

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Northern Australia Development:

Northern Development/Regional Coordination and Economic Development

1. Please provide details of all expenditure on marketing, advertising and production of material in relation to your government's Framing the Future policy document, including staff resources used for that purpose and details of the value of any contracts in relation to that work, including beneficiary, purpose and value of each contract.
 2. Please provide details of all expenditure on marketing, advertising and production of material in relation to your government's Developing the North promotional campaign, including staff resources used for that purpose and details of the value of any contracts in relation to that work, including beneficiary, purpose, duration and value of each contracts.
 3. Please provide details of the full costs to the Northern Territory government, including staff time, of conducting the 6th Indigenous Economic Development Forum held in Alice Springs 20 to 22 October 2013.
 4. Please provide details of all contracts and consultancies in relation to the development of Economic Development Plans for regional and remote Territory towns, including the date of grant and the beneficiary, purpose and value of each grant.
 5. Please provide details of the cost of supporting meetings of the Regional Economic Development Committees, including travel costs and payments made to members of these committees.
 6. Please provide details of all grants, contracts and consultancies relating to the Regional Economic Development Fund since its inception, including the date of grant, contract or consultancy and the beneficiary, purpose and value of each grant, contract or consultancy.
 7. Please provide details of all requests by the Department of the Chief Minister to other NT government agencies from 1 July 2013 for expenditure on community and economic development for the Tiwi Islands.
 8. Please provide details of expenditure by DCM from 1 July 2013, including all contracts and consultancies, in relation to economic and community development on the Tiwi Islands.
 9. Please provide details of Northern Territory government financial commitments made with the Tiwi Land Council for the lease of 10 000 ha of land on the Tiwi Islands for economic development.
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ANSWER

1. Framing the Future marketing and communications expenditure 1 July 2013 – 30 July 2014:

Advertising	\$
Newspapers	2609
Magazines/Journals	297
Outdoor (banners)	1020
Total	3926
Marketing	\$
Brochures / Leaflets	6959
Total	6959

- Framing the Future was announced in the Legislative Assembly on 20 August 2013.
- A draft of the Government's Framing the Future strategy plan was released for community consultation in October 2013. 75 comments were received, mostly from individuals, along with 12 submissions from organisations.
- Advertising across the Northern Territory promoted the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft strategy.
- The marketing cost includes both design (Bellette Media) and printing (Government Printing Office).
- The marketing, advertising and promotion of this project were supported from within existing staff resources.

Government agencies are currently preparing data for verification and inclusion in end of year financial statements. Once approved by Accountable Officers and audits have been completed, end of year financial data will be available in agency Annual Reports in accordance with the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act* and the *Financial Management Act*.

Financial information included in this WQON is to 31 March 2014 and is comparable with any financial information that was tabled during the Estimates Committee Hearings.

2. Northern Australia Development Office, Developing the North campaign marketing and communications expenditure 1 July 2013 – 30 June 2014

Employee Costs	\$
1 x Marketing Employee	9057
Marketing	
Multimedia	10 766
Total	19 823

- The Northern Australia Development Office will showcase and market Northern Australia to prospective investors and facilitate a 'one stop shop' arrangement for stakeholders interested in the development of Northern Australia. The Office will also be a conduit between the NT Government, the Australian Governments and industry groups.
- A SAO1 level marketing project officer was contracted in early March 2014 to support the campaign and is based within the Communications and Marketing Bureau.

- The Developing the North campaign was still under development during the reporting period. The bulk of media and advertising activity falls outside the reporting period.
- The multimedia work was to support the development of a suite of presentation tools to help promote the Northern Territory as part of developing Northern Australia, and also for use with international businesses and investors. This work was completed by the Presentation Studio.

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3. The 6th Indigenous Economic Development (IED) Forum was predominately funded through sponsorship and registration fees providing a cost effective way of presenting business sessions and workshops to assist with business up-skilling and showcasing Indigenous businesses, business opportunities, programs and initiatives, particularly to Indigenous people from regional and remote regions.

