

Q To N # 11  
28 Nov 14



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

Brendan Smyth MLA (Chair), Mary Porter AM MLA (Deputy Chair), Nicole Lawder MLA,  
Yvette Berry MLA

**Inquiry into proposed Appropriation (Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication) Bill 2014-15**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**[Public hearing of 28 November 2014]**

Asked by **Alistair Coe MLA:**

Palmerston probably would have been gazetted around that time. The first people, I imagine, would have moved in about 1992 or 1993. Were there any strategies in place with regard to proximity to houses and proximity to other construction sites that are relevant for TAMS and their planning for Parkwood?

**Andrew Barr MLA:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

I have sought further advice from the Environment and Planning Directorate, and it has been confirmed that a wide range of technical assessments are undertaken to inform forward planning of new residential areas. These assessments typically include consideration of site servicing and infrastructure; traffic and the road network; environmental; Aboriginal and European heritage; site contamination; flooding; topography; and adjoining land uses and nearby activities. Where required, expert advice is also sought such as from an independent contamination auditor, the Environment Protection Authority, the ACT Heritage Council and the Conservator of Flora and Fauna. At the statutory development application stage, the subdivision proposal is supported by the assessments previously undertaken and by any new or updated assessments. A similar approach occurred with the development of Palmerston.

As the Committee is aware, the Taskforce and TAMS are currently undertaking a review into the disposal of waste from the previous program at Palmerston. Any learnings or findings from this will continue to inform government practice in this regard.

Through the current ACT Buyback and Demolition Program, the houses will be demolished and dumped safely with oversight of TAMS, WorkSafe ACT and the Environment Protection Agency.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Signature: *Andrew Barr*

Date: 24.4.2015

By the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr MLA

