from 3,300 to 3,600 dwelling sites. The breakdown of additional sites is likely to be 100 sites in areas like Moncrieff, an extra 100 perhaps in Taylor and then a further 100 in Denman Prospect.<sup>32</sup> The Minister noted that the real estate market has the capacity to absorb

<sup>22</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 51-53.

<sup>23</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 53-57, 58-59.

<sup>24</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 57-58.

<sup>25</sup> Land Development Agency Annual Report 2013-2014, p. 10.

<sup>26</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 28-33.

<sup>27</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 31-32.

<sup>28</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 34-35.

<sup>29</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 35-37.

<sup>30</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 38-40.

<sup>31</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 40-43.

<sup>32</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 28-29.

increased demand due to Mr Fluffy but that the Government will continue to monitor the market.<sup>33</sup>

- 3.12 The Committee inquired about stamp duty concessions for Mr Fluffy program participants. The Minister noted that there was a calculator on the Revenue Office website and that individuals can seek further information from the Revenue Office on their particular situation.<sup>34</sup>

#### DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

- 3.13 The Committee inquired about the Government's policy of one third of land release being developed by the LDA, one third by joint venture and one third by auction of englobo parcels to the private sector. The Minister advised that this remained the broad framework but was not a firm rule for individual years.<sup>35</sup> In 2013-14 97% of land was developed by the LDA.<sup>36</sup>

#### JOINT VENTURES

- 3.14 The Committee inquired about the project management contract for the Riverview joint venture in Belconnen and why it was not reported as required by the *Government Procurement Act 2001*. The Committee was advised that the non-reporting of this contract was an oversight.<sup>37</sup>

### Recommendation 1

- 3.15 The Committee recommends that the Land Development Authority review its processes around joint ventures to ensure that all contracts that fall within the provisions of the *Government Procurement Act 2001* are appropriately reported.**

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<sup>33</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 30.

<sup>34</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 32.

<sup>35</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 35.

<sup>36</sup> Answer to QToN, 7.

<sup>37</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 64.

## 4 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

- 4.1 The Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate (ESDD) integrates ACT Planning with the Government's environment protection functions, including a strong commitment to address climate change and enhance land and water management.<sup>38</sup> The full list of directorate functions is outlined in the ESDD Annual Report. On 7 July 2014 ESDD became the Environment and Planning Directorate (EPD).
- 4.2 The ESDD Annual Report was referred to the Committee for inquiry and report as well as the following annexed reports:
- Conservator of Flora and Fauna;
  - Environment Protection Authority; and
  - ACT Heritage Council.
- 4.3 The annual reports of the Chief Planning Executive and the ACT Planning and Land Authority are subsumed in the ESDD annual report.
- 4.4 The Committee held a public hearing with Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning on 17 November 2014. Mr Gentleman has responsibility for outputs 2, 3 and 4 and parts of output 1 of ESDD. The Committee held a public hearing with Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Minister for the Environment on 16 December 2014.

### ENVIRONMENT POLICY

- 4.5 The Policy Division has responsibility for the development and implementation of climate change, energy and sustainability policy, water policy, nature conservation, conservation planning and heritage.
- 4.6 The Committee discussed the following issues;
- Outreach low income energy and water efficiency program<sup>39</sup>;
  - Construction and Energy Efficiency Legislation Amendment Acts<sup>40</sup>;
  - Monitoring of waste facility air and water pollution<sup>41</sup>;

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<sup>38</sup> Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate Annual Report 2012-13, p. 6.

<sup>39</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 124-126.

<sup>40</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 126-127.

- Changes to energy efficiency improvement scheme<sup>42</sup>;
- Waterwatch<sup>43</sup>;
- Renewable Energy Targets<sup>44</sup>;
- Trial of advanced energy technology systems<sup>45</sup>;
- Water Catchment management and Murray-Darling Basin Plan<sup>46</sup>;
- Catchment management<sup>47</sup>;
- Stocking of urban ponds<sup>48</sup>;
- Remediation of petrol stations and contaminated sites<sup>49</sup>;
- NSW and ACT Climate model<sup>50</sup>;
- Directorate electricity consumption<sup>51</sup>; and
- Noise management Plan.<sup>52</sup>

## ADVANCED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

- 4.7 The Committee inquired about the trial of advanced energy technology systems working group. The Committee was informed that, as part of a Climate Change Action Plan action, a trial group was formed that included ActewAGL, CSIRO, ANU and CIT among others. Advances in battery technology have the potential to significantly disrupt the existing energy market. This will affect the revenue of retailers and generators and the frameworks for regulators. A Canberra start-up company, Reposit Power, provided technical input into the trial and may be providing a technical solution.<sup>53</sup>

## STOCKING OF URBAN PONDS

- 4.8 The Committee inquired into the restocking of urban ponds with fish. The Committee was informed that restocking in 2014 by the ACT Government occurred in Lake Ginninderra while the National Capital Authority restocked Lake Burley Griffin. The fish kill incident in Yerrabi

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<sup>41</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 128-131.

