



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

Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
21 October 2021

Asked by Ms Lawder on 21 October 2021: Mr Rattenbury took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to:

MS LAWDER: Thank you, chair. I wanted to return to a question about the Healthy Waterways Program.

Mr Rattenbury: Sure.

MS LAWDER: There were, I think 20 projects in the first phase and we talked about two coming up, Yerrabi and Tuggeranong. Did all of the original 20 infrastructure projects, do they all comply with municipal infrastructure standards, specifically MIS08 and will the new projects comply with the municipal infrastructure standards, especially MIS08?

Mr Rattenbury: Mr Walker?

Mr Walker: The standards that have been used and developed are certainly the standards that have been accepted by Transport Canberra City Services, which is where the asset's owners actually are. I will take on notice the particular standard that you have mentioned and come back to you with some clarity on that, but I can assure you that the infrastructure standards, the built standards, are at best practice level and are consistent with the guidelines and directions through our Transport Canberra City Services group. It is important to understand that while EPSDD builds the asset, we then transition them to TCCS and that process, I guess, ensures that we have only the best standard assets moving forward in that space.

MS LAWDER: Sure. So as EPSDD are in charge of the building of those infrastructure standards—projects, would it not be EPSDD's responsibility to ensure that they comply ...(indistinct)... [10.31.12] before they get handed over to TCCS?

Mr Walker: Of course. That is, I guess—the reassurance we have is that we have standards set through the various regulatory mechanisms, the infrastructure builds will comply with those standards and the final step in that is the assurance check by Transport Canberra City Services as the assets are handed over. So I will confirm the particular standards.

Mr Ponton: If I could just add—

MS LAWDER: So—

Mr Ponton: Sorry, Ms Lawder. I was just going to add, so in terms of Mr Walker's talk about the asset owner, but also there is the regulatory role of TCCS, so TCCS does include specific requirements in relation to these, which are then incorporated through the development assessment process, so there is that regulatory side to make sure that the standards are being met and then the asset owner also needs to be satisfied that it meets the requirements.

Minister Rattenbury: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

Sections in the MIS08 standards dealing with water sensitive urban design assets were only draft versions during Stage 1 of Healthy Waterways, when the 20 assets were designed. The Healthy Waterways project helped to draft the MIS08 standards for several asset types new to the ACT.

The 20 assets built by Healthy Waterways are in the main compliant with the MIS08 standards. As the detailed designs of assets were prepared, there were some inconsistencies identified between the preliminary sketch plans and the MIS08 standards. These related to site constraints, for example the slope of the land or the location of underground services etc. This was addressed in a Design Approach Report, which applied to all assets, and a Design Review Report for each individual asset, which listed all instances where MIS08 standards were not met and the design features that were adopted instead. Where there was no practicable way to meet the MIS08 standard, either an alternate design was adopted in the Design Review Report for an asset or, a revision was made to the relevant draft MIS08 standard.

Transport Canberra and City Services approves the Design Review Report for each asset and, once the assets were built, inspected them to verify they were built as designed. This is referred to as the Asset Acceptance Process.

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

Signature:



Date:

1/11/21

By the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction, Shane Rattenbury