



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Question Taken on Notice

Date: 28 May 2020
Subject: COVID-19 indirect costs
From: Mrs Kate Worden MLA
To: Chief Minister

Number: 1.4

Question: Are there further indirect costs to the Northern Territory Government as a result of COVID 19? That may include indirect overtime for backfilling roles that assisted with COVID 19 responses, costs associated with enabling remote work forces that are not clearly currently identifiable.

Answer:

Where indirect costs may have been incurred due to overtime or backfilling, these costs will largely be covered through under expenditure in agencies who have had a change in workload resulting from COVID-19.

NT Health has estimated expenditure of \$13.4 million from 1 March 2020 to 31 May 2020. The majority of the expenses has been met by redirecting existing resources to COVID-19 activities.

Backfilling of existing roles has been undertaken through the cancellation of recreation leave where staff have not been able to travel throughout the period of the pandemic as well as some overtime.