



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

In relation to: Molonglo Town Centre – Infrastructure plan

Hearing: 24 July 2026

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Answer Due: 4 August 2026

Chris Steel MLA took on notice the following question(s):

MS CARRICK: Okay. Thanks. Back to Molonglo. So the government has fixed a target of dwellings for the Molonglo town centre, but the Central Education, Recreation and Community Precinct remains subject to further investigation. So will you commit to a published infrastructure plan identifying the location, size, funding responsibility, timing for the library, community centre, indoor sports facility, playing fields, tennis courts, skate facilities, and other community infrastructure needed in Molonglo?

Mr Steel: A lot of those infrastructure projects you listed are committed to and are being worked through by this urban land agency. They have obviously released the master plan that gives a level of detail about what the intent is there and includes a number of those infrastructure projects plus more in the area. And they are working through. The next step for them, as I understand it, is to put in a subdivision design application to the Territory Planning Authority which will require notification and consultation as well the community. And that will have a further level of detail on—

MS CARRICK: For the school area?

Mr Steel: Yes, yes, and some of those things. There is still, I understand it, still doing a bit of design work on the resolution of that which is why that maybe was not as detailed in the master plan when they released it as they were intending. But yes, the subdivision design I think will provide a level of detail that goes beyond the master plan. The other I think important point to make about the Molonglo town centre is that—and the Suburban Land Agency can talk about this with greater authority, that in terms of their release strategy and the staging of the project is that it needs to be commercially viable. The actual strategy for the release of the large scale shopping centre that was intended to be in there which is what the community really wants as well as those other social facilities. It may be potentially delivered with a partner, depending on the strategy that they further

develop and there needs to be some level of flexibility at this stage in design to be able to then accommodate potentially a project partner or in some other form of arrangement that has expertise that they can bring to the table in designing a large scale shopping centre facility. And so they have kept a level of flexibility in their master plan that will enable that kind of design expertise to be brought to the table to inform the plans. And so I think as we see the further work happening in the project, the design will be refined and there will be opportunities at various stages for the community to have their say on the exact building design as they go through the planning system.

Mr Green: I think the other thing, Ms Carrick, I would add is that the Territory Plan in terms of the policy setting is very clear around expectations that community facilities need to be provided. And there also needs to be that connectivity to other uses within the town centre. So there are specific policy outcomes and assessment outcomes already embedded within the Territory Plan that will need to be responded to as part of that subdivision design application.

MS CARRICK: So when will that subdivision design be available?

Mr Steel: That is probably a question for Suburban Land Agency unless you have got a—

MS CARRICK: Okay.

Mr Green: We are currently in discussions with the SLA around Macnamara for an SDA, and that includes some commercial presence, could be up to two groups, that is a question for SLA.

Mr Steel: That is the Ginninderry, but Molonglo, we can take that on notice for the Suburban Land Agency to answer because they are the proponent of the subdivision.

MS CARRICK: Yes. I mean, that is my concern, we can see where the housing is, but the school and the community side is just a grey area within the plan, and it is not clear to me where the tennis courts will be. Molonglo does not have any tennis courts at all, a skate park, not one, is that all going to be in this grey area where the school is?

Mr Green: So the zoning in the Molonglo town centre as it sits in the Territory Plan at the moment is indicative zoning and it has got a future urban area overlay. That zoning then gets settled through the subdivision design application where the more detailed work is presented. So I would expect to see that level of detail that you are seeking as part of the subdivision design application.

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

The Suburban Land Agency, CMTEDD (Sport & Recreation) and Education Directorate are working together to progress the layout for the central education, recreation and community precinct (the area currently shown as 'pending further investigation' in the Molonglo Town Centre and Surrounds Master Plan).

Information on the facilities provided in this precinct will be published by the end of 2026.

Further detailed information on specific infrastructure will form part of Subdivision Design Applications and Development Applications as the subdivision and building designs progress.

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Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026-2027

Signature:



Date:

3/8/26

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