

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr Higgins to the Minister for Housing and Community Development:

**Various Issues**

1. How many dwellings in the electorate of Daly are due to be upgraded or replaced under the Room to Breathe program?

To date, eight homes in the Daly electorate have received works under the Room to Breathe program. For the period 2018-19 to 2022-23, 103 dwellings in the Daly electorate are planned for delivery under the Room to Breathe program. Dwellings within the Daly region are currently at various stages of delivery and the total number to be delivered may change based on site investigations.

It is anticipated that under the HomeBuild NT program Nineteen new homes are programmed to be built or underway during 2018-19, subject to serviced land availability.

2. Does the department have a strategic housing plan for remote and rural housing? If not, why not?

The Department of Housing and Community Development continues the refinement of a Needs Analysis Prioritisation Framework which is an innovative approach in delivering the HomeBuild NT and Room to Breathe programs. The key data source in the framework is the housing demand modelling tool developed by the Department which enables program allocation based on a community's level of housing need over a determined period of time. The demand modelling ensures that decisions

on where new houses and additional bedrooms are built is based on robust data and overcrowding requirements. This approach ensures that new houses are not arbitrarily allocated to communities as was the case with previous programs. Once fully developed, the frameworks will enable the Department to measure social outcomes that should result from targeted housing investment.

Rural housing is captured within the urban public housing five year strategy. The primary aim of this strategy is to refresh public housing stock by reducing the average age of the dwellings. Additionally, urban public houses, including rural housing, are subject to strategic asset assessment recommendations where the asset is assessed against specific criteria, including amenity and accessibility for tenants, asset condition and maintenance costs.

3. On the KPIs in BP3, noting that the 2018/2019 assumption for Aboriginal interpreting hours provided by qualified interpreters is 55 per cent, what are you doing to improve and support the Aboriginal Interpreters Service?

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service is one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people in Australia, with 234 registered interpreters to deliver its service across the Northern Territory, including 123 qualified interpreters including nationally accredited interpreters (accredited through the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters) and those holding a Diploma of Interpreting.

In 2016-17, there were 51 per cent of interpreting assignments completed by these qualified interpreters. In 2017-18, this will increase to 57 per cent completion by qualified interpreters through increased focus on employment of these qualified interpreters.

There were more than 120 training events for interpreters during 2017-18, including inductions, shadowing, legal training, health training, and pre-accreditation professional development.

4. From answers to the Global Questions, \$8.5M was approved for Councils accessing the Indigenous Jobs Development funding but only \$4.2M was actually used. Could you please detail why?

The Indigenous Jobs Development funding is paid to councils on a quarterly basis. Payments are made retrospectively after councils have submitted their employment and expenditure details for the quarter. Following the receipt of the quarterly reports, grant payments are made as follows:

- Q1 – October;
- Q2 – January;
- Q3 – April; and
- Q4 – late June.

Actuals as at 31 March 2018 totalled \$4.25 million, with the remaining 50 per cent paid in April and June 2018. As at 30 June 2018, the full value of the grant was paid to councils.

5. What is the definition of urban, rural and remote in your agency for staff and clients? Is it the same? If not, what is the difference?

The Department of Housing and Community Development only refers to urban and remote; as stated above, rural falls under the terminology of Urban for the purpose of agency, staff and clients

The definition of urban is where the work is performed in a town or city. Remote is where the duties are performed in an Aboriginal community or homeland. These definitions are the same for both staff and clients.

6. From answers to the Global Questions, you spent more than \$130,000 on advertising and marketing to promote the \$1.1M Remote Housing Investment Package. What was the aim of that promotion? Please provide a sample of the advertising and marketing materials produced by this allocation.

