



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Minister for City and Government Services

Reference: City Services

Hearing: 22 July 2026

In relation to: Stormwater Management - Ivy

Question received: 28 July 2026

Answer Due: 6 August 2026

Minister

There has been significant flooding at the Ivy residential towers and the Slovenian Club from the storm event on 7 February 2026.

- (1) Who is responsible for the short-term mitigation measures to stop further flooding from the storm water – for example a retaining wall?
- (2) What is the ACT Government doing to protect The Ivy and the Slovenian Club from future flooding events?
- (3) Why was the location of the driveway to the basement approved in a flood zone by the planning directorate?
- (4) What will be the impact during flood events from the wall that is being built now on the eastern side of the Yarralumla Creek floodway as part of the Yarravale development?
- (5) Who will pay for the next flooding event if a retaining wall is not built to stop the flooding?
- (6) What allowance is there in the forward estimates for repairs to the stormwater from major rain events?

Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- (1) The City and Environment Directorate has responsibility for the management of the Territory's stormwater infrastructure on public land. Responsibility for any specific works on public land would need to be determined by the relevant authority based on the circumstances. Private land owners / lease holders also have a responsibility for the management of stormwater within their properties.

(2) The ACT Government has commissioned a flood study of the Yarralumla Creek Catchment including all suburbs of the Woden Valley. The study will use updated information on rainfall, climate change impacts, other hydrological and hydraulic parameters to prepare flood estimates and mapping for the catchment.

The ACT Government's immediate focus is completing the Yarralumla Creek Catchment flood study to identify and prioritise flooding hotspots and potential mitigation options within the entire catchment area. The flood study is anticipated to be completed in late 2026.

(3) The driveway was approved following assessment against the applicable Territory Plan provisions and advice from relevant referral entities. The planning authority determined that, subject to conditions, the proposal was acceptable and complied with the relevant planning framework in effect at the time of decision.

(4) The potential impact on flooding has been assessed through the development application process. Based on the flood assessments undertaken to date, the wall is not expected to result in unacceptable impacts during flood events. While DA202544874 is located within the broader Yarralumla Development masterplan area, it is not expected to be affected by flooding. For the related development applications DA202443254 and DA202443345, flood impacts and mitigation measures were assessed through a Flood Assessment, and both applications were conditionally approved in February 2025 with conditions imposed to address outstanding flooding matters. The planning authority is satisfied that flood risk considerations have been appropriately assessed and managed through the development approval process.

(5) Given the hypothetical nature of the question, it is difficult to provide a definitive response. However, where damage has occurred to privately owned assets, the matter should be reported to the relevant insurance provider for assessment and any further investigation deemed necessary.

(6) The repair costs associated with damage to public asset stormwater systems following major rain are typically covered (in part or full) through the ACT Insurance Agency (ACTIA).

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Signature: 

By the Minister for City and Government Services, Tara Cheyne MLA

Date: 7/8/26