<sup>42</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 131-134.

<sup>43</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, p. 134.

<sup>44</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 135-138.

<sup>45</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 138-140

<sup>46</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 140-143

<sup>47</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 143-144.

<sup>48</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 144-147.

<sup>49</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 147-152.

<sup>50</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 152-155.

<sup>51</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 155-158.

<sup>52</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 160-162.

<sup>53</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp. 138-140.

Ponds was probably due to a low dissolved oxygen incident caused by a combination of environmental factors<sup>54</sup> and monitoring of the pond will continue to determine an appropriate time to restock. The Canberra Fisherman's Club contribute to the restocking program (around 20-25% of the cost in the last three years<sup>55</sup>), the timetable for which can be found on EPD's website.<sup>56</sup>

## Recommendation 2

### **4.9 The Committee recommends that the Minister for the Environment update the Assembly on the results of water quality monitoring of Yerrabi Ponds by June 2015.**

## REMEDICATION OF CONTAMINATED SITES

- 4.10 The Committee inquired about the proposed Nurdurr Drive alignment and the extent to which it would encroach upon the site where asbestos from the 1980s Asbestos Abatement Program cleanup of Mr Fluffy houses was buried. While officials informed the Committee that the proposed alignment did not enter the contaminated site<sup>57</sup> the Minister later clarified that the contaminated site was under and adjacent to the proposed alignment.<sup>58</sup> The land custodian of the proposed road is assessing the site to determine whether any special requirements for managing the site during works will be needed.

## NEW SOUTH WALES AND ACT CLIMATE MODEL

- 4.11 The Committee inquired how the New South Wales and ACT Region Climate Model (NARClIM) was prepared and what it shows. The Minister informed the Committee that NARClIM was the result of research commissioned by the NSW and ACT Governments to create a model to provide understanding of the potential impacts of climate change on a scale of 10 kilometre blocks. Constructed by the University of NSW, the complex model shows a substantial increase in days per year with temperatures over 35 degrees and a decrease in nights per year with temperatures below two degrees. These changes will impact upon biodiversity, fire danger, agriculture and human health. The model also predicts a reduction in rainfall of up to 25% in spring. The information is on EPD's website and the public can zoom in to their particular area to see the potential impacts on them.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Answer to QTON 32.

<sup>55</sup> Answer to QTON 33.

<sup>56</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, pp 144-147.

<sup>57</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, p 151.

<sup>58</sup> Answer to QTON 34.

<sup>59</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 152-155.

## PLANNING

- 4.12 The Strategic Planning Division and the Planning Delivery Division deliver planning outputs within ESDD.
- 4.13 The following issues were discussed:
- Construction Occupations and Licensing Branch<sup>60</sup>;
  - Compression of builders' training courses<sup>61</sup>;
  - Consultation<sup>62</sup>;
  - Customer Services<sup>63</sup>;
  - processing time of development applications<sup>64</sup>;
  - Derelict buildings (s61 of *Building Act 2004*)<sup>65</sup>;
  - Extension of Time fees and Lease Variation charges<sup>66</sup>;
  - Strategic planning<sup>67</sup>;
  - Belconnen Master Plan<sup>68</sup>; and
  - Light Rail Master Plan.<sup>69</sup>

## CONSTRUCTION OCCUPATIONS AND LICENSING BRANCH

- 4.14 The Committee inquired whether the number of licences issued or renewed in 2013-2014 was sufficient to allow the industry to cope with expected increased demand related to the remediation of houses affected by Mr Fluffy loose-fill asbestos and increased land release.
- 4.15 The Committee was advised that the number of licences issued or renewed in 2013-14 was consistent with the trend of recent years. There are approximately 11,500 active licences in the Territory. The Committee was further advised that the building industry was more than capable of absorbing any extra building arising from the Mr Fluffy situation. The Territory is currently constructing approximately 3,500 homes compared to a peak a few years back around 5,000.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 3-4.

<sup>61</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 4-8.

<sup>62</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 8.

<sup>63</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 9-11.

<sup>64</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 11-14.

<sup>65</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 15-16.

<sup>66</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 16-20.

<sup>67</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 20-21.

<sup>68</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 21-25.

<sup>69</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 25-26.

<sup>70</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 4.

4.16 The Committee inquired what the branch was doing to address concerns about compressed training courses, particularly around the certificate IV in construction. The Committee was advised that the ACT Government has engaged with training providers and the Australian Skills Quality Authority on this issue. The Committee notes the advice that in addition to a qualification those seeking a license must have a minimum two years demonstrated practical experience in the class of construction which their licence has been sought in. This is usually demonstrated through a letter of attestation from other licence holders. Following an ACT Supreme Court ruling in August 2013 the Registrar has been more rigorous in testing the accuracy of these letters.<sup>71</sup>

## CONSERVATOR OF FLORA AND FAUNA

4.17 Established by the *Nature Conservation Act 1980*, the Conservator of Flora and Fauna has additional responsibilities under the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, the *Fisheries Act 2000* and the *Tree Protection Act 2005*. The Deputy Director General of ESDD holds the position of the Conservator of Flora and Fauna.<sup>72</sup> The Conservator produces an annual report which is included as an annex to the ESDD Annual Report.

