

# OUR CANBERRA

Gungahlin edition



June 2018

## NATIVE PLANTS to LINE THE LIGHT RAIL CORRIDOR



More than 1 million plants will be used on the corridor project

Landscaping on Flemington Road has commenced as preparations continue for light rail between the City and Gungahlin.

A number of native grasses, flowers and trees have been planted near Nullarbor Avenue. The first trees planted were Eucalyptus mannifera, which stand approximately 5m tall.

The trees will be part of an iconic corridor lined with trees and landscaping.

A grassland landscape in the northern parts of the corridor will transition to a more formal grand boulevard design along Northbourne Avenue.

 For updates on light rail construction visit [transport.act.gov.au](http://transport.act.gov.au)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER, ANDREW BARR

Access to affordable housing is an important part of a caring society. As Canberra continues to grow, we're making sure everyone can access the right housing choices for their stage of life.

A new government program will soon be offering affordable new homes at capped prices in Coombs, Wright, Greenway, Lawson and Taylor.

To ensure these homes go to the people who need them most, applicants must meet a set of criteria.

You can find out more or register your interest at [act.gov.au/affordablehomepurchase](http://act.gov.au/affordablehomepurchase)

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- > Quicker, more frequent bus network coming

## NEW HOSPITAL OPEN DAY 16 JUNE



Canberrans are invited to visit our city's new brand hospital before it opens.

The University of Canberra Hospital: Specialist Centre for Rehabilitation, Recovery and Research, will hold an open day on Saturday 16 June between 11am and 4pm.

See the purpose built therapy gyms and rehabilitation facilities. Meet specialist health professionals. Enjoy a sausage sizzle and live music.

 For more information visit [health.act.gov.au/uch](http://health.act.gov.au/uch)




For more stories and information from across Canberra visit [act.gov.au/our-canberra](http://act.gov.au/our-canberra) or follow us on social media.

**YOURsay**

For information on community consultations in Canberra, visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)

## PROTECTION AGAINST the FLU



Now is the time to get your yearly flu vaccination.

It's the best way to protect yourself, your family and friends against the flu.

The flu vaccine is recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older and is free for people who are at higher risk of complications from flu.

 For more information visit [health.act.gov.au](http://health.act.gov.au)

If you have flu-like symptoms, visit your GP or a Walk-in Centre.



## ELECTRIC by 2021



A new action plan has been prepared to support the transition to zero emission vehicles.

The plan calls for the set-up of charging infrastructure in new buildings and an all-electric vehicle fleet for the ACT Government.

Zero emissions vehicles emit less air and noise pollution and have lower running costs. In the ACT, they also don't incur stamp duty and receive a 20% discount on registration fees.


 Read or download the e-vehicle action plan at [environment.act.gov.au](http://environment.act.gov.au)

## NEW SMARTER STREETLIGHT NETWORK



Streetlights across the ACT are being upgraded under a new streetlight arrangement.

Electrix is now contracted to maintain, upgrade and power the ACT's 80,000 streetlights. Electrix will replace old and inefficient incandescents with LEDs, vastly improving the energy efficiency of our streetlights.

 To report damage or faults with streetlights, lodge a 'fix my street' request form at [act.gov.au/accesscanberra](http://act.gov.au/accesscanberra)



## MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE SPACE



Canberra's Wellways 'Adult and Youth Step Up Step Down' service is helping people stay closer to their families, while receiving mental health support.

The Wellways service offers two homes, one on the northside and the other on the southside of Canberra. These homes provide flexible mental health support for up to three months for people who have been discharged from hospital, or don't need hospital based care. It means they can stay closer to their family and friends in a more comfortable environment, rather than a clinical setting.

 For more information visit [wellways.org](http://wellways.org)



## QUALITY BUILDING for OUR VIBRANT CITY

Building licence requirements will be strengthened to support construction quality and community confidence across the sector.

From next year, up to 20 per cent of all builders seeking to renew their licences will need to pass a test. This will ensure their skills and technical knowledge are to the standard expected by government, regulators, industry and the community.

