



**Australian Government**  
**National Capital Authority**

**CLEARED**

DATE

7/11/18

INITIAL



**QUESTIONS IN WRITING**

On the issue of bike paths and amenities—cyclist and pedestrian amenity around Lake Burley Griffin—could you explain to the committee the NCA's jurisdiction in relation to bike paths around the entire Lake Burley Griffin area? I will give you a range of questions.

1. Are they meeting acceptable standards? If not, what are those standards?
2. Have there been any safety or amenity issues in relation to bike paths, pedestrian paths and dual use paths around the lake?
3. Have there been any incidents or legal issues that have confronted the NCA on accidents and the like?
4. What are the future plans for expansion either in the length of the paths or in the width for capital improvement of that infrastructure as well?

**Response**

The National Capital Authority (NCA) has responsibility for the design, construction and maintenance of bike paths (both shared and cycle-only paths) on National Land (at **Attachment A**).

The sections of paths around the Lake within NCA managed land include:

- Central Basin including Commonwealth Avenue Bridge and Kings Avenue Bridge;
  - Attunga Point;
  - Scrivener Dam;
  - Yarramundi Peninsula;
  - Acton Peninsula;
  - East of entrance to Government House and the wooden bridge across Warrina Inlet; and
  - Kingston Foreshore (a narrow strip of land around edge of East Basin) (at **Attachment B**).
1. New paths are designed and constructed to meet current standards for slip resistance, strength of materials, compaction requirements etc. The NCA utilises elements of the ACT Government's Transport Canberra and City Services *Municipal Infrastructure Design Standards* (including the AusSpec framework), for the design, construction and maintenance of bike paths. The AusSpec framework provides a level of design consistency across all local government jurisdictions in Australia, and reflects the most up-to-date industry practice.
  - 2&3. Yes, the NCA has received complaints that some cyclists travel at unsafe speeds in popular locations around the lake-side paths.

The central basin of the Lake attracts large numbers of pedestrians, joggers and cyclists and is popular with pedestrians with prams who are often seen a few abreast on the lake-side paths. The NCA records information and reports on incidents and accidents that occur on National Land.

Some information is provided directly by the public and others through legal claims made by the public via personal injury lawyers.

The NCA inspects, reviews, repairs and upgrades paths on an ongoing basis across NCA managed land as part of its general enhancement of assets program, and prioritises particular paths relative to other asset replacement and upgrade needs.

4. The NCA is currently investigating cycle and pedestrian usage and movement patterns within National Land and the wider ACT network. The NCA is liaising with the ACT Government with a view to improving the experience for all. The NCA must also maintain the landscape and heritage values and the significance of various precincts/areas of National Land.



Figure 1 – NCA National Land





Figure 2: Lake Cycling Loops (Paths)

