



**Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly**

Notice Paper
Meeting Number 18
Thursday 27 March 2025
The Assembly meets at 10.00 am

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Meeting Dates

Meeting Days

2025

March	27
May	13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22
June	19
July	29, 30, 31
September	2, 3, 4
October	14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23
November	25, 26, 27

Assembly Committee Meetings

Legislative Scrutiny Committee	12.00 pm Thursday 27 March	Litchfield Room
House Committee	12.00 pm Thursday 27 March	Ormiston Room

Standing and Sessional Orders

Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly and Sessional Orders are available at:
[Standing and Sessional Orders – Northern Territory Government – Legislative Assembly](#)

Routine of Business

The order of business as approved by the Legislative Assembly on 26 November 2024.

Tuesday and Thursday:

10.00 am

1. Prayers and Acknowledgement of Country
 2. Business of the Assembly (if any)
 3. Government Business – Notices and Orders of the Day
- 2.00 pm
4. Notices
 5. Petitions
 6. Questions
 7. Government Business – Notices and Orders of the Day
 8. Papers
 9. Responses to Petitions
 10. Consideration of Committee Reports, Government Responses and Auditor-General's Reports
 11. Debate on petitions
 12. Matter of Public Importance

Wednesday

10.00 am

1. Prayers and Acknowledgement of Country
2. Business of the Assembly (if any)
3. Government Business – Notices and Orders of the Day

2.00 pm

4. Notices
5. Petitions
6. Questions
7. General Business – Notices and Orders of the Day

7.00 pm

8. Government Business
9. Papers

Pursuant to Standing Orders, items that can occur at any time when there is no question before the Assembly (ie between items of business) include messages from the Administrator, personal explanations, ministerial statements, motions for leave of absence or the suspension of Standing Orders, and the tabling of committee reports.

Business of the Assembly

Orders of the Day

1. **Legislative Scrutiny Committee Report on the Attorney-General Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 19)**

Date to be reported: 30 April 2025

2. **Legislative Scrutiny Committee Report on the Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 20)**

Date to be reported: 30 April 2025

3. **Legislative Scrutiny Committee Report on the Domestic and Family Violence and Victims Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 22)**

Date to be reported: 7 May 2025

Government Business

Notices

1. Water Amendment (Aboriginal Water Reserves) Bill 2025 (Serial 21)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Water Act 1992*
Notice given by: Mr Burgoyne
Date: 26 March 2025
Status: To be introduced.

2. Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 23)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* and the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Regulations 2004
Notice given by: Mr Burgoyne
Date: 26 March 2025
Status: To be introduced.

Government Business

Orders of the Day

1. Police Administration Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 16)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Police Administration Act 1978*, the *Police Administration Regulations 1994* and for related purposes

Notice given by: Mrs Finocchiaro

Date introduced: 13 February 2025

Status: Second reading made an order of the day after 28 days have lapsed.

Spoken: Mrs Finocchiaro

2. Defamation Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 13)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Defamation Act 2006*, the *Limitation Act 1981* and the *Local Court (Criminal Procedure) Act 1928*

Notice given by: Ms Boothby

Date introduced: 13 February 2025

Status: Report from the Legislative Scrutiny Committee tabled on 12 March 2025.

Spoken: Ms Boothby

3. Ministerial Report on Asian Relations

Moved by: Ms Cahill

Date moved: 19 March 2025

Status: Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the report (55 minutes remaining on debate).

Spoken: Ms Cahill, Ms Uiibo, Mr O’Gallagher, Mr Howe, Mrs Carlson.

4. Ministerial Report on an Update on NT Corrections

Moved by: Mr Maley

Date moved: 13 February 2025

Status: Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the report (1 hour and 40 minutes remaining on debate).

Spoken: Mr Maley

5. Ministerial Report on 2025 Federal Budget

Moved by: Mr Yan

Date moved: 26 March 2025

Status: Resumption of debate on the question that the Assembly take note of the report (10 minutes remaining on debate).