4.18 The Committee inquired about the following matters related to the Conservator of Flora and Fauna:

- Action plans, particularly for the Little Eagle<sup>73</sup>; and
- Illegal trail bike riding.<sup>74</sup>

## ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

4.19 Established under the *Environment Protection Act 1997*, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is responsible for administering the Act. ESDD's Director of Environment Protection and Water Regulation holds the EPA position (which is a statutory position).<sup>75</sup>

4.20 The Environment Protection Authority produces an annual report which is included as an annex to the ESDD Annual Report.

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<sup>71</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 5-6

<sup>72</sup> Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate Annual Report 2013-14, p. 253.

<sup>73</sup> Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate Annual Report 2013-14, p. 253.

<sup>74</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 159-160.

<sup>75</sup> Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate Annual Report 2012-13, p. 332.

## EMISSIONS FROM WASTE FACILITIES

4.21 The Committee inquired into measures to monitor water and air pollution from the Mugga Lane Resource Management Centre. The Committee was informed that the EPA conducted quarterly monitoring of all the potential contaminants from a landfill. The results of this monitoring can be requested from the EPA (and were made available in the answer to a Question Taken on Notice).<sup>76</sup> Odour emissions are more difficult to measure but the EPA acknowledged that work being undertaken to improve the landfills may have increased odour emissions due to the disturbance of previously covered areas of the landfill.<sup>77</sup>

### Recommendation 3

**4.22 The Committee recommends that when work is planned on ACT landfills that may result in increased odour the ACT Government alert nearby residents prior to the commencement of work.**

## OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

4.23 The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment is a statutory office holder under the *Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment Act 1993*. In accordance with the Act, the Commissioner shall:

- produce 'State of the Environment' reports for the ACT;
- investigate complaints about the management of the environment by the Territory or a territory authority;
- conduct investigations as directed by the Minister;
- initiate investigations into action of an agency where those actions would have a substantial impact on the environment of the ACT; and
- make recommendations for consideration by government.<sup>78</sup>

4.24 The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment is supported in his role by staff in the Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment (OCSE).

4.25 The Committee discussed the following issues:

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<sup>76</sup> Answer to QTON 24.

<sup>77</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 December 2014, p 130.

<sup>78</sup> Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment Annual Report 2012-13, p. 1.



- Cat containment<sup>79</sup>;
- Release of review into AP2 implementation<sup>80</sup>;
- The meaning of ecologically sustainable development for annual reporting.<sup>81</sup>

## Recommendation 4

**4.26 The Committee recommends that the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment update the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on progress on defining ecologically sustainable development for annual reporting requirements.**

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<sup>79</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 163.

<sup>80</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 163-165.

<sup>81</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 16 November 2014, pp. 165-166.



## 5 TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

### INTRODUCTION

- 5.1 The Territory and Municipal Services Directorate (TAMS) is responsible for the delivery of a range of services including:
- management of ACT roads, footpaths, streetlights and cycle paths;
  - operation of the ACT's public transport system (ACTION);
  - waste collection and recycling;
  - public libraries; and
  - management of the ACT's parks and reserves, forestry plantations, urban trees, public open spaces and city places, and the National Arboretum.<sup>82</sup>
- 5.2 TAMS also manages the following ACT Government businesses<sup>83</sup>:
- Capital Linen Services;
  - Yarralumla Nursery; and the
  - ACT Property Group.<sup>84</sup>
- 5.3 Additionally, TAMS provides administrative oversight to the ACT Public Cemeteries Authority which operates the Woden, Gungahlin and Hall cemeteries.<sup>85</sup>
- 5.4 TAMS is structured into four divisions: Parks and City Services, Roads and Public Transport, Business Enterprises and Directorate Services.<sup>86</sup>
- 5.5 While the Committee was conducting hearings the Government moved Canberra Connect from TAMS to Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. The Committee heard from the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services on Canberra Connect matters.
- 5.6 The following issues were discussed by the Committee:
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<sup>82</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2012-2013—Volume 1, p. 1.

<sup>83</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2012-2013—Volume 1, p. 1.

<sup>84</sup> As of 7 July 2014 ACT Property Group is part of CMTEDD.

<sup>85</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2012-2013—Volume 1, p. 1.

<sup>86</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2012-2013—Volume 1, p. 3.

- Maintenance and cleaning services<sup>87</sup>;
- Margaret Timson park and Emu Bank<sup>88</sup>;
- Shopping centre upgrades<sup>89</sup>;
- Playgrounds and community involvement<sup>90</sup>;
- Charity bins<sup>91</sup>;
- Cat and dog breeding legislation<sup>92</sup>;
- Mowing schedule<sup>93</sup>;
- Shopping trolleys.<sup>94</sup>

## PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE

- 5.7 The Committee asked about playground maintenance and noted the desire of communities to be involved in maintenance or fundraising for their local playground. The Minister acknowledged that the trend in government had been towards discouraging community involvement in these kind of areas due to concerns about insurance and safety but that the Minister was keen to see the trend reversed.

