

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr Higgins to the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development:

**Homelessness Strategy update**

1. What are the performance measures for the six month trial of the homelessness project recently announced?
2. Who will determine eligibility for individuals to be accommodated and what discussions have been held with NT Shelter?
3. Where are the Better Pathways Centres going to be set up and when?
4. The KPMG homelessness and accommodation responses to rough sleepers report was dated April 2018 yet only released publicly in December – why is that?
5. How much did that report cost?
6. The report, like the Riley report, identified “open structure” living as a viable option as well as a managed hostel. Are you considering that option as well? If so, where, when and at what cost?
7. The report identified a suite of eight supports including improved access to public toilets and showers, increasing storage options and improved access to bedding such as swags. Are you going to implement any of these supports or fund NGOs to provide these supports?
8. When did you release the Pathways out of Homelessness strategy?

9. How much has it cost to develop the Pathways out of Homelessness strategy? What budget is being allocated for the delivery of the strategy?
10. When will you start your evaluation of the Housing and Accommodation Support Initiative and will you release the results? (Strategy, p19, Rec: 2.2)
11. Point 4.1 in the strategy says there is an “opportunity to improve the way the Bond Assistance Scheme operates to increase access for eligible people”. Would that mean an increase in funding for the Scheme or how else would you improve it?
12. The strategy refers to a lot more work and engagement with and for the non-government sector. For example, point 4.2 – “Work with the non-government sector to engage key industry stakeholders in the development of accommodation responses for vulnerable Territorians to access the private rental market”. Given the increased engagement for NGOs will you increase their funding or at least protect their funding from your government’s three percent efficiency dividend?
13. Please explain the meaning of “sector realignment of service responses” (p31).
14. Which part of the strategy would include the plan to provide high vis vests to rough sleepers?