

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Chief Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Major projects and Territory Economic Reconstruction, Minister for Strategic Defence Relations – for all agencies falling under the Chief Minister's, Treasurer's and Minister's portfolios.

**AGENCY ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Notes:

The following questions can be answered from existing Agency data as at 31 March 2021. Please include a note if a response is affected by Machinery of Government changes following the General Election in August 2020.

You have previously referred questions requiring a Whole of Government response to the Minister responsible at a time that enables a response within the same timeframe as the remainder of the questions.

Further, you have previously inserted the question at the beginning of each answer.

My Office would be very grateful if these practices are continued.

STAFFING

1. (a) Please advise the number of staff employed in the following categories as at 31 March 2021:

Category	Number
Total Full Time Equivalent	
<i>Break-up:</i>	
1. Ongoing Full Time	
2. Ongoing Part Time	
3. Fixed Term Full Time	
4. Fixed Term Part Time	
5. Casual Contract	
6. Executive Contract	

- (b) Please provide, for each of the six categories above: the relevant position classifications and the number of staff employed against each classification.

Answer:

1a

- Ongoing Full Time – 23.85
- Fixed Term Full Time – 2.63
- Executive Contract – 3

1b

	Ongoing Full Time	Temp/ Contract
EC05		1
EC03		1
EC01		1
SA02	4	
SA01	3	
AO7	2	
AO6	2	0.63
AO5	3	1
AO4	5.85	1
AO3	2	
AO2	2	
TOTAL	23.85	5.63

Excludes electorate staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly.

2. Please advise the number of staff held against the following categories as at 31 March 2021.

Category	Number
Resigned	
Made Redundant	
Terminated	
Unattached	
Classified Redeployee	
Supernumerary	

Answer:

Nil.

3. Please advise the number of staff who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander as at 31 March 2021

Category	Number
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 3 will be provided by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment.

4. (a) Please advise the number of Frontline staff as FTE as at 31 March 2021 and as a percentage of the Agency total employment.

Category	Number	%age of Total Staff
Frontline		

(b) Please advise how the Agency determines which staff fall under the category of Frontline.

Answer:

4a

Nil.

4b

The Department of the Legislative Assembly is considered a support / central agency that provides advice and services to the Legislative Assembly.

5. Please advise how many staff have been engaged through employment agency arrangements, for what purpose, for what duration and at what cost as at 31 March 2021. Please use the table format presented below for your response.

Number Engaged	Purpose	Duration	Cost

Answer:

Nil.

6. Please advise how many locums have been employed, for what purpose, for what duration and at what cost as at 31 March 2021. Please use the table format presented below for your response.

Number Employed	Purpose	Duration	Cost

Answer:

Not applicable.

7. (a) How many positions were advertised during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?
 (b) Of the total number advertised above, how many positions had Special Measures applied?
 (c) Please break down the levels of positions that had Special Measures applied.

Answer:

7a – 5.

7b – 4.

7c – Special Measures by level:

Level	No Vacancies
AO4	1
AO6	1
SAO1	1
SAO2	1

OUTSOURCING

8. For the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021, detail any decision(s) to outsource, contract out or privatise functions that have traditionally been carried out by the Agency.

Is consideration being given to outsource, contract-out or privatise in financial year 2021/22? If so, provide details.

Answer:

Nil. No.

LEGAL EXPENSES

- 9. What has been the expenditure on legal advice or related expenses for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021? Provide details on:**
- a) The matter(s) (designate which ones are finalised and which ones are ongoing)**
 - b) The amount paid by matter**
 - c) The amount paid to each outside legal firm or barrister engaged**

Answer:

The Department procured advice from Professor Ned Aughterson to assist the Assembly review subordinate legislation, during the period comprising advice for the Public Accounts Committee in the 13th Assembly at the cost of \$5,220 and advice for the Legal and Constitutional Affairs in the 14th Assembly at a cost of \$4,640.

The Department obtained advice from William Forster Chambers for Purick v Fleming, SC judicial review, representation of the Clerk at a cost of \$665.

