



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

REPORT

FRIDAY 11 JUNE 2010
TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2010
WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2010
THURSDAY 17 JUNE 2010
FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2010

The Estimates Committee examined the estimates of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill 2010-2011, in particular on the estimates relating to the portfolios of the:

Treasurer
Minister for Justice and Attorney-General
Minister for Racing, Gaming and Licensing
Minister for Alcohol Policy
Share Holder Minister
Speaker
Chief Minister
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services
Minister for Major Projects and Economic Development
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Defence Liaison
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Indigenous Development
Minister for Tourism
Minister Woman's Policy
Minister for Statehood
Minister for Education and Training
Minister for Public and Affordable Housing
Minister for Public Employment
Minister for Lands and Planning
Minister for Transport
Minister for Construction
Minister for Correctional Services
Minister for Arts and Museums
Minister for Health
Minister for Children and Families
Minister for Child Protection
Minister for Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources

Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage
 Minister for Parks and Wildlife
 Minister for Climate Change
 Minister for Sport and Recreation
 Minister for Information, Communications and Technology Policy
 Minister for Central Australia
 Minister for Business and Employment
 Minister for Trade
 Minister for Asian Relations
 Minister for Essential Services
 Minister for Defence Support
 Minister for Senior Territorians
 Minister for Young Territorians

The Committee notes the Outputs contained in the estimates of the proposed expenditure for the above portfolios and reports that there was concern expressed by some Members of the Committee in respect of:

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net debt in the Non Financial Public Sector • Projected Net debt over the next 5 years in the Non Financial Public Sector • Per Capita Population debt • Draw down purposes detail for Treasurer's Advance Payments not clearly identified • Indigenous Essential Services • Net debt to Revenue forward Estimates • Financial future of Territory Wildlife Park future as Government Business Division
Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims of crime - cost recovery from perpetrators • Cost of personally delivered courtesy served letters • Cost of personally delivered courtesy served letters by post • Outstanding monies in Fines Recovery Unit • Bail Act s7(A) – Number of refused Bail Applications • Anti gang law prosecutions • By back of Alcohol Licenses • Poker machine Trading Proposal • Alcohol Management Plans

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
	Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of Alcohol Management Plans
Legislative Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment action for permanent positions • Executive and temporary contracts positions • Training program/ framework • Functions held in Parliament House • Lotus Notes databases used by the Department • The Hansard record online • Measures of satisfaction with Parliamentary Services
Chief Minister	<p>Auditor-General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education financial position • Structural Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) Project Management <p>Electoral Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Council redistribution of boundaries and review • Education of remote communities regarding remote Local Council election matters <p>Ombudsman Staff Contracts</p> <p>Department of the Chief Minister</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources matters in the Department of the Chief Minister • Pay Roll function in the Department • Health Funding Package -Territory benefits detail • Blue Mud Bay negotiation of agreement • Working Future policy/ Growth towns • Marine supply base • Fireworks for Territory Day • Sprint Car Championships held in Darwin • Federal Assistance grant funding for remote roads • Offices of the Chief Minister in

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
	locations other than Darwin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NT Major Events Company • Bass in the Grass and the Concert in Alice Springs • Show Councils for NT Shows • Jetstar Hub Development Agreement • Infrastructure development for Port of Darwin
Major Projects and Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination and implementation of Commonwealth Government stimulus funding allocated to the NT • Management of Darwin Waterfront
Police, Fire and Emergency Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing structures and separations from the Police Service • Police and staffing numbers • Community safety • Crime statistics collection methodology changes • Police Community Youth Clubs in the greater Darwin area • Junior Police Rangers program
Local Government and Regional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NTG and Commonwealth Government Agreement/ MoU for Local Government Shires over 2.5 years • Ongoing funding of employment programs in Shire Councils • Indigenous Essential Services related to Outstations • Pre and post amalgamation employment in Shire Councils • Financial Health of Barkly Shire Council
Indigenous Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Housing Tenancy management services and supervision in Alice Springs town camps • Outstation municipal essential services and housing maintenance
Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airline capacity into and out of Darwin • Jetstar Airways hub and expansion of overseas terminal • Passenger increases due to the

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
	Jetstar agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupancy levels and capacity of accommodation
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New truancy strategy for remote communities • Number of vacant positions • Retention rate of teachers in remote schools • Building the Education Revolution expenditure • Taminmin High School Library
Public and Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program • Housing package design consultation with communities • Lease for power lines and sewerage pipes • Priority Housing Waitlist • Public Housing vacancy notes • Transitional and supported accommodation • Homelessness Implementation Plan in partnership between NT and Commonwealth Government for Crisis Accommodation Program • Public Housing Waiting List • Town Camp housing vacancies • Maintenance of SIHIP housing post handover program
Lands and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weed control Strategy and program on Crown Land • Building Registration
Darwin Port Corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Arm Wharf Facilities Masterplan 2030 Land Use Strategy • New bulk conveyor belt design • Impact of Shipping Services to Darwin arising from new shipping laws for Australian award payments
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased taxi fares • Montara oil spill • Cost of repairing flood damage on Barkly Highway near Rankin River

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McMinn Street works • Tiger Brennan Drive extension • Upgrade of Greatorex Building in Alice Springs • Construction of Alan Walker Oncology Centre
Correctional Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol rehabilitation and treatment program run in-house by Corrections • Sex offender rehabilitation program • Number of Domestic Violence Rehabilitation programs being offered in Territory gaols
Arts and Museums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Military History Project for Darwin Museum Collection • NT Screen sector
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External maintenance of Royal Darwin Hospital • Aero medical services • Sobering Up Shelter capacity and occupancy rates • Nursing rosters and duration of shifts
Children and Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice Advisory Service • Central Intake Team Staffing
Child Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection placements • Child Protection Task Force Southern unit staffing • Case loads of Child Protection Workers
Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of the Department • Recruitment strategies for positions vacant • Buy back of barramundi licences • Import of bees from Western Australia
Natural Resources Environment and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crocodile Management Plan development • Buffalo Creek sewerage discharge, levels of nutrient discharged • Green Energy Task Force report • Territory Wildlife Park visitor number decline

PORTFOLIO	AREAS OF CONCERN
Parks and Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Management of Territory Parks and own revenue source • Howard Springs Nature Park Remediation work and water quality
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of Climate Change policy and in relation to proposed Commonwealth Government Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme
Sport and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics track at Arafura Stadium
Business and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector capital investment for 2010-2011 • Supply of land for industrial development • Key skills lacking in the NT • Development of education and training packages to fill skills gaps • Strategies to fill unemployment gaps • Status of regional job hubs • Work Migration Visas (457 Visas) for employees working in the NT • NTPS Indigenous employment program • Responses to changes to CDEP • Certificates of Exemptions in procurement process • Building the Education Revolution tenders for projects in NT • Implementation of Green Vehicle Program with NT Fleet

Michael Gunner MLA
CHAIR