Builders subject to complaints about building quality will also be targeted.



 For more information visit [act.gov.au/cbrqualitybuilding](http://act.gov.au/cbrqualitybuilding)



## QUICKER & MORE FREQUENT BUSES

As part of community consultation last year, you told us you want quicker and more frequent public transport and more services.

You also told us you want transport information available via mobile apps and digital displays.

We've listened and we're now working on a more frequent seven-day network that will integrate light rail and nine Rapid bus routes, connecting town centres and major employment hubs

**i** For more information on the consultation findings visit [yoursay.act.gov.au](http://yoursay.act.gov.au)



## TRIM TREES AND BUSHES

Residents must ensure trees, bushes and branches within properties do not overhang nature strips, paths and verges.

Overhanging foliage can be unsafe if they block access and line of sight. Fines may apply if residents don't comply.

**i** For more information visit [tccs.act.gov.au](http://tccs.act.gov.au)

## JOIN THE DISCUSSION on BETTER SUBURBS



Results on last year's consultation on the Better Suburbs Program have been released, shedding light on the community's vision and priorities for city servicing.

You told us you want to easily access local shops, parks and amenities that are located together in your suburb, with well-lit, well-maintained, well-connected footpaths, cycle paths and roads. You also prefer higher quality facilities and service over more infrastructure. The next phase of consultation includes citizens' forum and the release of a Kitchen Table Discussion Guide later this month.

**i** For more information on the results visit [yoursay.act.gov.au/BetterSuburbs](http://yoursay.act.gov.au/BetterSuburbs)



## HORSE PARK DRIVE DUPLICATION UNDERWAY



Construction is underway on the final stage of the duplication of Horse Park Drive between the Federal Highway and Well Station Drive.

It completes the full upgrade of the road from the Federal Highway through to Katherine Avenue west. Additionally, a series of safety improvements will be made to the section of Horse Park Drive next to Amaroo School to improve safety for school children in the growing Gungahlin region.

## GUNGAHLIN COLLEGE STUDENT RECEIVES



## STEM AWARD



Congratulations to Jessica Storrar of Gungahlin College who has received the Secondary Student Award for studies in STEM (science, technology, engineering & mathematics).

The STEM award is given in recognition of the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, teachers and scientists.

In addition to her year 12 studies, Jessica has worked with CSIRO investigating the effects of hand sanitiser ingredients on bacteria, and is currently studying biodiversity at the Australian National University. Jessica aims to pursue medicine after high school, with a focus on surgery.


# BATTERY REBATES LOWER BILLS



Combining battery storage with your rooftop solar system is a fantastic way to have a supply of clean energy when the sun isn't shining, and reducing your energy bills.

With battery storage, you can save at peak times when it's most expensive to buy from the grid.

The Next Generation Energy Storage program is supporting the installation of up to 5,000 battery storage system in homes and businesses across Canberra. The program provides around \$4000 in support for the average residential system, but can vary depending on the size and type of system installed.

 For more information visit [actsmart.act.gov.au](http://actsmart.act.gov.au)



## WINTER ENERGY SAVING

Reduce energy use this winter by opening curtains during the day and closing them at night, and closing doors to rooms that don't need heating.


 For more handy tips, visit [actsmart.act.gov.au](http://actsmart.act.gov.au)

# 10C REFUND for DRINK CONTAINERS

Start collecting Canberra. From 30 June you can receive a 10 cent refund for any empty eligible drink containers.

The new ACT Container Deposit Scheme reduces litter and rewards consumers who recycle their containers through the scheme.

Charities, schools and community groups can also use the scheme to raise funds for their organisation. Collection points will be located across Canberra.

 For more information visit [actcds.com.au](http://actcds.com.au)




# GROWING SERVICES in OUR CITY

As Canberra grows, the Government is working hard to make sure the key services you rely on, get better.

These services will be at the heart of the 2018/19 ACT Budget, which will be released on Tuesday 5 June.

Also keep an eye out in your letterbox during June for more information on how this year's Budget benefits your region.

 For more information visit [act.gov.au/budget](http://act.gov.au/budget)



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