The cost to the NT Government to deliver the 6th IED Forum was as follows:

Within NTG Indigenous Economic Development operational budget	\$21 000
Airfares and accommodation for five Darwin staff members approximately	\$6000

Four NTG agencies partnered to support the Forum:

Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries partner contribution	\$11 000
Department of Business partner contribution	\$5500
Department of Transport partner contribution	\$11 000
Department of Education and Children's Services partner contribution	\$5500
*Cost of AO6 project officer for 3 months	\$19 200

Total Cost to Northern Territory Government **\$79 200**

*One dedicated A06 Project Officer employed for approximately three months to project manage the forum.

Other divisional staff resources provided ad hoc assistance as part of their core business.

4. The NT Government is proactive in development of regional and remote economies, drawing on internal expertise and sourcing expert advice where and when required.

A significant aspect of the development of regional and remote towns is the associated industry in and surrounding those towns. The NT Government, through relevant industry agencies, has industry plans and strategies which target regional economic development.

The Department of the Chief Minister works with other agencies and stakeholders to maximise economic development in the regions and remote towns including feeding into specific consultancies such as the Katherine Freight Hub which is being led by the Department of Business, and broader work such as the Regional Infrastructure Study being led by the Department of Transport.

Specific contracts and consultancies in relation to the development of Economic Development Plans are at **Attachment A**.

For a full list of Regional Economic Development Grants refer to WQ 215-06.

1. The **East Arnhem Economic Development Strategy** is being developed with the assistance of the Economic Development Advisory Panel.

Mr Stuart Booker, Cambewarra Services Pty Ltd, was awarded a contract in December 2013 to undertake research and consultations, and develop an Economic Development Project Plan for the East Arnhem Economic Development Strategy. Total costs for Cambewarra Services Pty Ltd consultancy are:

Total value of consultancy services:	\$48 200 (GST exclusive)
Travel, accommodation and incidentals paid to March 2014:	\$2265.11
Total:	\$50 465.11

2. The Government's '**At a Glance**' publications are prepared in-house utilising the expertise of experienced and qualified government resources.

Data for the 'At a Glance' documents is sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Graphic design layout and printing of the documents was completed by Darwin firm Sprout Creative.

Region	ABS data	Layout and printing	Total
Alice Springs Updated June 2013	\$139	\$2763.20	\$2902.20
East Arnhem	\$139	\$2334.20	\$2473.20
Katherine Updated July 2013	\$139	\$2920.50	\$3059.50
Tennant Creek Updated July 2013	\$139	\$2992.00	\$3131.00
Tiwi Islands Updated June 2013	\$139	\$2176.90	\$2315.90
Total	\$695.00	\$13 186.80	\$13 881.80

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5. There are four Regional Economic Development Committees (REDC) – one each in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Nhulunbuy. The four REDCs comprise a total of fifty members.

Members participate on a voluntary basis and are not provided any payments/sitting fees or payment for travel expenses.

The Committees meet monthly and are supported by NT Government staff based in the regions. Where possible, meetings take place at government venues free of charge.

The government covers the costs of venue hire and refreshments when required. As at March 2014, the REDCs had met 43 times. Catering costs for these 43 meetings total \$2928.09. Venue hire costs for these 43 meetings were \$95.00.

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6. The Regional Economic Development Fund (REDF) was established in 2000 and has been administered by a series of NT Government departments in line with the Administrative Arrangement Orders.

The Department of the Chief Minister has administered the REDF grant program since September 2013.

Attachment A outline details of the grants from the 2010-11 financial year to 31 March 2014. Due to the administrative burden in sourcing the requested information from different departments ranging back fourteen years, the REDF records prior to 2010-11 have not been collated.

Because of project timeframes, approval dates and final expenditure may fall in different financial years.

The total grant budget for 2013-14 is \$426 000, with \$154 000 in grants awarded to 31 March 2014. It is expected the fund will be fully allocated by the end of the financial year.

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Approved REDF grants as at 31 March 2014 to 2010-11