Key messaging included:

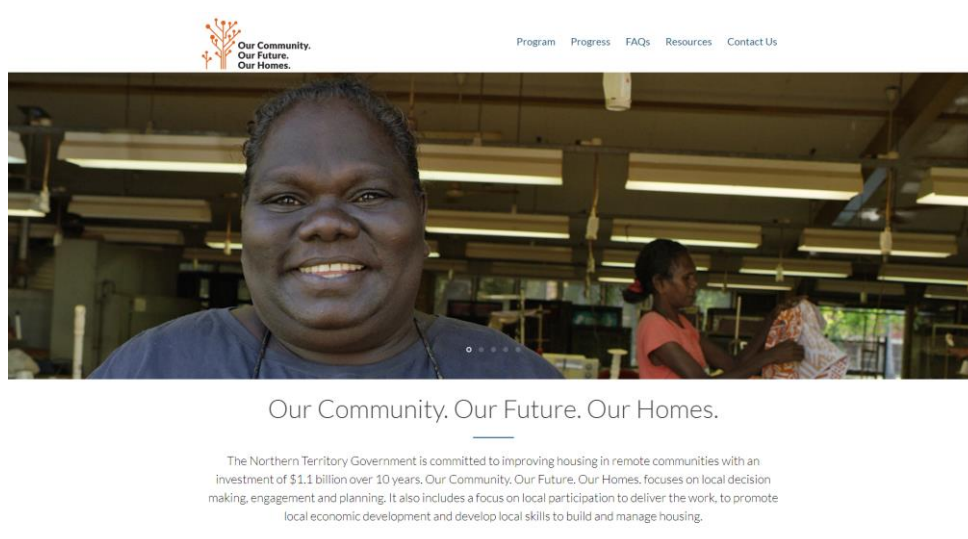
- We are working with communities in the Territory to develop a customised housing approach to suit their needs.
- This program is about investing \$1.1 billion in remote Territory housing over the next 10 years, but it is also about much more than building houses.
- It is not just about building homes, it is about changing lives, building capacity, local jobs and giving local decision making back to communities.
- We want to do this effectively, work with Territorians at every step and give this investment the best chance of having a profound effect on the lives of Territorians living in remote communities.
- We have a robust plan to ensure that this project achieves what it sets out to.

It is also important to distinguish this program and what it aims to deliver, from previous housing programs, to help create a point of difference and interest within communities, so people will engage, and participate. A brand was developed for the program including the name 'Our Communities. Our Future. Our Homes.' It is used on all materials relevant to this program.

Through the production of video advertorials, filmed throughout the Northern Territory, Territorians living in communities can see there is progress in the communities. Radio, print and Facebook posts are also used to reinforce the key messages.

The following are examples of communication materials used:

- **Website:** [ourfuture.nt.gov.au](https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



- **Advertorials/TVC, print and radio advertisements in language and fact sheets** are available on the 'Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes' website: <https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au/home/resources>
- **Print ads** are also below:



**“This is our opportunity to develop our community.”**

The NT Government is investing \$1.1 billion into remote housing over the next 10 years, with every community having a say in developing their own plan for the future.

To find out how you can be involved and for more information go to [ourfuture.nt.gov.au](https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



**Our Community.  
Our Future.  
Our Homes.**



**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY  
GOVERNMENT**



**“A plan for every community, one we have a say in.”**

The NT Government is investing \$1.1 billion into remote housing over the next 10 years, with every community having a say in developing their own plan for the future.

To find out how you can be involved and for more information go to [ourfuture.nt.gov.au](https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



**Our Community.  
Our Future.  
Our Homes.**



**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY  
GOVERNMENT**



**“A plan for every community, one we have a say in.”**

The NT Government is investing \$1.1 billion into remote housing over the next 10 years, with every community having a say in developing their own plan for the future.

