**Directorate: Transport Canberra and City Services**

**18/090 Government Response to the Auditor-General’s Performance Audit Report 1/2018 – Acceptance of Stormwater Assets**

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| **Summary of Impacts** |
| * The Auditor-General’s report identified deficiencies in the design, approval and operation of stormwater assets in the ACT.
* The establishment of a Taskforce will help to align the priorities of the ACT Government agencies that are involved in the creation, operation and management of the assets.
* The Taskforce will coordinate and help to facilitate changes to policies, codes and standards, required to implement the recommendations of the Auditor-General’s report.
* The Taskforce will consist of representatives from TCCS, EPSDD, SLA, CRA, and CMTEDD and will report to a Steering Group made of the Directors-General from TCCS, EPSDD, SLA and CMTEDD.
* The Taskforce will develop a detailed implementation Plan for endorsement by the Steering Group.
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*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral and Green – positive.*

**Social**

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| **Community and individual health/safety** | * The Auditor-General’s report identified that there are competing priorities between Government agencies that affect the design and operation of stormwater assets throughout the ACT. These issues contribute to poor water quality, which affects the community’s enjoyment of the lakes and water courses in the ACT.
* Improving the water quality throughout the ACT, by delivering, operating and maintaining stormwater infrastructure effectively, will greatly reduce the risk of toxic algal blooms and improve the safety and amenity to the community.
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| **Access to social networks and community activities** | * Wider government priorities such as Active Travel will benefit from improved quality stormwater assets by allowing the community to access the areas surrounding the assets and have organised activities (e.g. triathlons).
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**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget** | * The establishment of the Taskforce will require dedicated resources.
* The implementation plan, developed by the Taskforce, will detail the costs associated with ongoing operation and maintenance of the assets. It is anticipated that in order to address the deficiencies in the Auditor-General’s report there will be additional costs associated with all stages in the lifecycle of stormwater assets.
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| **Employment** | * The effective coordination of policies, codes and standards will significantly improve the delivery, operation and maintenance of stormwater assets within the ACT and will create professional, technical and skilled employment opportunities in both the private and public sectors.
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**Environmental**

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| **Environmental quality**  | * Improvements to the delivery, operation and maintenance of stormwater assets will result in improved water quality and biodiversity in the water courses and lakes throughout the ACT and will assist in meeting the requirements of the Murray–Darling Basin Plan.
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| **Landscape changes** | * Well maintained stormwater assets provide a good basis for establishing and maintaining high quality public domain landscape elements.
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