

**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

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Questions on Notice Paper No 1**

**6 December 2024**

**Question No. 5**

**MR CAIN MLA** - To ask the Minister for City and Government Services:

- (1) What is the ACT Government policy on minimising the impact of non-native invasive species, particularly foxes, from inhabiting developed suburban areas of the ACT.
- (2) What key markers are used to identify activity of non-native invasive species, particularly foxes, in developed suburban areas of the ACT.
- (3) Has the ACT Government identified an increase, decrease or consistent level of activity of non-native invasive species, particularly foxes, (a) in developed suburban areas of the ACT, (b) in developed suburban areas of the Belconnen District and (c) on Mt Rogers.
- (4) When did the ACT Government last investigate Mt Rogers for fox habitation.
- (5) How does the ACT Government mitigate the risk of (a) possums and other native non-invasive species and (b) domestic animals, from consuming baits designed to combat non-native invasive species.

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

- (1) Invasive species management programs are implemented when the impacts of the species can be controlled. For instance, rabbit control is undertaken because control measures can reduce population to a threshold where impacts on native species are mitigated. Current control techniques for foxes are not suitable for urban areas and could not be implemented in a way that would reduce the impact of foxes, due to the types of control measures available, fox abundance and widespread distribution in ACT urban areas.

- (2) The activity of foxes is not currently formally monitored by the ACT Government in urban areas.
- (3) Refer to response to question (2).
- (4) Refer to response to question (2).
- (5) When baits are used in invasive species programs in the ACT, national Standard Operating Procedures and Codes of Practice are applied, which have been developed to minimise impacts to off target species and are available at <https://pestsmart.org.au/>.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**



**Tara Cheyne MLA  
Minister for City and Government Services**

**Date:**.....13/12/24.....

This response required 1hr 5mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$116.91.