To find out how you can be involved and for more information go to [ourfuture.nt.gov.au](https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



**Our Community.  
Our Future.  
Our Homes.**



**NORTHERN  
TERRITORY  
GOVERNMENT**

- Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes bulletin and snapshots: <https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au/home/progress>
- **Brand:**



- **Signage** - Coreflutes and Mesh banner for fencing of properties receiving work:



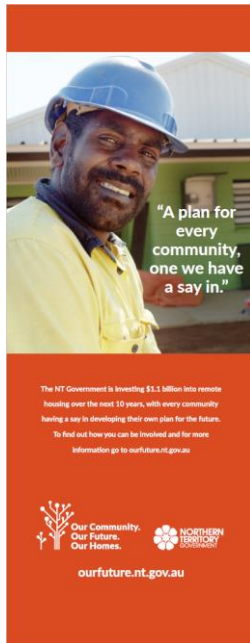
*Coreflute*



*Mesh*

**Pull up Banners:**





## Facebook posts:

**Department of Housing and Community Development**  
 Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · 11 June at 08:00 · 🌐

Part of the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program is about local decision making and community people having a say. To give community people more options, innovative housing solutions have been sought from industry. Here is an example of an interactive model presented to community residents to assist with making housing choices. This model is fully interchangeable allowing locals to select the number of rooms and their locations to suit their needs. Having a visual representation makes it easier to make decisions about living arrangements and have a greater understanding of what their homes will look like. To find out more about the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program, visit [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au)







## Department of Housing and Community Development

Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · 30 April · 🌐

Local Authority (LA) and Housing Reference Group (HRG) members attended a meeting in Barunga last week as part of the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program, HomeBuildNT. The meeting was to discuss remote housing and Community Land Use Plans.

Plans for the construction of one and two bedroom triplexes and two, three bedroom houses were approved by the LA and HRG.

These plans will now progress to tender to begin work in the next financial year. Visit [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au) for more information about the initiative.



## Department of Housing and Community Development

Published by Sueanne McCumstie [?] · 20 April · 🌐

The department has hosted its first Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. Remote Housing Industry Forum this week. Department CEO Jamie Chalker spoke about the significance of the \$1.1 billion remote housing program, and our goals for the future.

Find out more about the program by visiting [ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://ourfuture.nt.gov.au)





**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · 28 March · 🌐

If you are in the construction and building industry or an Aboriginal Business Enterprise, you are invited to a two-day industry forum to find out more about the \$1.1 billion 10 year Remote Housing Program.

With keynote speakers, information on procurement rules, workforce development, Aboriginal Business Enterprises, plus networking and partnership opportunities and more.

The forum will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton, the Esplanade, Darwin 18-19 April, and places are limited.

To register and for more details visit [www.dhcd.nt.gov.au](http://www.dhcd.nt.gov.au) or call 8999 3997.



**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · 22 March · 🌐

Closing soon - Friday 23 March

We are seeking innovative solutions to all aspects of remote housing, including design, workforce development, training and technology.

Your ideas or product could be selected to be part of our first remote housing Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. Industry Forum next month.

Find out more and how to submit by visiting <https://dhcd.nt.gov.au>







## Department of Housing and Community Development



Published by Sueanne McCumstie [?] · January 19 at 3:07pm · ✨

The first HomeBuild NT tender has been released for the construction of four new homes in Gunbalanya under the Northern Territory Government's \$1.1 billion, 10 year Remote Housing Investment Package - Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes.

Interested contractors can download the documents from <http://bit.ly/2Dm1qgA>



## Department of Housing and Community Development



Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · January 2 at 3:45pm · ✨

Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program is about working together with communities, construction companies and developing local Aboriginal employment. See how this has been happening...





**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · December 11 at 1:38pm · 🌸

Discussions have started in Nauiyu (Daly River), to determine what the residents want and need when it comes to housing in their community. Betty Sullivan (pictured right) says she is looking forward the program, and making local decisions for her community.  
"Be good for the Elders - verandahs can be fixed... safety rails for the Elders too."  
To find out more about Our Community. Our Futures. Our Homes visit <https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au/>



**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · October 23 at 4:08pm · 🌸

Today and tomorrow, we're down at the Darwin Convention Centre for the 8th Indigenous Economic Development Forum. The forum focuses on building engagement with Aboriginal Territorians, and their involvement with the Developing the North agenda. Come and visit our stand and find out more about our commitment to the development of Aboriginal Business Enterprises, through the \$1.1 billion Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program. Visit [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au) for more information.  
Plus learn more about Bushtel and what information it offers by accessing the site at our stand and talking to our staff.