## Recommendation 5

- 5.8 The Committee recommends that the Minister for Territory and Municipal Services update the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on efforts to facilitate community involvement in the maintenance and enhancement of playgrounds.**

## PET BREEDING LEGISLATION

- 5.9 The Committee inquired about the Government's planned introduction of legislation regulating cat and dog breeding. The Minister confirmed that this legislation was intended to ensure that puppy and kitten farms did not operate within the ACT. The Government had draft legislation on which it was seeking comment from breeders.

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<sup>87</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 190-191.

<sup>88</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 191-192.

<sup>89</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 192-193.

<sup>90</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 196-199.

<sup>91</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 208-209.

<sup>92</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 209-210.

<sup>93</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 225-230.

<sup>94</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 239-241.

## SHOPPING TROLLEYS

- 5.10 The Committee inquired about how abandoned shopping trolleys are dealt with. The Committee was informed that there were 11 days in 2013-14 when retailers could collect abandoned trolleys that TAMS had collected. Eighty-two percent of trolleys were claimed by retailers and a fine of \$112.50 applies for each trolley whether it is collected or not.

## Recommendation 6

- 5.11 The Committee recommends that TAMS review the policy around abandoned shopping trolleys, including the level of fine to owners, to encourage owners to take further steps to prevent theft.**

## PARKS AND CONSERVATION SERVICE

- 5.12 Parks and Conservation Service is responsible for the planning and management of parks, reserves and rural lands. The service also supports ParkCare and Landcare Groups and coordinates hazard reduction activities under the Bushfire Operations Plan<sup>95</sup>. The Committee discussed the following issues:
- Bushfire operational plan<sup>96</sup>;
  - Skatepark audits.<sup>97</sup>

## BUSHFIRE OPERATIONAL PLAN

- 5.13 The Committee noted that TAMS' performance measures had them implementing only 91% of activities identified under the Bushfire Operational Plan (BOP).<sup>98</sup> The Minister explained that the BOP was a dynamic document and some projects were not completed as projects not in the BOP acquire a higher priority. TAMS does the same amount of work described in the BOP but because the work differs from what was originally planned it registers as less in the performance measure.

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<sup>95</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 1, pp. 17-18.

<sup>96</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 193-195.

<sup>97</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 199-201.

<sup>98</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 1, p. 67.

## Recommendation 7

- 5.14 The Committee recommends that TAMS review its Bushfire Operational Plan performance indicator and the way it is presented to ensure that it provides an accurate impression of the work done by the Directorate.**

## ANIMAL WELFARE AUTHORITY

- 5.15 The Executive Director of the Parks and City Services Division in TAMS is appointed as the ACT's Animal Welfare Authority.<sup>99</sup> The Committee discussed the following issues:
- Dangerous dogs<sup>100</sup>;
  - Domestic Animal Services volunteers<sup>101</sup>;
  - Animals with disputed ownership<sup>102</sup>;
  - Animal grooming industry<sup>103</sup>.
- 5.16 The Committee was informed that in the reporting period there were 11 dangerous dog licences in the ACT, including renewals. Dangerous dog licences are issued for 12 months.<sup>104</sup>
- 5.17 The Committee inquired about a situation where a resident was attacked by a neighbour's dog and the dog had conditions placed on it by the Registrar.<sup>105</sup> The dog continued to live next door to the victim because the owner was able to meet specific conditions set by the Registrar. The victim and fellow residents were concerned because they were unaware of what the conditions were. The Minister and officials outlined the considerable communication efforts undertaken related to this incident but the Committee believes that clearer policy for victims is required.

## Recommendation 8

- 5.18 The Committee recommends that TAMS amends its policy to ensure that victims of attacks by dangerous domestic animals are promptly informed in writing of process in deciding the fate of the animal and any conditions imposed on the release of the animal.**

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<sup>99</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 1, p. 253.

<sup>100</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 201-206.

<sup>101</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 206-207.

<sup>102</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 206-207.

<sup>103</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 234-235.

<sup>104</sup> Answer to QTON 44.

<sup>105</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 201-206.

## LIBRARIES ACT

5.19 The Committee discussed the following matters with the Minister and directorate officials:

- Heritage library<sup>106</sup>;
- Giggle and Wiggle sessions<sup>107</sup>;
- Overdue items<sup>108</sup>;
- Power point accessibility.<sup>109</sup>

## HERITAGE LIBRARY

5.20 The Committee inquired about pressures on the Heritage Library's storage space. The Committee was informed that physical storage should remain sufficient for a few years but the major growth was in the digital collection and consultation on a shared resource with other state libraries was underway.

