



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Peter Cain MLA

Addressed to: Catherine Rule, Director-General, Community Services Directorate

In relation to: Ainslie community garden

Hearing: 21 February 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 24

Transcript provided: 27 February 2025

Answer Due: 6 March 2025 5:00PM

Catherine Rule took on notice the following question(s):

MR CAIN: Take it on notice. And full records, please, including – confirming advice not to develop the garden, if that is indeed what you are saying. And the response of those volunteers.

Ms Rule: Well Mr Cain, I think we have already given – we have already answered the question about advice not to go ahead with the garden—

MR CAIN: No, no. I mean since that initial advice, during these site visits, and other communications with these volunteer groups.

Ms Rule: We can take that on notice.

Yvette Berry MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

On 20 April 2021, The Salvation Army (TSA) submitted a Modification Request to Housing ACT to build some additional structures at 48 Foveaux Street Ainslie. Garden Plans were also attached to the request. On 9 June 2021, Housing ACT provided written advice to TSA advising that the Modification Request was declined, and works should not proceed.

From 2022 through to 2024, there were 12 requests which resulted in property attendance to address maintenance issues.

On 9 May 2024, The Salvation Army provided an invitation to Housing ACT to attend the opening of the Peace Garden, scheduled for Sunday 19 May 2024.

OFFICIAL

Housing ACT staff did not attend this opening. Housing ACT are not aware of any direct engagement by staff with volunteer groups.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

Minister for Homes and New Suburbs, Yvette Berry MLA

Date:

12/08/25