

Chris Steel MLA

Treasurer

Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Minister for Heritage

Minister for Transport

Member for Murrumbidgee

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**Questions on Notice Paper No 1****6 December 2024****Question No. 112****MS CLAY MLA** - To ask the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development:

In relation to (a) Bluetts Block and (b) Western Edge, can the Minister (i) advise the current management status, (ii) advise whether they are currently available for development, (iii) advise if they are in a nature reserve or have some other zoning status and (iv) specifying, by map or other geographic reference, which areas the Minister is referring to.

MINISTER STEEL MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- (a) In relation to Bluetts Block (shown in blue on map below), the Territory Planning Authority are currently finalising an amendment to the Territory Plan ([Minor Amendment 2024-m](#)). This amendment seeks to rezone Block 403 Stromlo and Block 12 Section 1 Denman Prospect as NUZ3 Hills, Ridges and Buffer, and formalise them as nature reserves. This change would confirm they are not available for urban development.

Block 402 Stromlo has not been included in this amendment as it has not been subject to the same level of environmental assessment as the other blocks, and it remains a leased block.

More information about this minor amendment, including supporting maps and frequently asked questions are available on the [ACT Planning website](#).





Figure 1: Location map of Stromlo blocks 402 and 403, and Denman Prospect block 12 (Note: the green shading represents existing nature reserve)

- (b) The Western Edge investigations are continuing in accordance with Action 1.2.1 of the ACT Planning Strategy 2018 and the Statement of Planning Priorities 2024-25. Further ecological assessments are underway with a focus on vegetation type mapping and woodland bird surveys. Further studies in relation to traffic, infrastructure, heritage and socio-economic factors are in various stages of the procurement process. The current investigation program does not involve any statutory approval process for rezoning, environmental approvals or development. This is a long-term planning process for the Western Edge.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Chris Steel MLA

Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

Date: 21/1/25

This response required 50mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$89.69.