

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms J Carney

to Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries

Commercial Seafood Industry Training and Facilities

1. What extra funding has your government allocated to increase opportunities for training in the commercial seafood industry?
2. What funding are you providing for commercial seafood service facilities across the Territory?

ANSWER

This Government continues to provide financial support to the Northern Territory Seafood Council (NTSC) with \$175 000 allocated for 2005-06. NTSC operates from rented office accommodation at Fisherman's Wharf and is administered by two full time staff. The department provides further support through the secondment of a staff member accompanied by a motor vehicle, computer equipment and a mobile phone which in total is costed at \$80 000 per annum.

NTSC provides training to industry members on an as needs basis covering Seafood Standards, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point systems, Australian Quarantine Inspection Service regulations, food safety and quality, fishery development and gear development.

In addition, the Government provides funding to the Seafood and Maritime Industries Training Ltd to assist in the provision of Coxswains, Masters, and Deckhand Certificate courses. The breakdown of funding for 2004 calendar year provided by the Department of Employment, Education and Training was \$492 212 in recurrent funding, \$32 220 for new apprenticeship funding and \$7670 as flexible response funds. Similar amounts have been set aside for 2005 - \$492 210 recurrent funding and \$32 490 for new apprenticeship funding. Within the general recurrent funding commitment \$8775 has been set aside for a course in literacy and numeracy skills.