## Recommendation 9

**5.21 The Committee recommends that Libraries ACT update the Committee during public hearings into annual reports 2014-15 on progress in formulating a digitisation policy for the Heritage Library.**

## DIRECTORATE SERVICES

5.22 The Directorate Services Division provides corporate human resources, financial services, governance and operational support to the Directorate. Canberra Connect was also part of the Division until January 2015.<sup>110</sup>

5.23 The Committee discussed the following matters with the Minister and directorate officials:

## CANBERRA CONNECT

5.24 The Committee discussed the following matters related to Canberra Connect:

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<sup>106</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 171-173.

<sup>107</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 173.

<sup>108</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 173.

<sup>109</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 173-174.

<sup>110</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2012-2013—Volume 1, p. 19.

- Fix my Street<sup>111</sup>;
- Gungahlin and Civic shopfronts<sup>112</sup>;
- Online bill payment.<sup>113</sup>

5.25 The Committee inquired about online payment of government bills. The committee was informed that approximately one third of bills are paid at shopfronts and the remaining two-thirds of payments are made online. Work on establishing a comprehensive online payment portal which would include a record of past payments was continuing under the Chief Minister's new Access Canberra responsibilities.<sup>114</sup>

## Recommendation 10

**5.26 The Committee recommends that the Chief Minister report to the Assembly by June 2015 on progress on creating a comprehensive government bill and payment portal.**

## BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

5.27 Business Enterprises Division manages a number of ACT Government commercial operations including:

- ACT NOWaste;
- Capital Linen Service;
- Yarralumla Nursery;
- ACT Property Group<sup>115</sup>; and
- ACT Public Cemeteries Authority.

5.28 The Committee discussed the following issues in these areas:

### WASTE AND RECYCLING

- Mugga Lane and West Belconnen capacity<sup>116</sup>;
- Accounts in arrears.<sup>117</sup>

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<sup>111</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 168-170.

<sup>112</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 170-171.

<sup>113</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 174-177.

<sup>114</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 174-177.

<sup>115</sup> As of 7 July 2014 ACT Property Group is part of CMTEDD.

<sup>116</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 78-83.

<sup>117</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 83-84.



## CAPITAL LINEN SERVICE

- 5.29 The Capital Linen Service provides a managed linen service to a wide range of ACT clients including public and private hospitals, health and aged care providers, hotels, restaurants, major tourist attractions, educational institutions and emergency services.<sup>118</sup>
- 5.30 The Committee discussed the following matters related to Capital Linen Service:
- No privatisation plans<sup>119</sup>;
  - Plant upgrades.<sup>120</sup>
- 5.31 The Minister confirmed that there were no plans at this time to privatise Capital Linen Service.

## ACT PROPERTY GROUP

- 5.32 ACT Property Group is responsible for the management of Territory-owned commercial buildings, government office accommodation, community/multipurpose buildings and leases commercial buildings on behalf of the Territory. ACT Property Group also manages other facilities such as Parkwood Road Recycling Estate and significant heritage sites.<sup>121</sup> From 7 July 2014 ACT Property Group became part of CMTEDD.
- 5.33 The Committee discussed the following issues related to the ACT Property Group:
- Canberra seniors centre<sup>122</sup>;
  - Old school sites.<sup>123</sup>

## ACT PUBLIC CEMETERIES AUTHORITY

- 5.34 The ACT Public Cemeteries Authority (the Authority) is an independent statutory authority established under the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003* to manage public cemeteries and crematoria.<sup>124</sup>
- 5.35 The Committee discussed the following matters relating to the Authority:
- Southern Memorial Park<sup>125</sup>;
  - Reserved sites<sup>126</sup>;

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<sup>118</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 1, p. 21.

<sup>119</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 85.

<sup>120</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 85-86.

<sup>121</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 1, p. 22.

<sup>122</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 61-62.

<sup>123</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 62-64.

<sup>124</sup> Territory and Municipal Services Annual Report 2013-2014—Volume 2, p. 9.

<sup>125</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, p. 86.

- Perpetual Care Fund<sup>127</sup>;
- Hall Cemetery.<sup>128</sup>

## ROADS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

### ROADS ACT

5.36 The Committee heard evidence on the following issues:

- Works on Barton Highway, Gundaroo Drive and William Slim Drive<sup>129</sup>;
- Road sealing<sup>130</sup>;
- Constitution Avenue upgrade, including Allara Street and Vernon Circle<sup>131</sup>;
- Difficult intersections and slipways<sup>132</sup>;
- Calwell crossings and markings<sup>133</sup>;
- Traffic calming<sup>134</sup>;
- Majura Parkway<sup>135</sup>;
- Seal of Boboyan Road<sup>136</sup>;
- Access to Mount Franklin Road.<sup>137</sup>

5.37 The Committee inquired about the works at the intersection of the Barton Highway, William Slim Drive and Gundaroo Drive. The Committee was informed that additional lanes would be added to the roundabout which would be signalised. Bus priority lanes and on-road cycling facilities would be included. The duplications of William Slim Drive and Gundaroo Drive have been designed and are waiting budget approval and decisions on staging the works. The first priority is duplicating Gundaroo Drive up to Mirrabei Drive.<sup>138</sup>

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<sup>126</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 86-87.

