

2014 Estimates Committee

Response to Written Questions

Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory

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| Minister | The Hon Peter Styles MLA | TABLED DOCUMENTS |
| Portfolio | Transport | Committee: <i>Estimates</i> Paper No: <i>91</i> Date: <i>17/6/14</i> |
| Agency | Department of Transport | Submission No: <i>Styles</i> Signed: <i>[Signature]</i> |

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Question Reference | No. 185 – Question 1 |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

Please list all reviews being undertaken by the Department and the date of expected finalisation.

Answer

| Review | Estimated date of finalisation |
|--|--|
| Recreational Vessel Regulatory Review | The Discussion Paper was released on 28 December 2013 and the Regulatory Review is expected to be completed by September 2014. |
| Medical conditions attached to licensing (process for placing conditions on licences including use of an expert Panel post Wilton Inquest) | October 2014 |
| Commercial Passenger Vehicle Review | December 2014 |
| Maritime Regulatory Review | Early 2015 |
| Darwin Urban Bus Network Review | Unknown |

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|---------------------------|--|
| Question Reference | WQ Folio 185 – Question 5 a) – v) |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

What is the timeline for completion and the proportion of Territory Government / Commonwealth Government funding for the following capital works.

Answer

Please refer to the attached table for the breakdown in Capital Works Items.

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| Question Reference | WQ Folio 185 – Question 6 a) – t) |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

What is the timeline for completion and the proportion of Territory Government / Commonwealth Government Funding for the following **revoted capital** works.

Answer

Please refer to the attached table for the breakdown in Capital Works Items.

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| Question Reference | Written Question Folio 185 – Question 2 (a)-(c) |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

How much is allocated to attract or retain air routes?

- (a) What funding was committed to attract Tigerair to Darwin?
- (b) What funding was committed prior to Tigerair coming to Alice Springs?
- (c) What funding is payable to Qantas for air route development?

Answer

There is no specific funding allocation for attracting or retaining air routes. In response to (a)-(c) no funding has been committed by the Department of Transport.

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| Question Reference | WQ Folio 185 - Question 4 |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

Please itemise the \$0.4 million spend on the remote bus program.

- What plans are there to extend remote buses to other communities?
- What feedback has the Department had from current users of the program?

Answer

In 2013-14, the program expenditure of \$395 000, by Remote Bus Program area, was:

- o Alice Springs: \$150 000
 - o Katherine: \$120 000
 - o Gove: \$125 000
- There are no current plans to extend the Northern Territory Government funded Remote Bus Program to other communities, however bus service operators may make commercial decisions to extend their services to other communities.
 - As part of the ongoing six monthly reports from operators to the Department of Transport, as a requirement of the Remote Bus Program funding agreements, operators have regularly reported that passenger feedback has been positive in nature.

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| Question Reference | WQ Folio 185 – Question 3 |
| From | Mr Kon Vatskalis MLA |

Question

What is the status of the privatisation of Darwin Bus Service

Answer

On 12 December 2013, public tenders were advertised for the provision of bus services under transfer of business requirements established under the *Fair Work Act* and Regulations.

Tenders closed on 12 February 2014 and five companies submitted proposals.

Two companies have been shortlisted to commence further negotiations. The independent probity advisor to the process has indicated that I should provide no further comment other than to say it is progressing well.

| Capital Works Item | Timeline |
|---|--|
| a. Canteen Creek Airstrip Upgrade | Anticipated |
| b. Fog Bay Road – Upgrade of Leviathan Creek Crossing | Anticipated |
| c. Outback Way Roads | Anticipated |
| d. Improving local roads traffic management | |
| e. Barge Landings – Maningrida | Anticipated |
| f. Katherine Rural Roads | Anticipated |
| g. Lajamanu Road – Kalkarindji to Lajamanu | Anticipated |
| h. Larapinta / Lovegrove Drive Intersection Upgrade | Anticipated |
| i. Litchfield Park Road | Anticipated |
| j. Flood Immunity – Victoria Highway | Anticipated |
| k. Safety and Fatigue Management | Anticipated |
| l. Strengthening and Widening | Anticipated |
| m. Regional Roads Productivity Package | Anticipated - Buntine - Santa Teresa - Port Keating |
| n. Roads to Recovery Program | Anticipated completion |
| o. Roystonea Avenue Upgrade from Temple Terrace to Gurd Street | Anticipated |
| p. Rural Arterials – Pavement Strengthening and Widening | |
| q. Secondary and Local Roads Pavement Strengthening | |
| r. Strategic Economic Development Roads | |
| s. Tiger Brennan Drive Duplication – Darwin CBD to Berrimah | Dinah Beach to Woolner Road Woolner Road to Berrimah Road |
| t. Urban Arterials – Strengthen Deficient Pavement | Darwin and Palmerston projects Alice Springs project a |
| u. Urban Arterials – Traffic Management Improvements | |
| v. Urban Beautification – Northern Stuart Highway from MVR to Telegraph Station | |

| Capital Works Item | Planned |
|--|--|
| a. Upgrade and seal existing airstrip at Kaltukatjara | Anticipated |
| b. Upgrade and seal existing airstrip at Utopia | Anticipated |
| c. Lajamanu airstrip upgrade | Anticipated |
| d. Upgrade and seal existing airstrip at Yarralin | |
| e. Mandorah Jetty Carpark Upgrade | Anticipated |
| f. Upgrade the hardstand area at Wurrumiyanga to include raising the level of the site | Anticipated |
| g. Construct a grade-separated overpass on Stuart Highway over the railway south of Alice Springs | Anticipated |
| h. Stuart Highway heavy vehicle diversion around Katherine CBD – planning work to determine ultimate corridor for heavy vehicle diversion, consistent with land use objectives in the broader Katherine area | Bicentennial Road Remainder of project |
| i. Continue flood immunity improvements on selected sections of the Territory national network | Anticipated |
| j. Tanami Road – continue to upgrade and seal targeted sections to improve accessibility and reduce access disruption to communities | Tanami Road |
| k. Heavy Vehicle Package – upgrade or construct truck parking bays on the Lasseter, Plenty and Tanami Highways | Lasseter Highway Plenty Highway Tanami – anticipated |
| l. Heavy Vehicle Package – pavement strengthening and widening of various sections of the Carpentaria Highway | Anticipated |
| m. Heavy Vehicle Package – strengthening of four existing bridges on the Buntine Highway | Anticipated |
| n. Central Arnhem Road – stream crossing upgrades at Goyder River and Badalngarmmirri (Donydji) River and targeted pavement upgrades | Goyder River anticipated Donydji River anticipated |
| o. Provide passing opportunities on the Central Arnhem Road | Anticipated |

| Capital Works Item | Pla |
|--|---|
| p. Community, Beef and mining roads and Port Keats Road | Daly River Bridge |
| q. Strengthen and widen targeted sections and improve safety on the Arnhem Highway including overtaking lanes | Truck Parking Ba Overtaking oppo Strengthening and enc |
| r. Upgrade Charlotte River crossing on Fog Bay Road including constructing a new bridge and associated approaches and drainage works | Anti |
| s. Jenkins Road – upgrade and seal Stage 2 | P |
| t. Tiger Brennan Drive duplication – Darwin CBD to Berrimah Road | Dinah Beach to Wo Woolner Road con |