**Directorate: Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development**

**18/010 Stock Amendment Bill 2018**

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| **Summary of Impacts** |
| * It is proposed to introduce a Stock Amendment Bill 2018, which will update the *Stock Act 2005* to provide the Director-General with more flexible and cost effective options for dealing with impounded stock.
* First, the Bill will allow impounded stock to be kept on any land on agistment or any land owned by or under the control of the Territory (instead of being kept at the pound).
* The impact of this is greater operational flexibility in where the animal is housed and animal welfare benefits. It allows single impounded animals (which are naturally herd animals) to be kept with other animals, which reduces stress experienced by the impounded animal.
* Second, the Bill will allow the Director-General to dispose of the stock in a way the Director-General thinks fit, including selling by auction, destroying or rehousing the stock.
* This has a positive financial impact as it allows the Director-General to choose the most cost effective means of disposing of the stock. In the case of individual or small number of impounded stock, the cost of selling at auction can far exceed the revenue received from the auction.
* Finally, the Bill clarifies the definition of ‘travel’ in the dictionary. As presently drafted, the definition of travel in the Dictionary could be interpreted to mean transporting stock in a vehicle. If that is the case, any time someone floats a horse to, say, a competition, or moves sheep in a truck, they would be required to obtain a permit. It is proposed to amend the definition of travel to clarify that it refers to travelling stock “on the hoof”.
* The impact of this clarification is more concise legislation.
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*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral and Green – positive.*

**Social**

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| **Justice and rights**  | * Improvements in the animal welfare of impounded stock.
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**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget**  | * Flexibility in dealing with stray animals may result in cost savings.
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| **Productivity** | * No impact
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| **Investment** | * No impact
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| **Competition** | * No impact
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**Environmental**

No impact