

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 6****Friday, 16 May 2025****Question No. 423****MR BRADDOCK:** To ask the Minister for City and Government Services —

1. Further to the response to question on notice No 338, for (a) 2023-2024 and (b) 2024-2025, for each district, how many reports to the ACT Government by a member of the public requesting public tree maintenance were specifically relating to dangerous trees, excluding duplicate reports about the same tree.
2. How many reports to the ACT Government by members of the public requesting tree maintenance for (a) 2023-2024 and (b) 2024-2025 were assessed with an “urgent” priority related specifically to dangerous trees, excluding duplicate reports about the same tree.
3. For each financial year for which records are available to enable a response to this question, and if possible for each district, how many applications have been made to the ACT Government for an assessment of a regulated tree on private property for approval to remove, prune or damage it on the basis of it presenting a threat to life or property (excluding other criteria which might be basis of an application).
4. What proportion of the applications referred to in part (3) were approved.
5. What was the median and mean time taken to make the assessments to approve or reject these applications.

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

1. The table below identifies the tree maintenance jobs listed as a high or urgent priority following assessment by ACT Government arborists.

	2023-2024 FY		2024-2025 FY	
Gungahlin	453 urgent	775 high	452 urgent	429 high
North/Belconnen	257 urgent	789 high	93 urgent	561 high



Central	11 urgent	701 high	22 urgent	582 high
South	55 urgent	418 high	62 urgent	447 high
Tuggeranong	21 urgent	680 high	3 urgent	415 high

2. See response to question 1.
3. The table below shows tree removal application numbers for criteria: the tree represents an unacceptable risk to public or private safety; or the tree is shown to be causing or threatening to cause substantial damage to a substantial building, structure or service. Data cannot be extracted from the previous tree protection database or from the new database for pruning and damage other than removal as these criteria are not specified on applications for these activities.

<i>Year</i>	Number of applications to damage a protected tree North Region*	Number of approved applications - North Region	Number of applications to damage a protected tree Central Region**	Number of approved applications - Central Region	Number of applications to damage a protected tree South Region***	Number of approved applications - South Region
1 Jan 2024 – 30 Jan 2024	175	111 (64%)	191	125 (65%)	147	89 (61%)
1 Jul 2024 – 26 May 2025	267	181 (68%)	249	149 (60%)	217	107 (50%)

***North Region includes:** Aranda, Belconnen, Bruce, Charnwood, Cook, Dunlop, Evatt, Florey, Flynn, Fraser, Giralang, Hawker, Harrison, Higgins, Holt, Kaleen, Latham, Lawson, Macgregor, Macnamara, Macquarie, McKellar, Melba, Page, Scullin, Spence, Strathnairn, Weetangera, Amaroo, Bonner, Casey, Crace, Forde, Franklin, Gungahlin, Harrison, Mitchell, Moncrieff, Ngunnawal, Nicholls, Palmerston, Taylor and Throsby.

****Central Region includes** Acton, Ainslie, Barton, Braddon, Campbell, City, Deakin, Dickson, Downer, Forrest, Fyshwick, Griffith, Hackett, Kingston, Lyneham, Narrabundah, O'Connor, Red Hill, Reid, Turner, Watson, Yarralumla, Chifley, Curtin, Farrer, Garran, Hughes, Isaacs, Hume, Oaks Estate, Symonston, Denman Prospect, Coombs, Whitlam and Wright.

*****South region includes** Banks, Bonython, Calwell, Chisholm, Conder, Fadden, Gilmore, Gordon, Gowrie, Greenway, Isabella Plains, Kambah, Macarthur, Monash, Oxley, Richardson, Theodore, Wanniasa, Chapman, Duffy, Fisher, Holder, Rivett, Stirling, Waramanga and Weston.

4. See table above.

5. The database does not allow isolation of criteria relating to applications made for approval to remove, prune or damage on the basis of a tree presenting a threat to life or property (excluding other criteria which might be basis of an application). The average processing time for all applications (for removal, pruning or groundwork) since 1 January 2024 is 39 working days.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Tara Cheyne MLA

Minister for City and Government Services

Date: 15/6/25

This response required 4 hrs to complete, at an approximate cost of \$301.78