REDF GRANTS Financial Year: 2013-14				
Proponent	Grant Purpose	Amount	Industry	Region
Artback NT Arts Touring	Marketing materials in support of Djuki Mala /Chooky Dancers National Tour	\$24 500	Arts and Culture	East Arnhem
Jacinta Castle	Launch of solo album CD 'Dry River'	\$10 000	Arts and Culture	Central Australia
Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corp	Strategic Plan to address changes in structure of the organisation providing viable services for homelands	\$25 000	Community	East Arnhem
Battery Hill Mining Centre Association	Development of strategic long term business plans to identify future options for the centre	\$10 000	Tourism	Barkly
Barkly Regional Council	Feasibility Study - Development of a business centre and commercial accommodation in Elliott	\$16 720	Community	Barkly
NLC assistance to Kungarakan and Warrai Traditional Owners	Development of Strategic Plan for the Traditional Owners in relation to the future management of the former Rum Jungle mine sites	\$25 000	Community	Top End
Tourism Central Australia	Support for "Pioneering new Territory" conference	\$8000	Tourism	Central Australia
Waltja Tjutangku Palyapayi Aboriginal Corporation	Mediation and conflict resolution training	\$25 000	Community	Central Australia
Desert Knowledge Australia	Contribution to the 2014 SEGRA Conference	\$10 000	Community	Territory Wide
9 REDF grants awarded as at 31 March 2014, totalling \$154 000.				

REDF GRANTS Financial Year: 2012-13				
Proponent	Grant Purpose	Amount	Industry	Region
Artback NT Arts Development and Touring	Assist 20 remote artists attend the Long Paddock Conference in Darwin	\$17 900	Arts and Culture	Territory Wide
Aminjarrinja Aboriginal Corp	OH&S Accreditation AS/NZS4801	\$24 925	Mining	East Arnhem
Tennant Creek Foundation Ltd	Develop and implement Work Health and Safety audit for Battery Hill & Nyikka Nyunyu Arts and Culture Centre	\$24 196	Tourism	Barkly
Alekarenge Horticulture Pty Ltd	Completion of the Ali Curung Project Implementation Plan	\$23 661	Agriculture	Barkly
Artback	International Market Research and Promotion	\$5576	Arts and Culture	Territory Wide
Tennant Creek Show Society	Facilities upgrade	\$25 000	Agriculture	Barkly
Chamber of Commerce Central Australia	Mini Mining Expo (Employment) seeking to vary grant	\$8200	Employment and Training	Barkly
Arafura Aquatic Fish Pty Ltd	Support to obtain Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority approval	\$12 000	Agriculture	East Arnhem

GYRAC (Katherine Regional Cultural Centre)	Web site	\$5000	Arts and Culture	Big Rivers
Santa Teresa Horse Project	Indigenous stockmen development	\$25 000	Training	Central Australia
GroundUP - CDU Ramingining Ab Corp	Facilitate new community representative organisation	\$25 000	Community	East Arnhem
GYRAC (Katherine Regional Cultural Centre)	Women of the World Festival	\$25 000	Arts and Culture	Big Rivers
Indigenous Remote Communications Prop	Support for Indigenous Music Festival	\$25 000	Media	Central Australia
MTA NT	Support for Apprentice Trades Award	\$4500	Business Development	Territory Wide
Waltja Tjtangku Palyapayl Aboriginal Corporation	Support for the Big Sing Project	\$25 000	Community	Central Australia
Finke Desert Race	Facility upgrade	\$25 000	Community	Central Australia
Contribution to the Ord Project	Funding support for joint project	\$25 000	Industry Development	Territory Wide
17 REDF grants awarded, totalling \$325 958				

REDF GRANTS Financial Year: 2011-12				
Proponent	Grant Purpose	Amount	Industry	Region
Outback Ballooning	Promotional Activities	\$25 000	Tourism	Central Australia
Tourism Central Australia	Promote Indigenous Tourism activities	\$20 500	Tourism	Central Australia
Tennant Creek Foundation Ltd	Operational funding	\$8000	Tourism	Barkly
Top Class Fruit Supplies Pty Ltd	Industry analysis and Investment study	\$25 000	Agriculture	Barkly
Thamarrurr Development Corporation	S19 approval for Housing Sub Division	\$8332	Community	Big Rivers
YBE(2) Pty Ltd	Web Site upgrade	\$8850	Employment and Training	East Arnhem
Barkly Regional Arts Key Producer Strategic Plan	Strategic Plan	\$17 900	Arts and Culture	Barkly
Chamber of Commerce - Central Australia	Tennant Creek Mining Expo	\$4000	Employment and Training	Central Australia
8 REDF grants awarded, totalling \$117 582				

