



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair), Mark Parton MLA

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

Asked by Nicole Lawder MLA:

Ref: Water Quality, Budget Outlook, page 112, output class 2.4

In relation to: Water Sensitive Urban Design

1. Are stormwater treatment systems, including WSUD, audited?
2. Who undertakes the audits?
 - a. What qualifications do they have to undertake the audits?
3. At what point are they audited, e.g., design, handover, or period of time?
4. What are the compliance levels like?
5. Regarding private household water tanks:
 - a. How many systems have been found to be switched off?
 - b. How can people keep using?

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

1. Stormwater treatment systems including WSUD assets are inspected in accordance with the *Municipal infrastructure Standards 08 Stormwater (MIS08)* and *Requirements for Operational Acceptance Submission for Hard Public Infrastructure Works* (Reference Document 07). These documents establish mandatory operational requirements before operational acceptance is granted and encourage high quality works before acceptance of ownership by TCCS. Acceptance is subject to certification by a consultant, CCTV reports and endorsement by TCCS that all outstanding work and rectification of all defects have been satisfactorily completed. A Certificate of Operational Acceptance will only be granted when there are no safety and major quality issues to the general public and the work complies with the requirements. Following operational acceptance, ongoing maintenance is carried out in accordance with the operational and maintenance manuals supplied by the contractor to ensure effectiveness is maintained.
2. Stormwater WSUD assets are inspected by experienced TCCS operational officers and supported by TCCS civil engineers.
3. Design and construction certification is required before the responsibility of management and liability of the assets are transferred from developers to the Territory. For the handover of water quality assets, TCCS provides separate certificates to the construction contractor for design, operational and final acceptance of civil works and hard and soft landscaping elements. Operational acceptance initiates a period when assets are in defect liability or landscaping and plantings are under consolidation or establishment. Both at operational acceptance and before TCCS certifies handover of assets to the Territory, they check that the 'work as executed' complies with the design for the asset, which was previously approved.

4. Compliance levels are high where construction does not significantly deviate from the final design. Final designs are agreed during value management workshops prior to design acceptance. However, where there is no practicable way to resolve the inconsistencies between MIS08 standards and site-related constraints on developers through asset designs, an alternative design may be adopted in the design review process for an asset. Alternatively, development of the asset may be halted. The decision about whether or not to proceed with construction of a water quality asset will depend on considerations of benefits and costs, and whether priority issues like public safety can be satisfactorily addressed through asset designs.
5.
 - a. Private household water tanks are not the responsibility of TCCS. The responsibility for operation and maintenance of their private water collection systems lies with the homeowner.
 - b. See answer above.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

Signature:



Date: 4/11/21

By the Minister for Transport and City Services, Mr Chris Steel MLA