



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 28

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
MS TARA CHEYNE MLA (CHAIR), CANDICE BURCH MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JAMES MILLIGAN MLA

Inquiry into referred 2018–19 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
15 November 2019

Asked by Ms C Burch MLA:

In relation to: Would cats and dogs cause the most injuries to other animals

Ms Oldfield: Thank you. Meghan Oldfield, the executive group manager overseeing the animal related issues at TCCS. So thank you for your question. If we look at the statistics over the last three years, and of course, 2019 is just a year to date, the number of attacks is generally consistent.

We might see an additional number of reports, but the number of attacks has remained—we have not seen a big increase in that, I guess I would say. We do, as the minister noted, take the responsibility related to dangerous dogs very seriously. So we do, as appropriate—whether it is declaring the animal dangerous, sending it home under a control order, or whatever the appropriate treatment is.

MISS C BURCH: And of all of the human preventable animal injuries that we do see in Canberra, would cats and dogs cause the most injuries to other animals?

Ms Oldfield: I do not have those statistics in front of me. I could take that on notice.

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

The majority of human preventable animal injuries in Canberra are caused by dogs on other domestic animals. Reports of cat inflicted injuries are not easy to obtain, as cat attacks are rarely reported to authorities (such as Domestic Animal Services).

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

Signature:

Date:

26/11/19

By the Minister for City Services, Chris Steel MLA