



Meegan Fitzharris MLA

Member for Yerrabi

Minister for Health and Wellbeing

Minister for Transport and City Services

Minister for Higher Education, Training and Research

Mr Tom Duncan

Clerk

ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan *Tom,*

Thank you for your letter of 30 November 2017 regarding petition No 31-17 lodged by Mrs Giulia Jones MLA, regarding proposed upgrades to the Torrens playground.

The ACT Government invested \$2.7 million in 2016-17 in recognition of the important role play spaces have in fostering healthy communities. The investment included upgrades to four prioritised playgrounds located in Florey, Gowrie, Gungahlin and Evatt and installation of three natural play spaces in Barton, Tuggeranong and O'Connor.

The ACT Government manages over 500 playgrounds across Canberra, including three in Torrens. Playgrounds are prioritised for upgrade based on recommendations from annual safety audits along with current demographic, spatial and social information. This process ensures that safety standards are maintained and public investments are suitably targeted.

The most recent playground audit found that the equipment in the three playgrounds located at Torrens Place, Parsons Street and Horrocks Street in Torrens meet Australian safety standards and are in good condition for use. Hence, there are no current plans to upgrade the playgrounds in Torrens.

The request for sun protection for the playground has been noted and will be considered as part of any future shade sail installations. Shade sails are generally installed in large, centrally located play spaces across Canberra where the frequent visitation rates and longer visits show that they will benefit the greatest number of children.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Phone +61 2 6205 0051

GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Email fitzharris@act.gov.au



@MeeganFitzMLA



MeeganFitzharrisMLA

Thank you for raising this matter. I trust the information provided is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meegan', written over the printed name.

Meegan Fitzharris MLA

Minister for Transport and City Services

16/3/2018