LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Education, Minister for Children, Minister for Youth, Minister for Seniors, Minister for Women – for all agencies falling under the Ministers' portfolios.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

Notes:

The following questions can be answered from existing Agency data as at 31 March 2022.

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 appreciate these practices being continued.

QUESTIONS 1-38 and 41-44

The Minister for Territory Families and Urban Housing will answer Written Questions 1-38 and 41-44 in relation to the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities.

BOARDS / ADVISORY BODIES

- 41. Please detail all boards and advisory bodies in your Agency in 2021/22, 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 2021/22 financial year
 - (d) The itemised total cost incurred by the Board during the 2021/22 financial year

42. The number of times the Board met during the period 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022.

	nister's Advisory Council for Seni	
41 (a)	TOR, if changed from last year	1. Role of the Minister's Advisory Council for Senior Territorians The role of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Senior Territorians (MACST) is to provide an inpendent voice for Territory seniors community on issues of interest and importance. The MACST will provide high level and strategic advice to the Minister for Seniors and provide effective links between government and the seniors community to improve policy outcomes. MACST will enable the participation of key stakeholders in the exploration and discussion of issues relevant to the social, economic and civic life of Territory seniors. Members will participate on a voluntary basis.
		2. Authority
		The MACST is a non-statutory advisory group established by the Minister. It holds no delegated powers to act on behalf of the Minister, or to commit the Minister or government to any actions.
		The Terms of Reference aligns to the Northern Territory Government Boards Handbook (the Handbook).
		3. MACST objectives
		Provide advice to the Minister for Seniors on matters of importance to senior Territorians and the Minister will provide feedback to the MACST.
		Explore the needs of the Territory seniors community and how these may be more effectively met by service providers.
		Discuss and promote ideas leading to greater awareness of the positive aspects of ageing to the wider community and increase the active participation of older people in all aspects of life in the Northern Territory.
		Receive advice and provide feedback out of session as required including:
		 the Minister and the Department of Territory Families, Housing and

- Communities Community Engagement staff to inform the MACST of items under consideration / proposed initiatives across government that will impact Seniors;
- report wider community concerns that require Seniors consideration and input prior to implementation. For example, lobbying for road traffic regulation updates that impact Seniors standing within legislation and regulations;
- report National and local issues that can be interpreted as being discriminatory on the basis of age.

Direct specific tasks to relevant working groups which may be formed to address specific issues such as economic security, community safety or age-friendly communities.

Investigate issues that the Minister for Seniors may refer to the MACST for advice.

4. Membership

4.1 Membership

Community members will be selected by the Minister for Seniors for their skills, knowledge, experience, broader community representation and reflect the Regional and Indigenous populations of the Northern Territory. There will also be fixed participation by key peak bodies representing Territory seniors, which will be invited by the Minister as follows:

- Two (2) positions allocated to the Council on the Ageing (COTA) NT
- Two (2) positions allocated to National Seniors Australia
- One (1) position allocated to Association of Independent Retirees
- One (1) position allocated to Local Government Association of NT
- One (1) position allocated to a nominee of a peak Aborignal organisation
- One (1) position allocated to Palmerston and Litchfield Seniors Association

Additionally there will be observers from the Australian Government, Department of Health.

Community members will also participate on any working groups which may be established by the MACST. Other individuals or organisations may be invited to participate on the working groups or on an adhoc basis as appropriate.

4.2 Term of appointment

A person can hold a community member position for a maximum two (2) year term with the ability to be re-appointed by the Minister for Seniors for a subsequent term.

A review of the compositition of community members will occur every 12 months.

The selection panel will provide a shortlist of EOIs and recommendations on a preferred nominee for a community member position to the Minister for consideration, at least one (1) month before an existing community member position is due to expire.

4.3 Member selection and nomination

Nominations will be sought through a public expression of interest (EOI) process. In addition, the Minister can invite an individual or organisation to nominate. A selection panel will shortlist EOIs received and make recommendations on preferred nominees to the Minister for consideration.

4.4 Chair and Deputy Chair

The Chair and Deputy Chair will be appointed by the Minister for Seniors from a pool of nominees put forward by MACST members. The Chair and Deputy Chair will be selected by the Minister for their skills, knowledge, experience and broader community representation.

People can hold the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair for a maximum two (2) year term. A Chair and Deputy Chair can be re-appointed by the Minister for Seniors for a subsequent term following nomination by MACST members.

MACST members will make nominations for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair at least one (1) month before the existing Chair and Deputy Chair positions are due to expire for consideration by the Minister for Seniors.

Should the Chair be unavailable, the Deputy Chair will chair the meetings.

