

Environment and Sustainable Development Directorate

Achievements since 13 May 2011

Type of achievement	Name of achievement
Major reports released	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Government Response to the Standing Committee on Planning, Public Works and Territory and Municipal Services Report No 9 – <i>Inquiry into RZ3 and RZ4 Residential Redevelopment Policies – Inner North Canberra</i> The report recommended the removal of current Territory Plan rules by lifting of infill development moratoriums that currently apply to Turner as well as areas north of Macarthur and Wakefield Avenues. 2. <i>Community Gardens (response to Assembly motion in June 2011 sittings)</i> Minister confirmed the Government’s support for the establishment and operation of community gardens in the ACT.
Major reports responded	Nil.
Legislation introduced	<i>Planning and Building Legislation Amendment Bill 2011</i> – introduced, debated and passed. The most significant changes concerned the clarification in language used for notification when it is in relation to a DA.
Key announcements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Draft Variation No. 306</i> The draft variation was prepared to implement a review of the ACT residential and subdivision policies. Broad policy changes are proposed to relevant codes, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvements to solar access and protecting suburban character • improvements to solar access for homes • protection of amenity within the residential RZ2 suburban core zone • changes to subdivision provisions for new estates. The draft variation proposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to residential development, estate development and leasing codes; • replacement of residential zones objectives development tables, and housing development codes; • introduction of Residential Zones Development Code and Lease Variation General Code; and • replacement of existing Residential Subdivision Development Code with an Estate Development Code. 2. <i>Dickson group centre</i> The Dickson Master Plan was released in May with a focus on improved public spaces, pedestrian and transport links. It also flagged additional supermarket space.

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	<p>3. <i>Kingston group centre</i> The Kingston Master Plan, released in July 2011, was aimed at refreshing the centre, keeping the village feel and enabling the introduction of a new full line supermarket.</p> <p>4. <i>Closure of the Feed in Tariff</i> 13 July 2011 - closure of micro and medium scale generation capacity with a combined cap of 30 MW effectively reached. The Feed in Tariff will continue to make a significant contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The solar panels installed generate enough power or around 10,000 homes using an average amount of electricity per year.</p> <p>5. <i>Transport Initiatives</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed preliminary design of Belconnen to City transitway (stage 1 – City sector). This project extends the bus lane on Barry Drive to the City and establish a new bus station at the ANU. Detailed design is underway and construction funding of \$6.6M has been provided to undertake the construction in 2012. • Completed construction of three bike and ride facilities at Gungahlin, Belconnen and Phillip and construction is underway on three park and ride facilities at EPIC, Belconnen and Mawson. Committed funding for further park and ride facilities in Kippax, Bruce, Gungahlin, Calwell and Molonglo in 2011-12. <p>6. Plastic bag ban transition period commenced 1 July with full ban taking effect on 1 November 2011.</p> <p>7. Successful applicants for the 2011 Climate Change Grants, worth almost \$400 000 announced in June 2011. The grants benefited a range of community groups by directly assisting projects ranging from electric vehicles and sustainability festivals to a carbon challenge and champions for climate change.</p> <p>8. An expanded \$7.8 million dollar Outreach Program launched in July 2011. This will provide support to 4000 low income households to reduce their energy and water bills.</p> <p>9. Provision of financial assistance to St Johns Church – to repair vandalism of heritage grave sites.</p> <p>10. Minister for the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water announced a significant solar installation (29.6kW roof installation) by Energy Matters.</p>

<p>Key consultations/ round tables</p>	<p>1. <i>Kambah group centre master plan and Tuggeranong and Erindale master planning</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kambah village master planning continues with changes to the draft layout as a result of recent community consultation sessions held in April and May. • A community drop-in session was held in July 2011 to assist in developing the Tuggeranong and Erindale draft master plan that is scheduled for release by the end of 2011. Additional work on Erindale traffic and parking issues to be completed by the end of August 2011. <p>2. <i>Transport</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking community consultations on bus lanes at Canberra Avenue and Flemington Road and bus stations at Gungahlin and Barton. • Funding has already been committed to build the bus lane on Canberra Avenue, design the bus lane on Flemington Road, and build the station at Gungahlin this financial year. <p>3. <i>Building quality</i></p> <p>A building quality survey assisted the government in determining the extent of problems with building quality in the ACT and find solutions. The survey was released in late May 2011 and</p> <p>A Building Quality Forum was held in July 2011. The forum, hosted by the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, consults with a diverse range of interests on problems occurring and possible solutions to improve building quality where needed. Outcomes include a suite of legislative changes including a review of the <i>Building Act</i>.</p>
<p>Major events attended</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director-General/ Deputy Director General 	<p>Minister:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>D-G/DD-G: other than those attended by the Minister</p> <p>World Environment Day celebrated on Friday 3 June in Garema Place with inter-directorate showcase of sustainability activities in ACT.</p>