

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 1

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair), Ms Leanne Castley MLA

Inquiry into environmental volunteerism ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE 19 July 2022

Asked by Ms Jo Clay MLA on 19 July 2022: Mr Iglesias took on notice the following question:

In relation to the Biodiversity Conservation Forum (Page 27 Proof Transcript):

MS CLAY: Can I just supplement on that? Really briefly. Mr Iglesias, can you tell me, is TCCS on the biodiversity conservation forum? And feel free to take it on notice, I am just wondering because we have this big top level organisation that is chaired by the COMS Council and EPSDD and we are hearing a lot of problems about TCCS and EPSDD connection so I would love, on notice, if we could see, not the names, the organisations of the people who have participated in that maybe.

Mr Iglesias: I think we might be, but we will take that on notice to confirm.

MS CLAY: Yes, take it on—yes, what—the information I am after, when you take it on notice, is which areas of TCCS and EPSDD are involved in that organisation? Just so that we can see if there are any gaps of people who should be.

Mr Iglesias: Sure, we will take that on notice and my colleagues might actually have access to the terms of reference already, they can—we can peruse during the—

Ms Vassarotti: Yes, look, my understanding is that I think TCCS is—you know, can be an invited attendee but we will get some more information about that, yes.

MINISTER VASSAROTTI: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Biodiversity Conservation Forum (Forum) was created to allow dialogue on current and emerging opportunities relating to biodiversity conservation, planning, policy and management, to empower the biodiversity community to present and codesign actions to enhance biodiversity conservation in the ACT and encourage the community and Government to focus on collective solutions.

The Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate is not a standing member of the Forum, but they may be invited to attend meetings at the request of the co-chairs.

Member organisations of the Forum include:

- ACT Bushfire Council
- ACT For Bees
- ACT Landcare
- ACT Scientific Committee
- Canberra Ornithologist Group
- Friends of Grasslands
- Invasive Species Council
- Molonglo Conservation Group
- National Parks Association ACT
- Woodlands and Wetlands Trust.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature: R. J. Varm

Date: 1/8/2022

Minister for the Environment, Rebecca Vassarotti MLA