<sup>127</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 87-88.

<sup>128</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 19 November 2014, pp. 88-89.

<sup>129</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 177-180.

<sup>130</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 180-182.

<sup>131</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 182-187.

<sup>132</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 187-188.

<sup>133</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 188-189.

<sup>134</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 188.

<sup>135</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 230-234.

<sup>136</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 242.

<sup>137</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 242.

<sup>138</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 177-180.

## CONSTITUTION AVENUE UPGRADE

5.38 The Committee inquired about the upgrade of Constitution Avenue and particularly its impact upon Allara Street. The Committee was informed that the connection between Allara Street and Parkes Way was being created to allow cars to access car parks along Constitution Avenue, as the upgrade was creating a median strip that would prevent right turns into these car parks. Roads ACT has modelled 360 vehicle movements during morning peak hour.<sup>139</sup>

## Recommendation 11

**5.39 The Committee recommends that Roads ACT report to the Committee during its 2014-15 annual report hearings on the actual number of vehicle movements on Allara Street during morning peak hour following the conclusion of road works and the impact of the road works on residents and drivers.**

## ACTION

5.40 The Committee discussed the following issues:

- Patronage and Network 14<sup>140</sup>;
- Fare incentive review eg early bird and gold card<sup>141</sup>;
- Nextbus and real-time data<sup>142</sup>;
- Dead running and Woden depot<sup>143</sup>;
- Impact of repeal of Carbon Tax<sup>144</sup>;
- Bike racks<sup>145</sup>;
- Park and Ride and Bike and Ride<sup>146</sup>;
- Needlestick incident on ACTION bus<sup>147</sup>;
- Operational review.<sup>148</sup>

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<sup>139</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 186.

<sup>140</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 210-213.

<sup>141</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 213-215.

<sup>142</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 215-219.

<sup>143</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 219-221.

<sup>144</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 221-222.

<sup>145</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 222-223.

<sup>146</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 223.

<sup>147</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 224-225.

<sup>148</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, pp. 235-238.

- 5.41 The Committee inquired about ACTION patronage and changes made by Network 14. The Minister said that there were positive trends in passenger numbers under Network 14 and on-time running has improved as well. After the draft network was made public ACTION received around 2,500 pieces of feedback. Frequency of services has increased but there has been negative feedback where routes have been moved.
- 5.42 The Committee inquired about ACTION's early bird trial. The Minister noted that while the early bird fare trial did see an increase in people travelling before 7:30am, there was not an increase in people travelling after so the trial appears to have shifted passengers rather than added passengers. The Government is reviewing the results of the trial.
- 5.43 The Committee inquired about scheduled services running with no passengers. The Committee was informed that since the introduction of Network 14 3.1% of services have run with no passengers, compared to 4.4% under Network 12. These services were largely early morning, later evening, weekend and special services.<sup>149</sup>
- 5.44 The Committee notes the advice from the Minister that the expenditure review committee, a body within the Chief Minister's Directorate reporting to the UnderTreasurer, in undertaking a comprehensive review of ACTION with input from McCormick Rankin Cagney consultants. The results of this review are expected to go to Cabinet in the first part of 2015.<sup>150</sup>

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<sup>149</sup> Answer to QTON 46.

<sup>150</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 17 November 2014, p. 237.

## 6 CAPITAL METRO AGENCY

6.1 Capital Metro Agency was established on 1 July 2013, with the principle objective of managing all aspects of the ongoing planning, design and delivery of Stage 1 of a light rail network for the Territory.<sup>151</sup>

6.2 The Committee discussed the following issues:

- Identifying the beneficiaries of the light rail project<sup>152</sup>;
- Methodology of the cost estimates<sup>153</sup>;
- Wider economic benefits including agglomeration benefits<sup>154</sup>;
- Community consultation<sup>155</sup>;
- Preliminary works, including utility relocation<sup>156</sup>;
- Light Rail design competition<sup>157</sup>;
- Transparency of costs<sup>158</sup>;
- Benefits from the project for Tuggeranong residents<sup>159</sup>;
- Construction emissions.<sup>160</sup>

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<sup>151</sup> *Capital Metro Annual Report 2013-2014*, p. 6.

<sup>152</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 92-94.

<sup>153</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 94-96.

<sup>154</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 96-101.

<sup>155</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 101-103.

<sup>156</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 103-108.

<sup>157</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 108-109.

<sup>158</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 109-115.

<sup>159</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 115-121.

<sup>160</sup> *Transcript of Evidence*, 21 November 2014, pp. 121-123.



## 7 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The Committee has made 11 recommendations in this report relating to a broad range of areas.
- 7.2 The Committee would like to thank ACT Government Ministers and directorate officials, the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment and agency officials for their contribution to this inquiry and for their timely return of answers to questions taken on notice.