**Department of Housing and Community Development**



shared Larrakia Radio's video.

Published by Sueanne McCumstie [?] · October 17 at 10:49am · 🌐

Great work happening in the Tiwi Island community of Wurrumiyanga, including construction as part of the National Partnership on Remote Housing, and the \$1.1billion remote housing program Our Community. Our Future. Our Home.



**Department of Housing and Community Development**



Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · September 22 at 10:50am · 🌐

Talking with communities - Finding out what they want.

A key part of the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program is about talking to communities, finding out what's important and focusing on local decision making as part of the process.

Senior Executive Officer of the Remote Program Delivery Office Dwayne McInnes, Community based Interpreter Deon Mununggurr and Director Arnhem Region Jason Randall recently met with Local Decision Makers in Yirkala to discuss the \$1.1 Billion Remote Housing Investment Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes.

For more information go to [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au)







**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · September 11 at 1:22pm · 🌐

Nicholas enjoys working on Room to Breathe.

Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. aims to create sustainable employment, with future training opportunities for local Aboriginal people. Nicholas Ajax is one of the many casual labourers who have found employment through this project. He is part of the Room to Breathe team working in Hermannsburg.

"I like this job, it's good. It's changing my thinking," he said.

"I'm looking forward to my future. I love it." For more information on the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program, visit [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Bianca Bogoev [?] · September 4 at 12:20pm · 🌐

Hermannsburg resident so happy with new home extension.

Rina Pepperill says her children can now stay in their own bedroom, thanks to the Room to Breathe work which has been completed at her Hermannsburg home.

"I had three bedrooms, but they were so full," she said.

Contractors built another bedroom and enclosed the verandah at Rina's home. The outside of her home was also given a facelift, with a full repaint.

"Now we're happy. We're so happy with it," Rina said... See More





**Department of Housing and Community Development**

Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · August 21 at 10:55am · 🌐

The Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program has a focus on local decision making. Communities have input into how their funding allocation will be spent and how it is determined and prioritised in their community. Here, the Local Decision Making Group in Maningrida is considering options for new builds.

Pictured (from left) Charlie Gunabarra, David Jones, Senior Housing Officer Josef Kulda and Reggie Wuridjal.

If you would like to know more, visit: [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



Our Community.  
Our Future.  
Our Homes.



**Department of Housing and Community Development** shared

Thamarrurr Development Corporation's post

Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · August 17 · 🌐

Room to Breathe work is happening in Wadeye as part of the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes. program.

If you would like to know more go to: [www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au](http://www.ourfuture.nt.gov.au)



**Thamarrurr Development Corporation** added 2 new photos.

August 17 · 🌐

👍 Like Page

The team is happy with new PPE and equipment kits as they get started on the Room to Breathe Project. This project is a big priority for the Government and a big help to make more living areas in existing houses. The TDC crews are working on this as well as the ongoing refurb.



 **Department of Housing and Community Development**  
Published by Jennifer Sekulich [?] · August 2 at 3:39pm · 🌐

As part of Our Community, Our Future, Our Homes program department staff today met with the Pirlangimpi Housing Reference Group and caught up with the Munupi Association to discuss housing and economic development opportunities in Garden Point.

For more information on the remote housing program go to <https://ourfuture.nt.gov.au/>

Photo: (L to R): Selena Clayton (Tenancy Officer), Regis Pangiraminni (Community Based Interpreter), Alistair Borrows (Tenancy Contract Officer), Matika Mitchell (Senior Housing Officer)

#Pirlangimpi



7. From answers to the Global Questions, one of your officers travelled to China for the ANZSOG China Reciprocal Program from 8 to 24 September last year. The total travel cost was \$718 according to your answers. Was the officer's travel and accommodation supplemented by any commercial interests?

The officer's travel and accommodation was not supplemented by any commercial interests. In addition to the \$718 incurred in travel expenditure, the Department of Housing and Community Development contributed a participation fee of \$12,045 for this program that was classified as study expenditure in the ledger rather than travel expenditure.