PROCUREMENT / CONSULTANCIES

- 10. For the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021, please detail expenditure on each report and consultancy (excluding annual reports) that have been obtained from outside the NTPS. For each report/consultancy detail:**
- a) Purpose**
 - b) Cost**
 - c) Person or entity engaged**
 - d) Whether the person or entity has their principal place of business in the Northern Territory or elsewhere (if elsewhere, please provide the address of the principal place of business of the person or entity)**
 - e) Whether a report has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly as a result of the report or consultancy**
 - f) Outcomes or key performance indicators for the report or consultancy**
 - g) Whether tenders or expressions of interest were invited prior to work on the report or consultancy being undertaken**

Answer:

Nil.

- 11. Please advise the number of contracts awarded to business entities with a principal place of business in the NT and outside the NT for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 as follows:**

Number in the NT	Number outside of the NT

Answer:

Nil.

- 12. For each of the contracts awarded to business entities with a principal place of business outside the Northern Territory, please advise the selection criteria on the applicable contract or tender.**

Contract	Business Entity	Address	Selection Criteria

Answer:

Nil.

- 13. For Tier 3, Tier 4 and Tier 5 procurement activities, how many public tenders were advertised during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?**

Answer:

One.

- 14. For Tier 3, Tier 4 and Tier 5 procurement activities, how many contracts or tenders were awarded without undertaking a public tender process during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?**

Answer:

Nil.

- 15. For each instance identified in the question above, where a public quotation process was not undertaken, including for those with a Certificate of Exemption:**
- a) What is the description of the goods and services contracted?**
 - b) What is the value of the goods and services contracted?**
 - c) What was the reason for not using the public tender process or for requiring a Certificate of Exemption?**
 - d) Who recommended the course of action in c) above?**
 - e) Who approved the course of action in c) above?**

Answer:

Nil.

FOCUS GROUPS / POLLING / SURVEYS

For the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021:

- 16. Please detail expenditure on opinion polls and focus groups, including costs and entities that conducted the work.**

Answer:

Nil.

- 17. Detail all surveys undertaken in relation to the focus groups and opinion polls above, including their, form, the cost and what inducements were provided to incentivize participation.**

Answer:

Nil.

- 18. Please provide copies of each survey and the results of each survey.**

Answer:

Not applicable.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

19. Please detail expenditure on advertising and communications during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.

For each advertisement for which an expense was incurred:

- a) What was the purpose / description of the advertisement?**
- b) Who was the advertisement placed with, i.e. media outlet, newspaper, and television station or similar?**
- c) What was the total production cost, including, but not limited to, design, commissions, and placement costs?**
- d) Were tenders or expressions of interest called? If not, why not?**

Answer:

A total of \$8,032 was spent on displays at Parliament House comprising the 13th Assembly plaque and 14th Assembly opening.

TRAVEL

20. Please provide the total expenditure and itemised details of travel, including, but not limited to travel-related costs such as accommodation, travel allowance, entertainment, car rental, meals and incidentals, in each Agency and authority during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 broken down to:

- a) International Travel**
- b) Interstate Travel**
- c) Intrastate Travel**

Answer:

20a

Nil.

20b

Nil.

20c

\$7,958.

- 21. In the case of international travel identified in response to the question above, please provide the purpose, itinerary, persons and costs involved in each trip.**

Answer:

Not applicable.

- 22. Please provide itemised details and costs of all travel undertaken by the Minister that was paid for by the Agency or authority, including travel on charters during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Nil.

HOSPITALITY / FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

- 23. Please provide full details of all official hospitality provided for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

In relation to each occasion where official hospitality was provided:

- a) What was the purpose of the hospitality?**
- b) How many guests attended?**
- c) How many Ministers attended?**
- d) How many Ministerial staff attended?**
- e) How many MLAs attended?**
- f) How many Public Sector employees attended?**
- g) What was the total cost incurred?**

Answer:

- \$1,654 for 14th Assembly Members Induction lunch
- \$726 for the opening of the 14th Assembly morning tea
- \$962 for condolence morning tea
- \$1,888 for Speaker Christmas functions for Members
- \$85 for Public Account Committees catering
- \$3,962 for Estimates Committee catering
- \$310 for House Committee catering
- \$70 for Standing Orders Committee catering

GRANTS, DONATIONS AND INCENTIVES

- 24. Please detail expenditure on grants, donations and incentives paid by your Agency (including the recipient of each payment) during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Nil.

