

Andrew Barr MLA

Chief Minister

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for Tourism and Trade

Member for Kurrajong

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice Paper No 7

16 May 2025

Question No. 440

MR RATTENBURY MLA: To ask the Chief Minister

1. Given that the Chief Minister has indicated to the Assembly that they were the decision maker on the decision to allow the application from Canberra Services Club to proceed, and when asked in the Assembly what the factors were that the Chief Minister took into account in deciding it was in the public interest for the development application to be considered they responded “The briefing material provided to me as the decision-maker”, what issues were raised in the brief that informed the decision.
2. What were the arguments in favour of the project being in the public interest.
3. What issues were identified as to why this may not be in the public interest.

ANDREW BARR MLA - The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

1. The issues raised in the brief that informed the decision included consideration of the matters prescribed in section 261(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2007, public representations and the social impact assessment provided as part of the development application.
2. Issues considered:
 - a. the Government’s significant investment in the Manuka Oval Precinct;
 - b. the proposal was considered consistent with the *ACT Planning Strategy 2018* and the *Inner South District Strategy*;
 - c. the removal of the concessional status of the lease may facilitate the redevelopment of the existing site for uses consistent with *CZ6 Leisure and Accommodation Zone* requirements;
 - d. the proposal seeks to diversify the club’s income sources beyond gaming, in line with the ACT Government’s commitment to reduce gaming machine authorisations; and

- e. removing the concessional status of the Crown Lease could enable various development opportunities, potentially bringing economic and social benefits to the area.
3. After having considered all relevant matters, it was decided it was in the public interest for the Authority to consider the DA.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.


Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

Date: 11-6-25

This response required 1hr to complete, at an approximate cost of \$112.34.