Meegan Fitzharris MLA

Chair

4 March 2015





## Appendix A Questions taken on Notice

No.	Hearing Date	Asked by	Directorate	Subject	Transcript Page No.	Answer date
01	17/11/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Number of complaints against construction occupation licensees	6	18/12/14
01a	17/11/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Conditions or sanctions applied to construction occupation licensees	8	6/02/15
02	17/11/14	Dr Bourke	EPD	Usage of the DA Finder App	10	6/02/15
03	17/11/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Average time for completeness check	13	6/02/15
04	17/11/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Breakdown of level of fee remission	19	6/02/15
05	17/11/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Number of blocks surrendered liable for extension fees	20	6/02/15
06	17/11/14	Ms Berry	EPD	Meet the Planner sessions in Belconnen Mall	25	18/12/14
07	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	One third/one third/one third policy for land release.	8-9	5/12/14
08	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	Spending on Riverview Estate Joint Venture (JV)	10	23/12/14
09	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	Reportable contracts for the Riverview Estate JV.	11	Answered on the day p 64
10	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	JV reporting for the Riverview project.	11	Answered on the day p 64
11	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	Single select tender for the Riverview Estate JV project manager.	12	Answered on the day p 64
12	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD/LDA	Anticipated spending before blocks are sold at Riverview Estate.	12	Answered on the day p 64
13	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD	Payment to subcontractors who worked on the installation of lights at Manuka Oval.	45	2/12/14
14	19/11/14	Mr Wall	EDD	Human resources expenditure and marketing for the Asian Cup and the ICC World Cup.	27	17/12/14
15	19/11/14	Mr Wall	EDD	Reasons for decline in active businesses located in the ACT.	58	27/11/14

32 STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND TERRITORY  
AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

No.	Hearing Date	Asked by	Directorate	Subject	Transcript Page No.	Answer date
15a	19/11/14	Mr Coe	EDD	Responsibilities of tenants and ACT Property Group for maintenance of ACT Property Group sites.	63	2/12/14
15b	19/11/14	Dr Bourke	EDD	Management of signage outside former school sites.	63	5/12/14
16	19/11/14	Ms Berry	EDD/Sport and Rec	Centenary year impact on sport enrolments.	43	3/12/14
17	19/11/14	Dr Bourke	EDD/ Sport and Rec	Outcomes of the ACT Academy of Sport customer satisfaction survey.	46	8/12/14
18	19/11/14	Mr Wall	EDD/ Sport and Rec	Sports fields/ovals currently offline, and when they are going to be upgraded.	51	28/11/14
19	19/11/14	Mr Coe	TAMS	Engagement of PwC to look into calculation errors made in regards Mugga Lane Waste Facility.	60	26/11/14
20	21/11/14	Mr Coe	Capital Metro	Distance from TotalCare facility to the nearest stop.	104	3/12/14
21	21/11/14	Dr Bourke	Capital Metro	Breakdown of the embedded emissions associated with construction of Capital Metro.	121	10/12/14
22	16/12/14	Ms Berry	EPD	Average savings from energy outreach program.	125	30/1/15
23	16/12/14	Ms Berry	EPD	Number of homes that accessed the outreach program.	126	30/1/15
24	16/12/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Frequency of testing and results of water run-off from Mugga Way waste facility.	129	30/1/15
25	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Fridge testing for energy efficiency.	132	30/1/15
26	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	List of goods eligible under EEIS.	133	30/1/15
27	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Aggregate cost of EEIS passed through to taxpayers.	134	30/1/15
28	16/12/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Total MW for rooftop solar in ACT.	136	30/1/15
29	16/12/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Percentage of green power used in ACT with breakdown.	137	30/1/15
30	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Cost to taxpayers of FIT.	138	30/1/15
31	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	MW of solar panels installed since FIT closed.	138	30/1/15
32	16/12/14	Ms Lawder	EPD	Causes of low dissolved oxygen levels.	145	30/1/15
33	16/12/14	Mr Wall	EPD	Breakdown of funding received for fish stocking.	147	30/1/15

No.	Hearing Date	Asked by	Directorate	Subject	Transcript Page No.	Answer date
34	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	Map of contamination near Nurdurr Drive.	151	11/2/15
34a	16/12/14	Dr Bourke	EPD	NARCLiM analogues.	154	30/1/15
35	16/12/14	Mr Coe	EPD	EPD spend on fixing heating system.	156	30/1/15
36	16/12/14	Ms Lawder	EPD	Percentage of Green Power purchased by EPD.	158	30/1/15
37	17/12/14	Berry	TAMS	Statistics on Fix My Street.	168	21/1/15
38	17/12/14	Berry	TAMS	Statistics on use of Fix my Street "app".	170	19/1/15
39	17/12/14	Bourke	TAMS	Fixing faulty MyWay cards.	174	9/2/15
40	17/12/14	Berry	TAMS	Problems with grass in Margaret Timson Park and Emu Bank.	191	29/1/15
41	17/12/14	Wall	TAMS	Specifics of Banks shop upgrades.	193	21/1/15
42	17/12/14	Bourke	TAMS	Skatepark lights.	201	21/1/15
43	17/12/14	Wall	TAMS	Order to euthanize dangerous dogs.	202	21/1/15
44	17/12/14	Wall	TAMS	Dangerous dog licences.	202	21/1/15
45	17/12/14	Coe	TAMS	Displays at bus interchanges.	216	21/1/15
46	17/12/14	Wall	TAMS	ACTION services run with no passengers on them.	221	9/2/15
47	17/12/14	Wall	TAMS	Impact of repeal of carbon tax on ACTION bottom line.	221	21/1/15
48	17/12/14	Coe	TAMS	Communication with the individual who got a needle stick injury on an ACTION bus.	224	29/1/15
49	17/12/14	Coe	TAMS	Increase in area when more mowing brought in-house.	230	21/1/15
50	17/12/14	Coe	TAMS	Resumption of work on bridge over Molonglo for Majura Parkway.	232	29/1/15
51	17/12/14	Berry	TAMS	Regulation of dog grooming industry.	234	21/1/15
52	17/12/14	Coe	TAMS	Cost of ACTION review.	235	29/1/15



