



Chris Steel MLA

Minister for City Services
Minister for Community Services and Facilities
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Roads
Member for Murrumbidgee

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 14 August 2018 regarding petition No 16-18 lodged by Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA requesting public recycling bins at Charnwood Group Centre.

The ACT Government is aware of the increasing community demand for recycling options at town centres and local shopping centres. However, such requests for additional services must be considered in the light of many other competing priorities. In an effort to better understand community expectations and views about the relative priorities for the provision of municipal services, Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) has recently completed the engagement phase of the Better Suburbs deliberative democracy initiative. The community-authored Better Suburbs Statement was made publicly available in September 2018. This statement will assist in guiding future decision-making.

Currently, public recycling bins are provided in the Canberra City area (Civic) and Braddon. Privately operated recycling bins are also provided by many business and in some privately owned shopping centres. Although no recycling bins are scheduled to be placed at the Charnwood Shops, the request for recycling bins at this location has been noted. The ACT Government has committed to install more recycling bins across the city to increase recycling rates and improve the amenity and health of our waterways, although this rollout has not yet commenced. In the meantime, members of the public are encouraged to take their recyclable waste home and utilise the fortnightly kerbside recycling service.

The ACT Government is very conscious of the need to reduce landfill waste and has this year established a Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) in the ACT. This scheme is expected to significantly reduce the number of recyclable drink containers that are left in public spaces or deposited into general waste or recycling bins.

ACT Legislative assembly

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More Information about the Better Suburbs Citizens Forum and the topics covered can be accessed at <https://www.yoursay.act.gov.au/BetterSuburbs>, while details about the CDS including drop off points can be found on the TCCS website.

Thank you for bringing this petition to my attention. I trust that the information I have provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Steel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Steel MLA
Minister for City Services

5 OCT 2018