



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND URBAN RENEWAL  
CAROLINE LE COUTEUR MLA (CHAIR), SUZANNE ORR MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), TARA CHEYNE MLA,  
NICOLE LAWDER MLA, JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

**Inquiry into draft variation to the Territory Plan No 344 – Woden town centre, zone changes and amendments to the Phillips precinct map and code**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**18 October 2017**

Asked by MS LE COUTEUR:

In relation to: Investment into Ice hockey rink

**THE CHAIR:** As you no doubt are aware, there was an ACT government commitment to do a study into a site for an ice hockey rink. This clearly is a major concern, particularly given the zoning lease purposes of that land, which say they have to maintain, as I understand it, a national standard ice hockey rink. Do you have any idea where that is up to?

**Mr Gentleman:** In regard to the international commitment?

**THE CHAIR:** No. The ACT government made an election commitment in which I believe they started with \$75,000 to go towards a study, not necessarily for somewhere else—

**Mr Gentleman:** To invest in.

**THE CHAIR:** To invest in and investigate an ice hockey rink.

**Mr Gentleman:** Yes, that is right.

**THE CHAIR:** Canberra is arguably not big enough for two, and we certainly would argue it is not big enough two.

**Mr Gentleman:** There are a lot of activities that occur in ice sports. There is ice hockey, broomball, figure skating and a number of other activities that occur. There may well be an environment that would support two. However, that is with sport and rec. What I will do is take that question on notice, if you like, and we will talk to sport and rec.

**THE CHAIR:** Could you take that on notice? Given what the Territory Plan says about a swimming pool and a national standardised hockey rink, it is clearly relevant to know whether it is likely to continue to be viable there.

**Mr Gentleman:** In the conversations that I have had with the Ice Sports Federation about those details, they called for quite a number of activities, much more than just ice hockey. We will talk to sport and rec and see what we can find out for you.

**THE CHAIR:** Has the government looked at all at the viability of the existing uses, given the swimming pool being worked on at Stromlo park and the ice hockey to be at a location to be determined?

**Mr Gentleman:** Again, that would be sport and rec that are doing that work.

**THE CHAIR:** Could you add that to the question? If what is happening at present in that space is not viable—and people basically argued that—then it is at least relevant.

**Mr Gentleman:** Certainly we will ask them.

MINISTER GENTLEMAN: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

Active Canberra has commenced scoping and consultation activities for a new ice sports facility in Canberra. A consultant has been engaged and is currently investigating what a new facility would need to incorporate to be financially viable and of use to the ice-sports community

This piece of work will look to determine how big the rink (or rinks) would need to be, the size of the parcel of land that may be required to accommodate such a facility, how much parking would be needed to support it, what kind of capital cost is involved and potential operating costs.

There are number of complex issues and interdependencies to be carefully considered as part of this project, such as the Territory's capacity to sustain two ice facilities and Territory Plan requirements on the existing site.

Any new ice facility, should government funding be provided, will need to appropriately consider the impact on the current ice skating facility in Phillip, including relative to the current zoning and lease purpose clause applicable to that site.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Planning and Urban Renewal

Signature:



Date: 3/4/17

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman