



Inquiry into the provision of municipal services in Canberra

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Taimus Werner-Gibblings MLA

Addressed to: Tara Cheyne MLA, Minister for City and Government Services

In relation to: Tree Watering Process

Hearing: 19 February 2026

Question Lodgement Date: 26 February 2026

Reference: City Services

Answer Due: 6 March 2026

A constituent in Monash who lives adjacent to parkland has raised concerns that different trees within close proximity appear to be watered by different contractors (new street trees by one contractor and trees within the parkland by another), potentially leading to duplication of effort.

Is this arrangement typical of how contracts for the watering and maintenance of street trees versus parkland trees are structured, and does the Directorate review such arrangements to identify and improve service-delivery efficiencies?

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

The watering program is split up into zones with six contractor trucks and eight in-house trucks operating in different areas. These areas are separated by suburb or main roads to avoid any duplication of attendance, however, this may mean one contractor is doing one side of a main road with another doing the other side.

The incident mentioned above may also have occurred because some trees are still under consolidation, which means they are being looked after by the contractor that planted them. These trees will then go onto the general watering program after the consolidation period.

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

Signature:

Date:

5/3/26

By the Minister for City and Government Services, Tara Cheyne MLA