

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 28 November 2025 3:30 PM  
**To:** CED, FOI  
**Subject:** FOI REQUEST – SOCIAL IMPACT OF PLANNING POLICY

Good afternoon,

**RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – SOCIAL IMPACT OF PLANNING POLICY**

[REDACTED] I request access under the Freedom of Information Act 2016 (ACT) to any documents held by the City and Environment Directorate that relate to the social impacts or consequences, specifically:

- housing choice between detached houses, townhouses and apartments;
- the ability of families to access detached housing with a private backyard; housing affordability for different dwelling types;
- and any equity or distributional impacts between income groups of the ACT Government's:
  - compact city approach;
  - commitment to locate at least 70 per cent of new housing within the existing urban footprint; and
  - consideration of an urban growth boundary or hard urban edge for Canberra.

This includes, but is not limited to, briefs, reports, modelling, internal advice, or correspondence.

Please exclude duplicates of publicly available documents.

Kind regards,

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 January 2026 12:49 PM  
**To:** CED, FOI  
**Subject:** RE: FOI 25-149 - Application scope revision and extension of time

Hi Angelina, thank you for the call earlier.

Happy to accept the extension to 19 Feb, and to the revision in scope.

[REDACTED]

Thank you again,

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** CED, FOI  
**Sent:** Thursday, 15 January 2026 9:55 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI 25-149 - Application scope revision and extension of time

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for your patience with us, and your time to discuss these applications this morning.

Can you please confirm via email agreement to:

- [REDACTED]

- the scope of the application submitted to City and Environment Directorate (CED) 25-149 being amended to: *Documents that include analysis or consideration of housing preferences for families, specifically relating to the option of a detached house with a backyard, prepared or held by the planning division since 2016*
- an extension of 20 working days to the decision due date of application CED 25-149, making the decision due on or by **19 February 2026**.

#### Publicly available information

CED uses a range of publicly available ABS Census and ACT Treasury population projections in its planning and housing analysis. The following public documents are related to the FOI request and may be useful:

- The ACT Planning Strategy 2018 contains analysis on household size and demographics, housing need and housing affordability. See page 28. [https://www.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/2346276/2018-act-planning-strategy.pdf](https://www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/2346276/2018-act-planning-strategy.pdf)
  - Referenced in this strategy is a survey of approximately 1,500 households on attitudes and intentions towards housing was conducted in 2016. [https://www.environment.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/2005918/22\\_32546-Document.pdf](https://www.environment.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/2005918/22_32546-Document.pdf)
- A range of policy approaches to affordable rental housing and home ownership (including single dwellings) are stated within the ACT Housing Strategy 2018. [https://www.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0012/2400501/ACT-Housing-Strategy.pdf](https://www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/2400501/ACT-Housing-Strategy.pdf)
  - Updates on progress of policy approaches is available in Yearly Report Cards, including Year 6 as at June 2025. [https://www.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/2863175/ACT-Housing-Strategy-Implementation-Plan-Year-6-report-card.PDF](https://www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2863175/ACT-Housing-Strategy-Implementation-Plan-Year-6-report-card.PDF)
- ACT Population Projections 2025 to 2065 are used to inform strategic planning policies in the ACT including housing. This document considers population as a measure of individuals not as households (or family units). [https://www.treasury.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/2911318/ACT-Population-Projections-2025-2065.pdf](https://www.treasury.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/2911318/ACT-Population-Projections-2025-2065.pdf).
- District Strategies 2023 Volume 1 Metropolitan Context and Drivers includes information on indicative housing supply (Table 2 page 31) and indicative housing demand (Figure 12 page 32). [https://www.planning.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/2324682/district-strategies-2023-volume-1-metropolitan-context-and-big-drivers.pdf](https://www.planning.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/2324682/district-strategies-2023-volume-1-metropolitan-context-and-big-drivers.pdf).
- ACT Housing Supply and Land Release Program 2025-26 to 2029-30 includes indicative land release programs for the whole of the ACT and for each district of the ACT. This includes forecasted supply of single dwellings and multi-unit dwellings. [https://www.planning.act.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/2869117/act-housing-supply-and-land-release-program-2025-26-to-2029-30.pdf](https://www.planning.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/2869117/act-housing-supply-and-land-release-program-2025-26-to-2029-30.pdf)
- Missing middle housing reforms (MMHRs) seek to allow more and different types of housing across Canberra in existing urban areas. Housing choices under MMHRs include multi-occupancy housing and terraces and townhouses. Draft Plan Amendment 04 and consultation report are available online. <https://www.planning.act.gov.au/professionals/our-planning-system/the-territory-plan/major-plan-amendments>.

Historically, there are also the housing choices documents that were done pre the 2018 Planning Strategy. The ACT Housing Choices Discussion Paper (2017) acknowledges that detached houses with backyards remain a strong preference for many households, particularly families. However, the document does not provide detailed analysis or assessment of this preference beyond noting it as a common aspiration. The focus is on introducing more diverse housing options, such as townhouses, dual occupancies, and apartments, to address demographic changes, affordability, and sustainability.

Related Housing Choices work similarly emphasises housing diversity rather than in-depth consideration of maintaining traditional backyard housing for families.

- [Housing Choices](#)
  - [Housing Choices Discussion Paper](#)
  - [ACT Housing Choices Collaboration Hub – Meeting Report](#)
  - [ACT Housing Choices Discussion Paper – Community Engagement Report](#)
  - [ACT Housing Choices Collaboration Hub Government Response](#)

Thank you

**Angelina Aloisi** (she/her) | Assistant Director, Information Access

Phone: 02 6207 7912 | Email: [CEDFOI@act.gov.au](mailto:CEDFOI@act.gov.au)

**Procurement and Business Operations | City and Environment Directorate | ACT Government**

480 Northbourne Avenue, Dickson | GPO Box 158, Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)

I acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.