



ACT

Government

Environment and
Sustainable Development

Reference: 14/05539

Gary Kent
Session Convener
Combined Community Councils of the ACT
PO Box 3310
MANUKA ACT 2603

Dear Mr Kent

Thank you for your letter dated 28 February 2014 regarding the outcomes of the special meeting of the Combined Community Councils held on 29 January 2014 to clarify the use of technical amendments in relation to variations of the Territory Plan, including the introduction of precinct maps and codes.

As you note in your letter, the reformatting of the Territory Plan introduced with technical amendment (TA) 2012-06 made no changes to underlying policies, but merely relocated provisions to precinct maps and/or codes, and in the process reworded some provisions for clarity. The intention for introducing precinct maps (at district and suburb levels) was to make it easier for the public to navigate the Plan.

I wish to reiterate that if changes to a precinct map or code in the Territory Plan, or indeed any part of the Territory Plan are proposed, then the appropriate process (technical amendment or draft variation) will be followed in accordance with the *Planning and Development Act 2007*. For example, the introduction of new provisions to precinct codes will require full plan variation under part 5.3 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* as per normal process.

I again want to acknowledge the representatives of the community councils who attended the meeting for their contributions and positive comments. The discussions we had were important for transparency and resulted in important feedback for ESDD on the Territory Plan and *Planning and Development Act 2007*.

Yours sincerely

Ben Ponton
Deputy Director-General

30 March 2014