Spoken: Mr Yan, Ms Uiibo, Mr Maley, Mr Edgington, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Paech, Mr Mackay, Ms Boothby, Mrs Zio, Mr Kerle (6 minutes remaining).

6. Portable Long Service Leave (Community Services Sector) Repeal Bill 2025 (Serial 18)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to repeal the *Portable Long Service Leave (Community Services Sector) Act 2024*

Notice given by: Mrs Hersey

Date: 19 March 2025

Status: Second reading made an order of the day after 28 days have lapsed.

Spoken: Mrs Hersey

Referred to Committees

Attorney-General Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 19)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend legislation administered by the Attorney-General
Notice given by: Ms Boothby
Date introduced: 19 March 2025
Status: Referred to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee for report by 30 April 2025.
Spoken: Ms Boothby

Local Government Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 20)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Local Government Act 2019* and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021
Notice given by: Mr Edgington
Date introduced: 19 March 2025
Status: Referred to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee for report by 30 April 2025.
Spoken: Mr Edgington

Domestic and Family Violence and Victims Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (Serial 22)

Long title: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Domestic and Family Violence Act 2007*, the Domestic and Family Violence Regulations 2008, the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2006*, the *Victims of Crime Rights and Services Act 2006* and the Victims of Crime Rights and Services Regulations 2010
Notice given by: Ms Boothby
Date: 26 March 2025
Status: Referred to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee for report by 7 May 2025.
Spoken: Ms Boothby

General Business

Notices

1. Select Committee on the Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum

Notice given by: J Davis

Date: 12 February 2025

Status: To be moved:

That a select committee to be known as the Select Committee on the Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum (IEPS) be established to inquire into and report on the Auditor-General's *November 2018 Report to the Legislative Assembly* at pages 31 to 66 in respect of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, including but not limited to consideration of:

- a) the full extent of overpayments to all IEPS contractors;
 - b) options for repayment by contractors of all unrecovered overpayments; and
 - c) in cases of *prima facie* evidence of fraud, the merits of legal proceedings based on advice from relevant government agencies.
1. That the committee be comprised of government, opposition and Independent members;
 2. that the committee have the power to report to the Assembly from time to time; and
 3. that the Committee present its final report to the Assembly on or before 31 October 2025.

2. Gamba Grass

Notice given by: K McNamara

Date: 27 November 2024

Status: To be moved:

That NT Legislative Assembly:

- Recognise that the invasive species Gamba Grass, through increased fire severity, threatens wildlife, infrastructure and lives in Litchfield National Park.
- Recognise the urgency of the problem and that without an adequately funded and planned response, Gamba will continue to spread in Litchfield National Park threatening the viability of the park as a tourist destination.
- Urges the government to implement the fully costed recommendations from the CDU research paper "The cost of not acting: Delaying invasive grass management increases costs and threatens assets in a national park, northern Australia" (Rossiter-Rachor et al., 2023), which include:
 - Expanding the eradication zone in the park to encompass the protection of 86% of visitor sites
 - Implement a five-year eradication program according to the investment recommendations in the report, followed by yearly ongoing maintenance
 - Install a full-time Gamba Coordinator to plan and carry out the eradication program.

3. Voluntary Assisted Dying

Notice given by: J Davis

Date: 22 October 2024

Status: To be moved:

That this Assembly:

- Acknowledge the important and extensive work of the Voluntary Assisted Dying Independent Expert Advisory Panel in producing the Report into Voluntary Assisted Dying in the Northern Territory.
- Recognise the right for Territorians to end their lives with dignity and the immense suffering that is caused for them and their families when this right is taken away from them.
- Recognise that the Northern Territory, the first jurisdiction in the world to legalise voluntary assisted dying, is now the last in Australia to pass this law.
- Urge the Government to implement the 22 recommendations of the Report into Voluntary Assisted Dying in the Northern Territory, acknowledging that many Territorians, from all political persuasions want the right to die with dignity in the Territory.