- 25. Please detail the funds utilised to distribute awards and sponsorships in the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Nil.

- 26. Indicate which awards and sponsorships were managed by Regional Offices. What is anticipated for the 2021/22 financial year?**

Answer:

Nil.

- 27. Please detail the amounts paid on grants, donations and incentives to non-Government organisations for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021, including to which organisation and the services to be provided?**

Answer:

Nil.

MEDIA MONITORING SERVICES

- 28. Provide expenditure details on media monitoring services for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 (including entities engaged and who utilises the service).**

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 28 will be provided by the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- 29. How many projects have been submitted or are in the process of being submitted to Infrastructure Australia to be considered for the Infrastructure Priority List?**

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 29 will be provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

- 30. Please provide details of newly committed projects for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 30 will be provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

- 31. Please provide details of contracts awarded to interstate firms, for what purpose, the cost and why a Territory firm was not chosen.**

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 31 will be provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

GOVERNMENT LEASED BUILDINGS

- 32. What is the total annual power bill of each Government building owned/leased/used by each Department for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?**

Answer:

The power cost of Government buildings leased/used by each Department for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 is \$87,271.

- 33. What is the total annual leased space of each Government building used by each Agency/authority and at what cost for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?**

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 33 will be provided by the Department of Corporate and Digital Development.

34. How much Government owned or leased premises or office space is currently under-utilised (at less than 100 per cent occupied) or vacant?

Answer:

A whole-of-government response to Question 34 will be provided by the Department of Corporate and Digital Development.

FEES AND CHARGES

35. Please detail the statutory or legislative fees and charges levied by your Agency/authority, the revenue raised in the 2020/21 financial year and whether any of these fees and charges was increased following the passage of the 2020/21 financial year budget.

Answer:

Nil.

INTERNAL AUDITS

36. How many internal audits and financial investigations were conducted in the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021?

Answer:

One.

37. What were the terms of reference or focus for each investigation?

Answer:

The focus was to ensure prior approval was obtained in accordance with the Financial Management Act 1995 and Treasurer's Directions.

38. Please provide detail of any fraud, anomalies, breaches of financial legislation or Northern Territory Government policy and procedures exposed by the audits and financial investigations.

Answer:

Not applicable.

BOARDS / ADVISORY BODIES

- 39. Please detail all boards and advisory bodies in your Agency in 2020/21, also providing the following information:**
- a) The Terms of Reference, if changed from last year**
 - b) The current members and when they were appointed**
 - c) The total remuneration paid to each Board member during the 2020/21 financial year**
 - d) The itemised total cost incurred by the Board during the 2020/21 financial year**

Answer:

Nil.

- 40. The number of times the Board met during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Not applicable.

REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

- 41. Details of all reviews and inquiries completed or commenced during the 2020/21 financial year, also providing the following information:**
- a) The Terms of Reference**
 - b) The criteria for selection of all panel members**
 - c) The composition, qualifications and state or territory of residence of the persons undertaking the review/inquiry**
 - d) The cost of the review/inquiry**
 - e) How the information was/is accumulated to contribute to the review/inquiry**
 - f) If completed, when, the outcome and whether the report has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly**
 - g) If not completed when this is expected**

Answer:

Nil.

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 42. Please provide the number, nature and cost of reportable safety issues for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Nil.

- 43. Please detail the number of stress related matters and claims for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.**

Answer:

Nil.

REGIONAL OFFICES

- 44. Please detail expenditure on staff located in regional offices across the Territory. Include the number of staff, their functions and outcomes achieved in the 2020/21 financial year. What are the locations for which they are responsible?**

Answer:

Not applicable.