

Tara Cheyne MLA

Manager of Government Business

Attorney-General

Minister for Human Rights

Minister for City and Government Services

Minister for the Night-Time Economy

Member for Ginninderra

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice Paper No 3

Friday, 7 March 2025

Question No. 181

MR CAIN: To ask the Minister for City and Government Services —

1. What are the long-term plans for expanding the use of permeable paving around public trees.
2. How will the Government measure the impact of this initiative on stormwater management and tree health.

Ms Tara Cheyne MLA – The answer to the Member’s questions are as follows:

1. Existing tree surrounds are subject to periodic audits, identifying necessary repairs or replacements. Future programs to address these needs, including the use of permeable paving, are subject to available budget.
2. Extensive research has demonstrated the benefits of permeable paving on stormwater management and tree health. However, these benefits can vary depending on the type and age of permeable paving, as well as the level of maintenance undertaken to sustain infiltration rates over time. Installing more permeable paving around public trees may reduce surface run-off for that given area, as stormwater is absorbed through the permeable paving and into the ground below. This, in turn, should increase the water available to support tree health and decrease the water discharging into stormwater infrastructure. Given that the use of permeable paving makes up only a very small percentage of the urban catchment surface area, quantifying the reduction of stormwater runoff is difficult at this time.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Tara Cheyne MLA

Minister for City and Government Services

Date: 2/4/25

This response required 0 hrs and 45 mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$81.25