



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked By: Ms Nicole Lawder MLA

Addressed to: Minister for City Services

Reference: Budget Statement H page 30

Hearing Date: 24/07/2024

In relation to: TCCS and Mowing in our suburbs

QON lodgement Date: 26/07/2024

Answer Due date: 05/08/2024

- 1) What was the result of the trial of the Rapid response mowing team?
- 2) How much of the \$3.146 million budgeted for mowing and horticultural services will be allocated to mowing?
- 3) Supporting Canberra's mowing and horticultural services with less funding in budget. \$3.146 for year 2024-25 and nothing estimated from 2025 till 2028, Why?

Minister Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) The rapid response crew model has augmented the existing horticultural services for the past two seasons. It delivered the following benefits:
 - immediate uplift of servicing to respond to reactive mow work requests brought about by extreme and wet weather conditions;
 - program managers were able to better understand resource capacity pinch points in depot operations as rapid response resources were directed to assist;
 - program managers could better monitor and respond to improved service quality assurance and scheduling activity of suburban mowing; and
 - allowing for insourcing trials for the mowing service for arterial roads to commence in the inner south region.

In 2023-24, GPS data showed that the rapid response crews mowed 2568.5 hectares, or 5.7% of total hectare output. The servicing data also showed that the line-of-sight safety concerns actioned by the rapid response crews represented nearly 10% of the Fix My Street task completion rate.

- 2) The indicative funding allocation for mowing is \$1.821m. During peak season, the seasonal conditions may dictate that this allocation is internally adjusted.

3) This funding is to provide for an expanded baseline capacity. Following our experience with a period of unpredictable weather, anticipating forward seasonal conditions and determining appropriate resource requirements is challenging, and is subject to further work.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date:

7/8/24

By the Minister for City Services, Tara Cheyne MLA