4. Select Committee on Pathways for Children and Young People

Notice given by: J Davis

Date: 27 November 2024

Status: To be moved:

That this Assembly:

1. Notes

- a. On 16 October 2024 the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Corrections moved the Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2024 be read for a second time, stating one purpose of the Bill was ensuring 10 and 11-year-old children who commit offences have "appropriate rehabilitation that will provide them an opportunity to turn their young lives around";
 - b. the vital responsibility that this Government owes to all children and young people in the Territory, including a responsibility under section 4(b) of the Youth Justice Act 2005 to ensure that young people who commit offences are "dealt with in a way that acknowledges [their] needs and will provide [them] with the opportunity to develop in socially responsible ways".
 - c. the vital responsibility that this Government owes to all Territorian children and young people, Police, Corrections Officers, Judges, and Justices; including a responsibility under sections 4(c) and 81(6) of the Youth Justice Act 2005 to provide them with appropriate alternatives to detention and imprisonment.
- #### **2. Establishes a Select Committee on Pathways for Children and Young People to inquire into and report on:**
- a. The alternatives to detention and imprisonment available to police, corrections officers, judges, and justices when dealing with 10- and 11-year-old offenders.

- b. Additional pathways needed to help police, corrections officers, judges, and justices prevent reoffending and provide children with opportunities to make safer, more responsible choices with the support of meaningful and engaging programs.
- 3. The committee will comprise 3 Government, 1 Opposition and 2 crossbench members to be nominated by the relevant whip or crossbench member to the Speaker in writing.
- 4. The committee is to report by the first sitting day, 6 months after the passing of this motion.

5. Eradicating Racism

Notice given by: Mr Guyula

Date: 28 November 2024

Status: To be moved:

That the Legislative Assembly:

- 1. Recognise the harm caused by all forms of racism across the Northern Territory, and
- 2. In line with the NT Aboriginal Justice Agreement and the recently announced National Anti-Racism Framework, urge this Government to adopt and resource all actions and recommendations of these documents that will work to eradicate racism in the Northern Territory.

6. Alcohol Action Plan for the Northern Territory

Notice given by: J Davis

Date: 12 February 2025

Status: To be moved:

That this Assembly:

calls on the Government to work with community representatives and sector experts to develop and implement a comprehensive, evidence-based alcohol action plan for the Northern Territory, which:

- 1. Addresses the widespread harms caused by alcohol and the root causes of these.
- 2. Includes strategies for prevention, harm reduction, early intervention, and support for those struggling with alcohol dependence.
- 3. Balances common sense measures that benefit the health and wellbeing of Territorians, based on what evidence suggests will be most likely to improve rates of harm.
- 4. Supports people to effectively break cycles of alcohol problems, complex social issues and involvement in the justice system, in ways that can have intergenerational benefits.
- 5. Recognises that there is not a one size fits all approach and ensures that local communities, particularly Aboriginal communities, are informed and engaged in the development of tailored solutions that reflect their specific needs and concerns.
- 6. Strengthens support for health services, law enforcement, and emergency responders who respond to alcohol-related harms.

7. Takes a holistic approach that empowers communities, supports families, and builds long-term, sustainable solutions to reduce alcohol-related harm in the Northern Territory.
8. Acknowledges the role of alcohol in exacerbating domestic, family and sexual violence and prioritises the safety of women and children.
9. Removes the undue influence of the alcohol lobby in the development and implementation of alcohol policy, ensuring decisions are made in the public interest and based on evidence rather than commercial interests.
10. Ensures a long-term vision and commitment to effective alcohol policy, with clear commitments and funding across electoral cycles and progress monitored through measurable outcome.

7. Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence

Notice given by: J Davis

Date: 26 November 2024

Status: To be moved:

That this Assembly:

1. Recognises that all members of this Assembly have firmly committed to addressing family and domestic and sexual violence (FDSV) as a priority.
2. Acknowledges that domestic, family and sexual violence is our true crime and safety crisis, and that this crisis disproportionately impacts Aboriginal women in the Northern Territory.
3. Recognises the findings of the “Coronial Inquests into the deaths of Kumarn Rabuntja, Kumanjayi Haywood, Miss Yunupingu and Ngeygo Ragurrk’, which highlight urgent reforms needed to protect Aboriginal women and children from domestic, family and sexual violence, and ensure victims are seen and heard;
4. Commits to fully resourcing and implementing all recommendations of the Coroner arising from these Inquests as a matter of urgency;
5. Further commits to working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and frontline services to ensure effective implementation of these reforms.

This Assembly stands united in addressing the domestic, family and sexual violence crime and safety crisis, and ensuring all women and children are safe, protected, and supported.

8. Protecting Territorians from Gambling Harms

Notice given by: K McNamara

Date: 13 February 2025

Status: To be moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly

- Acknowledge that gambling and pokies causes significant harm in our community.
- Recognise that the financial and social costs to our economy and community from gambling and pokies far outweigh any benefits from the Community Benefit Fund.

- Recognise that the current taxation on gambling profits is woefully inadequate.
- Calls on the CLP Government to:
 - Minimise harm from pokies by -
 - introducing pre-commitment systems to all venues with pokies, including casinos.
 - Reduce the load up limit for pokies to \$100
 - Increase transparency on the gambling industry by -
 - Reintroduce mandatory publishing of venue earnings/taxation.
 - Publish monthly venue-specific data in line with other jurisdictions.
 - Release the publicly-funded NT Gambling Prevalence and Wellbeing Survey report within a month of receipt.
 - Increase revenue for the NT and make online gambling companies pay their fair share of tax by -
 - Increase the tax on gambling corporations using NT bookmaker/betting exchange licenses
 - Remove the cap on this tax.

9. Improving Rental Security in the Northern Territory

Notice given by: K McNamara

Date: 13 February 2025

Status: To be moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly

- Recognises the rising costs of living pressures upon Territorians, particularly renters who often face housing insecurity
- Acknowledges that renters in the NT face frequent and unreasonable rent increases
- Urges the CLP Government to improve protections for renters under the Residential Tenancies Act by:
 - Introduce a two year rent freeze
 - Limit rental increases to 2% every 2 years after end of rent freeze
 - Establishing an independent bond board, minimum standards for rental premises, including energy efficiency and heating/cooling requirements
 - Abolish no grounds evictions
 - Protect tenants against discrimination
 - Modernise the Act to reflect the realities of renting, including specific protections for renters living in sharehouses
 - Strengthen accountability for landlords obligations.

10. Underground Power in the Northern Suburbs

Notice given by: Ms Uibo

Date: 25 March 2025

Status: To be moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly:

- Recognise the importance of rolling out high-voltage underground power in the northern suburbs to deliver more reliable and safer electricity for residents, schools and businesses, particularly over the Wet Season; and
- Condemn the Finocchiaro CLP Government for failing to tell Territorians before the 2024 election of its plans to scrap the

10-year program to underground power to the Northern Suburbs.

11. Investing in Territory Roads

Notice given by: Mr Young

Date: 25 March 2025

Status: To be moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly recognise the importance of investing in the regional and remote road network across the Territory, to drive economic development and improve connectivity, flood immunity, safety and access for all Territorians.

12. Economic Value of the Regions

Notice given by: Ms Uibo

Date: 25 March 2025

Status: To be moved:

That the NT Legislative Assembly:

- Recognise the importance of the Northern Territory's regions and their role in developing the Territory economy; and
- Recognise and support their plans for economic growth.