REDF GRANTS Financial Year: 2010-11

Proponent	Grant Purpose	Amount	Industry	Region
Australian Agricultural Company (Joint Project)	Business Plan	\$20 000	Agriculture	Central Australia
Desert Knowledge	Desert Leaders Program	\$5000	Community	Central Australia
Alice Springs Town Council	Employment project	\$5000	Employment and Training	Central Australia
Thamarrurr Development Corporation	Public Bus Business Plan	\$25 000	Community	Big Rivers
Northern Land Council	Employer Excellence Awards	\$20 000	Community	Top End
Bunuwal Investments Pty Ltd	Web Site	\$16 500	Business Development	East Arnhem
Katherine Region Cultural Precinct	Business Development Plan	\$25 000	Arts and Culture	Big Rivers
Central Australian Territory Craft	Promotion of Desert craft	\$3200	Arts and Culture	Central Australia
ArtBack NT	Linking Communities	\$5000	Arts and Culture	Central Australia
Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Centre	Support for Web site development	\$14 680	Arts and Culture	East Arnhem
10 REDF grants awarded, totalling \$139 380				

7. The NT Government is committed to economic development on the Tiwi Islands and the creation of jobs for Tiwi People.

The Tiwi People have a proud history of commerce and today own and operate a number of successful enterprises. The Tiwi People recognise that investment and development will create additional opportunities on the Islands for Tiwi People.

The Department of the Chief Minister is leading the economic development program on the Tiwi Islands and working across government to align efforts for the benefit of all Tiwi.

Through this work, the Department has worked with other agencies to undertake the following activities. Note that these expenses have not all been expended at this point:

Department	Details	Total Value (not fully expended)
Department of Business	Grant of 50% to Tiwi Plantation Corporation for independent analysis of plantation and commercial viability through Department of Business Programs	\$55 000
Department of Transport	Grant to Tiwi Enterprises to investigate and design new pontoon landing facilities at Wurrumiyanga and Paru	\$262 900
Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries	Consultancy - Tiwi Islands Agriculture and Aquaculture development commodity and market analysis	\$27 500
Department of Land Resource Management	Land and water suitability assessments for Agricultural development on the Tiwi Islands	\$1.8 million

There has been limited officer travel incurred by the Departments of Land Resource Management, Business, Primary Industries and Fisheries, Transport and Tourism NT. Due to the administrative burden in sourcing this information, it has not been collated in this response.

As a normal course of business other agencies have made decisions to support the Tiwi Island economic development program in collaboration with but not at the direct request of the Department of Chief Minister. These include the continued support of the Tiwi Island Ferry, the Pop Up Territory Business Centre and the work of the Land Development Corporation in land leasing consultation.

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The Department of the Chief Minister is leading the economic development program on the Tiwi Islands and working across government to align efforts for the benefit of all Tiwi.

Department of the Chief Minister has spent a total of \$132 148 on economic and community development on the Tiwi Islands from 1 July 2013 to 31 March 2014, comprising:

Personnel	\$105 292
Operational	\$ 26 856
Break up of Operational:	
Administrative	\$ 4495
Functions	\$ 541
Motor vehicles	\$ 2048
Training/Conference fees	\$ 969
Travel	\$ 18 804
TOTAL	\$132 148

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9. The NT Government is committed to economic development on the Tiwi Islands and the creation of jobs for Tiwi People.

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In August 2013, the Land Development Corporation paid \$1 million (excluding GST) upfront and in good faith to facilitate leasing 10 040ha of land on the Tiwi Islands. This payment was made to Tiwi Resources, the entity nominated by the Tiwi Land Council.

This payment demonstrates commitment to working with the Tiwi People to develop their lands for their economic future and is conditional upon consent as per the provisions of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)*.

The purpose of this project is to progress commercial development on the Tiwi Islands in a manner that is supported by Traditional Owners for job creation and economic development benefiting Tiwi Island residents.

The Land Development Corporation is working with the Tiwi Land Council to consult with Traditional Owners and affected Aboriginals on the Islands to identify lands which may be suitable for leasing.

Should appropriate lands be identified, the Land Development Corporation will lease those lands on the Tiwis for 99 years subject to Traditional Owner and ministerial consent in compliance with the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth).

The Land Development Corporation anticipates that it will sublease this land to businesses on a commercial basis.

Once suitable land for leasing is identified, the Land Development Corporation will engage independent valuers to ensure that the total value of land to be leased is equivalent to \$1 million.