



Dot Point Request

Requested by: Minister's Office

Business Unit: Place Management

Subject: Pond next to the lighthouse bar in Belconnen – pervasive smell

Dot Points:

- Underneath the Belconnen skate park there are a series of very large stormwater drains. During a rainfall event, these drains deliver large quantities of litter, sediment, and unwanted nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen that all negatively impact on Lake Ginninderra's water quality.
- The Eastern Valley Way wetland was built to act as a buffer to Lake Ginninderra, intercepting various pollutants before they can affect the recreational and amenity values of the lake. The stormwater entering the wetland is directed around the wetland where deep water zones collect the sediment and shallow zones with water plants take up the nutrients before the water enters the lake. Litter and other large contaminants are removed at least four times per year, or more often after significant rainfall events.
- There will be times when wetlands suffer algal blooms due to high concentrations of nutrients, or intercept other non-desirable substances that may be unsightly or produce an unpleasant smell. These normally dissipate through natural processes.
- After the recent storm events, Transport Canberra and City Services cleaned the area and believe that the smell was the result of a dead animal that had entered the pond area near the footbridge of Lake Ginninderra. The animal was removed the week of 7 February 2020.

Action Officer: Tessa Roberts

Executive Branch Manager: Stephen Allegria

Date: 24.02.20