5. Operation

5.1 Meetings

The MACST meets three times a calendar year with working groups meeting either in person or via teleconference on an as needs basis.

Agenda and papers will be circulated to members no less than one week prior to the meeting.

Meetings are to be facilitated by the Chair, or in their absence, the Deputy-Chair. Where the Deputy-Chair is also not present, a member nominated by the Chair will temporarily act as the Chair.

Whenever possible, decisions of the MACST are to be made by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions will be made by a majority vote of those members present. The advice provided to the Minister will include the diverse range of opinions of members.

5.2 Quorum

A quorum is half the total attending members plus one. A proxy is counted in the quorum and has the authority to vote. Observers or any visiting experts are not included in the count for a quorum, and cannot vote.

5.3 Regional Participation

Regional participation is encouraged and the Office of Senior Territorians will support the cost of the airfare, accomodation and allowances for the members outside of Darwin.

5.4 Proxies

Organisational members can provide a proxy if unable to attend. All proxies will be

coordinated by the organisational member unable to attend. Proxies are not applicable to community members. Community members who miss two consecutive meetings will be asked to review their ability to continue membership or consider resigning.

A member must seek agreement in advance from the Chair, through the Secretariat.

5.5 Apologies

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they must submit an apology to the Secretariat. Apologies will be noted in the minutes. If a member fails to attend three consecutive meetings without leave approved by the Chair, their term may be cancelled by the Minister.

5.6 Secretariat

The Office of Senior Territorians will provide secretariat support for the Chair, including organising of meetings, recording and distribution of minutes and relevant information.

6. Confidentiality

Unless otherwise indicated, all papers and minutes are confidential, and the MACST will determine what papers are marked for release at the end of each meeting, or in subsequent meetings.

Members may be provided with other confidential material, which they should treat with care and discretion and cannot disclose to anyone outside the MACST.

7. Declaring conflicts of interest

A conflict of interest may occur where a member has a financial or other interest in issues under consideration by the MACST. Declaring conflicts of interest will be a standing agenda item for each meeting.

A member must disclose to the Chair, any situation or agenda item that may lead to a real, perceived, or potential conflict of interest. The Chair will assess the risk and

		decide if the member be excluded from any situation.
		8. Leave of absence
		Members may apply to the Chair, through the Secretariat, for a leave of absence from their MACST responsibilities for up to four months. For a period of absence of longer than four months, the request requires consideration by the Minister.
		9. Resignation
		Members may resign from the MACST at any time. All resignations must be provided in writing to the Minister with a copy provided to the Chair. Appointment of replacement members is at the discretion of the Minister.
		10. Review of the Terms of Reference
		The Terms of Reference will be reviewed biennially in consultation with the Minister, MACST members and Office of Senior Territorians.
41 (b)	The current members and when they were appointed	 Mr Neville Driver – November 2019 Mr Robert Fox – April 2022 Ms Christine Hart – September 2021 Ms Marlene Hayes – November 2019 Ms Sarah Henderson – September 2021 Mr Daniel Herbison – September 2021 Ms Jan Jewell – September 2016 Mr Ken Moffitt – September 2016 Ms Kathryn Muir – September 2019 Mr Ali Nur – November 2019 Ms Sue Shearer – February 2017 Mr Bob Shewring – September 2016 Mr Geoff Sloan – September 2016 Mrs Penelope Tastula – November 2019
41 (c)	The total remuneration paid to each Board member during the 2021/22 financial year	The Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006 governs the setting of remuneration and other entitlements for members of statutory bodies. Members of MACST are not paid sitting fees.

41 (d)	Total only of the MACST's costs from 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022	\$6,771
42	Number of times the Board met between 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022	Two
Name: N	Γ Youth Round Table	
41 (a)	TOR, if changed from last year	N/A
41 (b)	The current members and when they were appointed	The following members were appointed on 11 December 2021: Mx Isla Hooper Ms Upani Muthumala Ms Tayloraye Bailey Ms Shanae Kuo Ms Hajrah Kamran Ms Connie-Anne Shaw Ms Cecilia Afeaki Ms Azra Zendelji Ms Alicia Kuroda-Metin Ms Akeelah Cowen Mr Paddy van der Geest-Hester Mr Michael Gadingura Yunupingu Mr Kyle Lachlan Mr Kyle Bambra
		 Mr Jordon Humphreys Mr Jahdai Vigona Mr Boyd Cook Mr Alexander Storey
41 (c)	The total remuneration paid to each Board member during the 2021/22 financial year	The Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006 governs the setting of remuneration and other entitlements for members of statutory bodies.
41 (d)	Total only of the NT Youth Round Table's costs from 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022	\$89,676
42	Number of times the Board met between 1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022	Four