General Business

Orders of the Day

1. Improving decision making, integrity, transparency and accountability in our Parliament

Moved by: J Davis

Date moved: 23 October 2024

Debate interrupted: 23 October 2024

Status: Debate interrupted on the motion that the Assembly recognise the critical importance of improving decision making, integrity, transparency and accountability in our Parliament, and to that end, commits to the following measures:

- Re-establishing scrutiny committees that allow for public submissions and thorough review of Bills before the Parliament;
- Limiting government to government questions (Dorothy Dixers) in the chamber to a maximum of two out of every three parliamentary sitting days;
- Exploring pathways to enhance public engagement and participation in the legislative process, including through Citizens' Juries.

Spoken: J Davis, K McNamara, Mr Howe, Mr Young, Mr Paech, Mr Edgington (7 minutes remaining).

2. Environmental Protections

Moved by: Mr Paech

Date moved: 27 November 2024

Debate interrupted: 27 November 2024

Status: Debate interrupted on the motion that the Assembly:

- Recognises the importance of safeguarding the Territory environment for future generations and in support of our Territory lifestyle.
- Reaffirms support for the critical environmental protections the former Labor Government put in place including a contemporary *Environment Protection Act* best practice regulation for the environmental impacts of mining, the Climate Change Response: Towards 2050 policy; and The Territory Water Plan.
- Commits to not undermining watering down or changing our strong legislative and regulatory regime of environmental protections.

Spoken: Mr Paech, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Young, K McNamara, J Davis, Ms Uiibo, Mr Guyula, Mr Kerle, Dr Rahman, Mr Maley, Mr Brown (19 minutes remaining).

3. **Water Security in the Northern Territory**

Notice given by: Mr Paech
Date moved: 19 March 2025
Debate interrupted: 19 March 2025
Status: To be moved:

That the Assembly calls on the Northern Territory Country Liberal Party Government:

- Work in partnership with the Commonwealth Government to undertake an independent and comprehensive review of the Northern Territory Water Act 1992 and, where required implement legislative reforms based on scientific evidence;
- Commit to the continued implementation of priority actions identified in the Territory Water Plan, recognising that it is the Northern Territory's first whole-of-government strategic plan for water security and the result of comprehensive community and industry consultation;
- Honour the previous government's commitment and introduce the new Safe Drinking Water Act which was being developed by NT Health to be introduced to the Legislative Assembly by the end of 2024; and
- Introduce a moratorium on all new water licences and allocations in the Northern Territory until an independent review is carried out.

Spoken: Mr Paech

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Speaker and other appointments

Speaker

Mrs Robyn Lambley

Deputy Speaker

Mr Brian O’Gallagher

Acting Deputy Speakers

Mrs Oly Carlson

Mr Matthew Kerle

Mrs Laurie Zio

Whips

Mr Andrew Mackay – Government

Mr Manuel Brown – Opposition

Assembly Committees

Committee of Privileges

Mr Steve Edgington (Deputy Chair), Mr Yingiya Guyula, Mr Andrew Mackay,
Mr Gerard Maley (Chair), Ms Selena Uibo.

House Committee

Mrs Robyn Lambley (Deputy Chair), Mr Khoda Patel, Dr Tanzil Rahman, Mr Dheran Young,
Mrs Laurie Zio (Chair).

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Mrs Oly Carlson, Mr Matthew Kerle (Deputy Chair), K McNamara,
Dr Tanzil Rahman (Chair), Mr Dheran Young.

Legislative Scrutiny Committee

Mrs Oly Carlson (Chair), Justine Davis, Mr Clinton Howe,
Mr Andrew Mackay (Deputy Chair), Mr Chansey Paech.

Public Accounts Committee

Mr Manuel Brown, Justine Davis, Mr Clinton Howe (Chair), Mr Brian O’Gallagher,
Mrs Laurie Zio (Deputy Chair).

Standing Committee on the ICAC

Mrs Oly Carlson (Deputy Chair), Mr Clinton Howe, K McNamara,
Mr Khoda Patel (Chair), Ms Selena Uibo.

Standing Orders Committee

Mr Manuel Brown, Mr Steve Edgington, Mr Matthew Kerle (Chair),
Mrs Robyn Lambley (Deputy Chair), Mr Andrew Mackay.