



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023**

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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**Nicole Lawder MLA: To ask the Minister for Planning and Land Management**

Ref: Planning

In relation to: Southern Memorial Park

1. I note that there are significant community concerns regarding Callum Brae Nature Park and the impact the proposed Southern Memorial Park development will have on the area.

What consideration have been given to these concerns and will an environmental assessment of the area be conducted.

**Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:**

1. The proponent referred the Southern Memorial Park development proposal (the proposal) to the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (the Department) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (EPBC Act). The Department considered the application (EPBC 2019/8595) in relation to matters of national environmental significance and on 26 May 2020 determined that the development was not a controlled action.

On 3 July 2020, the proponent applied for an Environmental Significance Opinion (ESO) from the Conservator of Flora and Fauna (the Conservator) and the ACT Heritage Council (the Council) to determine if the proposal was likely to have a significant adverse environmental or heritage impact.

On 18 August 2020 the Conservator determined the impacts to threatened species and from the clearing of native vegetation were unlikely to have a significant adverse environmental impact.

On 31 August 2020 the Heritage Council determined that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant adverse heritage impact.

On 23 August 2021, the proponent submitted a development application (DA202138789) for the proposal in the merit track.

Where an ESO has been granted, the relevant triggers for the impact track no longer apply, and the proponent can submit a merit track development application or consider any exemptions from development approval that may be available.

DA202138789 is currently under assessment with the independent planning and land authority (the Authority).

The Authority must consider both ESOs and any further potential on-site and offsite impacts as part of the assessment process.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature:



Date: 7/9/2022

By the Minister for Planning and Land Management, Mick Gentleman MLA