## Appendix B Witnesses

Monday 17 November 2014

### ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DIRECTORATE

- Mr Mick Gentleman MLA, Minister for Planning
- Mr Craig Simmons, Director, Construction Services, Environment and Planning Directorate
- Ms Dorte Ekelund, Director-General
- Mr John Meyer, Executive Director, Construction and Client Services
- Mr Ben Ponton, Deputy Director-General, Planning and Sustainability
- Mr Jim Corrigan, Executive Director, Planning Delivery
- Mr Bruce Fitzgerald, Chief Financial Officer, Corporate
- Mr Tony Carmichael, Executive Director, Strategic Planning

Wednesday 19 November 2014

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

- Mr Andrew Barr MLA, Minister for Economic Development
- Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Minister for Sport and Recreation
- Mr David Dawes, Director-General, Economic Development, Chief Executive Officer, Land Development Agency, and Coordinator-General
- Mr Dan Stewart, Deputy Director-General, Land Development and Corporate Division, and Deputy CEO, Land Development Agency
- Mr Glenn Lacey, Director, Infrastructure and Capital Works
- Ms Liz Clarke, General Manager, Territory Venues and Events, Arts, Business, Events, Sports and Tourism Division
- Ms Dianne Ireland, Senior Manager, Events ACT, Arts, Business, Events, Sports and Tourism Division
- Mr Daniel Bailey, Director, ACT Property Group

### TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services
- Ms Jenny Priest, Director, Sport and Recreation Services, Arts, Business,

- Events, Sports and Tourism Division, CMTEDD
- Mr Gary Byles, Director-General
- Mr Phillip Perram, Executive Director, Business Enterprise Division
- Mr Michael Trushell, Director, ACT NOWaste, Business Enterprise Division
- Mr Daniel Childs, Acting General Manager, Capital Linen Service, Business Enterprise Division
- Mr Hamish Horne, Chief Executive Officer, Canberra Cemeteries, Business Enterprise Division

#### ACT PUBLIC CEMETERIES AUTHORITY

- Ms Diane Kargas, Chair

Friday 21 November 2014

#### CAPITAL METRO AGENCY

- Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Minister for Capital Metro
- Ms Emma Thomas, Director-General
- Mr Duncan Edghill, Executive Director, Finance and Economics

Tuesday 16 December 2014

#### ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING DIRECTORATE

- Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Minister for the Environment
- Ms Dorte Ekelund, Director-General
- Mr Craig Simmons, Director, Construction Services
- Mr Matthew Kendall, Executive Manager, Catchment Management and Water Policy
- Mr Jon Sibley, Senior Manager, Energy Markets and Renewables
- Mr Daniel Walters, Senior Manager, Environment Protection, Environment Protection and Water Regulation, Environment Division
- Mr Antonio Mozqueira, Manager, Climate Change Policy
- Dr Margaret Kitchin, Manager, Conservation Research
- Ms Helen McKeown, Conservation Liaison Officer, Environment

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Mr Robert Neil, Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment

Wednesday 17 December 2014

TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services
- Mr Gary Byles, Director-General
- Ms Fay Steward, Executive Director, Parks and City Services
- Mr Paul Peters, Executive Director, Roads and Public Transport
- Mr Kim Smith, Executive Director, Directorate Services
- Mr Daniel Iglesias, Director, Parks and Conservation
- Ms Fleur Flanery, Director, City Services
- Ms Vanessa Little, Director, Libraries ACT
- Mr James Roncon, Director, Public Transport
- Mr Karl Cloos, Acting Director, Roads ACT
- Mr Ken Marshall, Senior Manager, Road Maintenance, Roads ACT
- Mr Ben McHugh, Senior Manager, Capital Works, Roads ACT
- Mr Rifaat Shoukallah, Senior Manager, Traffic Management and Safety, Roads ACT
- Mr Scott Farquhar, Acting Manager, Fire Management Unit
- Ms Leesha Pitt, Acting Director, Canberra Connect