

1. What planning has been put in place to answer the Police, Fire and Emergency Services needs of the proposed growth towns.

Northern Territory Police

"Territory 2030 Implementation" is the "*Working Future* – Territory Growth Towns strategy" which will develop 20 key communities as regional hubs and then transition them into functioning towns which:

- have services, building and facilities like any other country town;
- are properly placed and designed; and
- benefit from targeted investment in infrastructure.

The 20 Territory Growth Towns (TGTs) are Ali Curung, Angurugu/Umbakumba, Borroloola, Daguragu/Kalkarindji, Elliott, Galiwin'ku, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Lajamanu, Maningrida, Milingimbi, Nguiu, Ngukurr, Ntaria, Numbulwar, Papunya, Ramingining, Wadeye, Yirrkala and Yuendumu.

Thirteen of the 20 have been nominated priority TGTs being Galiwin'ku, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Lajamanu, Maningrida, Milingimbi, Nguiu, Ngukurr, Ntaria, Numbulwar, Wadeye, Yirrkala and Yuendumu. Of the 13 priority growth towns Milingimbi and Yirrkala do not currently have a policing presence within the community however, they are serviced regularly by Maningrida, Ramingining and Nhulunbuy police members.

Working Future is closely aligned with the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) National Indigenous Reform Agreement, which aims to improve outcomes for all Indigenous Australians.

COAG recognises that overcoming Indigenous disadvantage requires a long-term, generational commitment that sees major effort directed across a range of strategic platforms or "Building Blocks" which support the reforms aimed at Closing the Gap.

The Building Blocks endorsed by COAG are:

- (a) Early Childhood;
- (b) Schooling;
- (c) Health;
- (d) Economic Participation;
- (e) Healthy Homes;
- (f) Safe Communities; and
- (g) Governance and Leadership.

Under the "Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement" the Northern Territory (NT) and Federal Governments have signed a Bilateral Implementation plan. One of the goals of the Remote Service Delivery (RSD) program is to develop Local Implementation Plans (LIP) for each of the Growth Towns which address each of the "Building Blocks". To achieve this a jointly funded/staffed organisation called the Regional Operations Centre (ROC) has been established.

NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES) senior management has been heavily involved in the development of draft LIPs for the priority Growth Towns. This was facilitated by ROC and involved representatives from most NT Government Departments, key Federal Departments and the representatives from the Regional Councils.

The draft LIP process sought to address the needs of each community, identify strategies and determine a lead agency. In some cases work has already commenced/been completed, while for others, little could be done without significant funding. However on the whole most concerns could be met.

NTPFES is mainly involved in the Safe Communities Building Block, however this is not exclusive with many agencies having linkages into numerous areas in a collegiate approach. It is noteworthy that the concept of Community Safety Plans has proven to be very popular and will be vital in each location.

As the LIPs become available they will be forwarded to the relevant areas so that work/implementation can commence. It has been identified that NTPFES facilities will need to be reviewed to ascertain whether they are at an equivalent standard to any other country town to determine whether existing facilities are in need of revitalisation. This will become more important if the police numbers increase in any particular community as a result of the Remote Area Policing Strategy.

All members in remote communities will be involved in community engagement activities aimed at developing proactive community safety plans, and supporting other agencies and the community in the implementation of the LIP. A specific webpage on our internet site will be developed to provide advice and assistance in this regard.

A specific "Community Engagement" strategy with dedicated "Community Engagement" officers is currently being drafted by the Assistant Commissioner, Regional Operations and is expected to be available and ready for staged implementation before the end of June 2010.

Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service

The NT Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) was engaged in the cost benefit study "Growth Towns Fire Fighting Options" undertaken by GHD Consultants for the NT Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services. A draft report was released in March 2010.

The report highlighted a potentially significant capital cost in establishing a baseline fire fighting infrastructure in many of the Growth Towns. Only four of the 20 Growth Towns are gazetted emergency response areas serviced by NTFRS, and even in these four Towns, fire fighting infrastructure such as water reticulation (including supply, volume and pressure) is of a minimal standard. NTFRS fire fighting equipment is limited to small composite tankers, or small, trailer mounted tanks and pumps, all of which are maintained by them.

Northern Territory Emergency Services

Funding has been approved for NT Emergency Services (NTES) to provide low-cost emergency services, including basic urban fire fighting capability where required, to TGTs and a five year phased approach will be implemented. This will address deficiencies due to limited volunteer numbers and the lack of capital equipment in remote areas and includes developing plans for training community volunteers to participate in a range of emergency response services. Twelve of the Growth Towns presently have an emergency response capability provided by either Police or Emergency Service and/or Fire Service volunteers. The remaining Growth Towns have no emergency service capabilities. There are no permanent NTES staff stationed at any of the Growth Towns, however, funding has been approved for two additional Full Time Equivalent (FTE) NTES area managers to cater for this increase in low-cost

emergency service capacity in the Growth Towns across the NT. These two positions have not been identified in the NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services FTE.

2. For each town:

- (a) what facilities and resources are currently available to residents for Police, for Fire, and for Emergency Services;
- (b) how many personnel are permanently stationed in each location, by employment level; and
- (c) in relation to public safety, what is the safe incarceration capacity of the local police station.

