



Minister for City Services
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Recycling and Waste Reduction
Minister for Roads and Active Travel
Minister for Transport
Member for Murrumbidgee

Mr Tom Duncan
Clerk
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Duncan

Thank you for your letter of 8 May 2020 regarding petition 6-20 lodged by Mrs Elizabeth Kikkert MLA regarding water refilling stations and Container Deposit in Kippax and Charnwood.

The previous installations of water refill stations across Canberra were funded by the ACT Health Directorate through the Healthy and Active Living project. These water refill stations were installed and handed over to be maintained by Transport Canberra and City Services. The Belconnen district currently has eight water refill stations available at high usage areas.

I have been advised that even though there is no water refill station at Kippax, there are many businesses, including the local library, where people have access to water and are able to refill a bottle during business hours. Businesses at the Charnwood shopping centre can also provide water for patrons. In addition, the sporting ovals at both Kippax and Charnwood offer access to water for those who have booked an event with access to the toilet blocks.

Improving the availability of public drinking facilities is important to enable Canberra residents and visitors to keep hydrated, especially, over the hot summer period. I encourage all residents and visitors to carry reusable water bottles to reduce waste from single use drink bottles.

The ACT Container Deposit Scheme (ACT CDS) has recently celebrated its two-year anniversary and has received more than 70 million eligible containers in the ACT. It is encouraging to know that there is high interest for the scheme in the suburb of Holt.

The nearest ACT CDS *Drop & Go Pods* to Kippax shopping centre are located in Charnwood Place, Charnwood and Hawker Place, opposite the Hawker shops. You can view all the current return locations by visiting the website actcds.com.au.

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The ACT CDS is run by the network operator, Return.It, and they been notified on the request for additional return locations. Return.It are looking into new potential depot locations within the Belconnen area.

Thank you for raising this matter. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Steel', is positioned above the printed name.

Chris Steel MLA
Minister for City Services

12 August 2020