



Tara Cheyne MLA

Minister for the Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy
Minister for City Services
Minister for Government Services and Regulatory Reform
Minister for Human Rights

Member for Ginninderra

Our ref: 24/144

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

15 April 2024

Dear Mr Duncan *Tom*

Thank you for your letter regarding petition 003-24, lodged by Elizabeth Kikkert MLA regarding 'Improvements to the Pulleine Crescent Neighborhood Playground in Macgregor'.

The ACT Government recognises that play spaces can enhance health and wellbeing, strengthen the social fabric of our communities and contribute to environmental outcomes.

In May 2022, the ACT Government released the ACT Play Space Strategy following community engagement and consultation. The Strategy provides a clear vision, supported by key principles, objectives and actions to guide the future planning, delivery and management of play spaces in the ACT.

All requests for improvements to Canberra's play spaces, including local play spaces, are assessed and prioritised annually, guided by the direction set by the ACT Play Space Strategy. This includes taking into account factors such as demand, hierarchy, proximity to recent playground upgrades, condition, demographics, equity, sustainability and availability of funding.

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Consultation through the development of the ACT Play Space Strategy identified that the ACT community supports a 'quality over quantity' approach to improving the play spaces network. This support for quality reflects how play spaces are used across Canberra, with many more people visiting district and central play spaces than local play spaces. As such, a key focus area identified within the ACT Play Space Strategy includes prioritising district and central play spaces for refresh and major upgrade because these are much more valued by the community.

The ACT Government manages over 500 playgrounds across Canberra, including 13 in Macgregor. The Pulleine Crescent Neighborhood Playground in Macgregor is classified as a local neighborhood play space with these play spaces containing basic structured play equipment to support most residences in Canberra (as most residences are located within 400 metres of a local play space).

The most recent independent playground safety audit identified the swing frame for the Pulleine Crescent Neighborhood Playground to be in good condition. Given the results of the audit, and the community's preference to focus on upgrades to district and central play spaces, there are no immediate plans to upgrade this play space. Regular fortnightly maintenance checks will continue, and any maintenance/safety issues will be addressed as they arise.

Further information about play space upgrades and play activities being delivered can be viewed at www.cityservices.act.gov.au/Infrastructure-Projects/programs/playspace-upgrades.

I appreciate the passion Macgregor residents have shown for their local play spaces through their support of this petition and look forward to continuing to work with them on upgrades to play spaces and other community infrastructure in the broader West Belconnen region.

Yours sincerely



Tara Cheyne MLA
Minister for City Services