

MEDIA RELEASE

Suburban Land Agency Land Sales - ACT Integrity Commission Special Report tabled in the Legislative Assembly

18 October 2022

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly has today tabled a Special Report from the ACT Integrity Commission detailing the Commission's consideration of a mandatory report from the Suburban Land Agency.

The Suburban Land Agency referred the matter to the Commission following a small number of complaints about its "book-to-buy" process for the sale of residential lots. This process required a potential buyer to complete an online registration for the opportunity to be allocated a block of land to purchase. The complaints broadly alleged that the process was "rigged" to give an advantage to certain registered applicants.

The Special Report concludes that, following detailed examination by the Commission of all available material, there is no reasonable suspicion that the Suburban Land Agency had engaged in corruption.

Importantly, this Special Report identified a number of significant vulnerabilities that pose potential corruption risks for the Suburban Land Agency and the integrity of its processes. This included the potential for the process to be exploited with adverse consequences for genuine participants. The Suburban Land Agency has since introduced regulations for any future "book-to-buy" processes and intends to carry out an independent review of its residential land sales processes.

The Commission will not be making any further public comments regarding the Special Report at this time.

The full report is available on the Commission's website: integrity.act.gov.au.

Link to report

Further information about the Commission and its work can be found on our website or on our social media pages (@ACTintegrity and Facebook).

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