For (a) and (b), the existing facilities/resources and personnel in each Growth Town are as follows:

Growth Towns	Facilities & Resources for Police, Fire & Emergency Services AND Personnel permanently stationed
Ali Curung	Permanent Police Station (1 Sergeant, 3 Constables, 1 Aboriginal Community Police Officer (ACPO)). Emergency Services facilities and resources - equipment stored in locked cage at Police station. NTES response capability presently limited to Search and Rescue. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Angurugu/ Umbakumba	Police - basic temporary facilities (1 ACPO / 2 ACPOs).
Borroloola	Permanent Police Station (1 Sergeant, 3 Constables, 1 ACPO). Fire - Gazetted Emergency Response Area. Facilities include an appliance shed and training facilities. Emergency Services facilities and resources - Office, training room and storage. NTES response capability presently limited to Search and Rescue. Fire volunteers respond to fire and Police respond to Marine Search and Rescue.
Elliott	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 1 Constable, 1 ACPO). Fire - Gazetted Emergency Response Area. Facilities include appliance shed and training facility (recently discovered to be in need of demolition due to white ant damage). Emergency Services facilities and resources - Office, training room and equipment shed. Response presently limited to fire volunteers responding to Fire and Road Accident Rescue.
Daguragu/ Kalkarindji	Police - 1 Brevet Sergeant, 1 Constable. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue and Flood Boat operations.
Galiwinku	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 2 Constables, 2 ACPOs). Emergency Services facilities and resources - equipment storage shed at Police Station, NTES response capability presently limited to Search and Rescue. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Gapuwiyak	Themis Police Station - temporary Police facility and cells (1 Brevet Sergeant, 2 Constables, 2 ACPOs). Emergency Services resources - NTES response capability presently limited to Search and Rescue. Police are trained by

Growth Towns	Facilities & Resources for Police, Fire & Emergency Services AND Personnel permanently stationed
	NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Gunbalanya	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 3 Constables, 1 ACPO). Emergency Services facilities and resources - Open equipment storage shed at Police station. NTES response capability presently limited to Search and Rescue. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Hermannsburg	Permanent Police Station (1 Sergeant, 2 Constables, 2 ACPOs). Fire - Small fire trailer held at Police compound. Emergency Services facilities and resources - Shed containing office, training facility and storage. NTES response capability is presently Search and Rescue, Road Accident Rescue, Storm Damage and Basic Urban Fire.
Lajamanu	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 1 Constable) Fire - Small fire trailer held at Police Station. Emergency Services facilities and resources - Open carport at Police Station for equipment storage. NTES response capability is presently Search and Rescue, Storm Damage and Road Accident Rescue. Police are trained by NTES for response to Flood Boat Rescue.
Maningrida	Permanent Police Station (1 Sergeant, 6 Constables, 2 ACPOs). Emergency Services facilities and resources - Office/Training room and equipment storage area at Police Station. NTES response capability is presently Search and Rescue, Storm Damage, Flood Boat Rescue, Road Accident Rescue and Basic Urban Fire.
Milingimbi	Overnight basic temporary Police facility with no cells.
Nguu	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 1 Constable, 2 ACPOs). Fire - Gazetted Emergency Response Area. Composite tanker to be delivered late June 2010. Appliance shed recently erected.
Ngukurr	Permanent Police Station (1 Brevet Sergeant, 1 Constable, 1 ACPO). Fire - Small fire trailer located at Police Station. Emergency Services facilities - Carport for equipment storage.
Numbulwar	Themis Police Station - temporary Police facility and cells (1 Brevet Sergeant, 2 Constables, 2 ACPOs).
Papunya	Permanent Police Station (1 Sergeant, 2 Constables). Emergency Services - Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Ramingining	Themis Police Station - temporary Police facility and cells (1 Brevet Sergeant, 2 Constables, 2 ACPOs).
Wadeye	Permanent Police Station (1 Senior Sergeant, 5 Constables, 1 ACPO). Fire - Small fire trailer located at Police Station. Emergency Services facilities and resources - equipment storage at Police Station. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.
Yirrkala	Police - this area is currently serviced by Nhulunbuy Police. Fire - Gazetted Emergency Response Area. Appliance shed and Rural/Urban grassfire unit.
Yuendumu	Permanent Police Station(1 Sergeant, 3 Constables, 2 ACPOs). Emergency Services facilities and resources - equipment storage. Police are trained by NTES for response to Road Accident Rescue.

- (c) The safe incarceration capacity for all matters pertaining to custody is zero. Every custodial incident has inherent risks. The manufacturer or builder of each cell block, temporary or permanent, does not ascribe an arbitrary safe level of incarceration. Prisoner safety is cared for through the conduct of valid risk assessments, which are subject to assessment and re-assessment according to available time, observations and available information. For example, the behaviour of a single prisoner can render the cell that prisoner is occupying unsafe to co-habit with any other prisoners. All existing police cells have been reviewed and upgraded where possible to comply with the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody's recommendations.