



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–25

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo Clay MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Reference: CED

Hearing: 12 November 2025

In relation to: LAND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

Question received: 20 November 2025

Answer Due: 27 November 2025

1. In response to the Auditor-General's review of Land Management Agreements (LMAs), the Government has revised its enforcement and compliance framework.

a) What changes were made?

b) How much compliance occurs, what's the process and what happens if non-compliance is identified?

2. The Conservator of Flora and Fauna signs off on LMAs. What role does the Conservator of Flora and Fauna play in compliance of LMAs?

a) How often is an LMA reviewed?

b) Is it tied to the term of the Crown lease for example, if a lease has a term of 20 years old, does that mean the LMA doesn't get updated for 20 years?

Mr Chris Steel MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1a) The LMA template has been updated to clarify the suite of other ACT laws that apply to activities on rural lands related. This has provided a strengthened framework for identifying monitoring and compliance requirements for LMAs. Where not compliances with LMA are identified or reported, these may be investigated by the Conservator of Flora and Fauna or referred to Access Canberra depending on the nature of the alleged non-compliance.

1b) There is generally good compliance with LMA's and associated legislation. Suspected breaches of LMAs are generally mitigated through engagement and education. When potential breaches cannot be addressed in this way, they may be investigated by the relevant regulatory authority and compliance and enforcement undertaken pursuant to the respective legislation. Any formal

compliance action would be referred to the Conservator for consideration or noting if referred to another regulatory entity.

2) The Conservator of Flora and Fauna is supported by the conservation officers who as part of their land management and conservation activities may identify potential non-compliances with LMA. Non-compliances may be investigated by conservation officers where a breach relates to the *Nature Conservation Act 2014*, or referred to Access Canberra where a breach relates to the *Planning Act 2023*.

2a) LMAs are reviewed at time periods not exceeding every five years, or when the grant of a further rural lease, the variation of a rural lease, the approval of an assignment or transfer of a rural lease occurs.

2b) Refer 2a.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

Signature:



Date:

1/12/25

By the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development, Chris Steel MLA