

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Vowles to the Minister for Community Services:

#### **Remote Infrastructure Coordination**

1. Please provide details of all infrastructure projects being coordinated by the Department of Community Services showing:
  - a) location and name of each project,
  - b) Commonwealth financial contribution to each project,
  - c) date of the original budget commitment for each project,
  - d) projects completed in 2013/14, and
  - e) projects still in progress and the status of each project yet to be completed, including the current stage of projects (eg pre-design consultation, planning, construction).
2. Please provide details of the staffing within the Department of Community Services responsible for the coordination of land tenure for government assets in remote communities in the Northern Territory.
3. Please provide a list of land tenure agreements coordinated by the Department including, for each parcel of land:
  - a) location by Town,
  - b) the purpose for which the land is being leased or rented,
  - c) the valuation of the land,
  - d) the period of any lease or rental agreement,
  - e) the value of annual lease or rental payments, and
  - f) the recipient of lease or rent payments.
4. Please provide details of current Commonwealth funding for asbestos removal from non-government buildings in 34 remote Northern Territory communities including the period and annual value of the funding program and the amount being taken by the Northern Territory Government for administration of the scheme;
5. For each of the 34 communities:
  - a) the name of the community benefitting from the scheme,
  - b) the number of buildings in each community benefitting from the scheme,

- c) the value and recipient of any contracts let under the scheme,
  - d) arrangements in place to ensure that only trained staff and properly accredited companies are employed in removing asbestos, and
  - e) the number of works completed and the destination for the long term disposal of all asbestos removed under the scheme (by location).
6. Please provide details, by community, of all work undertaken in 2013/14 and planned for 2014/15 by your Department, or work being undertaken by other agencies in cooperation with your department, in relation to remote Northern Territory communities (including the towns identified in the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement) in the following areas:
- a) Estimated increase in population over the next decade;
  - b) Key community infrastructure requirements linked to expected population growth;
  - c) Estimated increase in job creation in each community for 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17; and
  - d) The number of available jobs in each community and the extent of Indigenous uptake of available jobs.
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## ANSWER

### 1. Infrastructure projects being coordinated by the Department of Community Services

Three Infrastructure Projects are coordinated by the Department of Community Services (DoCS).

In addition, DoCS facilitates and monitors approximately 189 Infrastructure Projects across 79 remote communities. (These projects are coordinated and funded by other agencies and local government bodies). This is undertaken using a “Placed Based” approach to ensure that there are adequate essential services and land tenure in place.

Infrastructure Projects by community are included in Budget Paper 4 by Government Department.

#### a) Location and name of each project

##### 1. Asbestos Removal Program in 34 remote communities across the NT

Ali Curung	Galiwinku	Milingimbi	Pmara Jutunta	Wurrumiyanga
Amanbidji	Ganbalanya	Minjilang	Ramingining	Waruwi
Amoonguna	Gapuwiyak	Ngukur	Rittarangu	Yuendumu
Angurugu	Gunyangara	Santa Teresa	Yirrkala	Barunga
Papunya	Titjikala	Belyuen	Hermannsburg	Peppimenarti
Umbakumba	Docker River	Maningrida	Pigeon Hole	Wadeye

Milikapti	Pirlangimpi	Apatula	Wallace Rockhold	
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2. Ilpeye Ilpeye Town Camp - Ilpeye Ilpeye subdivision infrastructure works

3. Jabiru Town – Jabiru Essential Services Infrastructure

**b) Commonwealth financial contribution to each project**

1. Asbestos Removal Program - \$19.543M
2. Ilpeye Ilpeye - \$8.93M plus (\$1.7M contribution by IIAC from compensation payable to IIAC by the AG as agreed in the deed of settlement and release and tripartite agreement).
3. Jabiru Town - Nil

**c) Date of the original budget commitment for each project**

1. Asbestos Removal Program - 21 June 2013
2. Ilpeye Ilpeye - 1 July 2012
3. Jabiru Town - 6 November 2013

**d) projects completed in 2013/14**

1. Asbestos Removal Program - Ramingining (1 house)
2. Ilpeye Ilpeye - Nil
3. Jabiru Town – Nil

**e) projects in progress**

1. Asbestos Removal Program - See Questions 4 & 5 relating to Asbestos Removal Program.
2. Ilpeye Ilpeye - In the construction phase. The proposed construction dates are commencement in May 2014 with practical completion anticipated in November/December 2014.
3. Jabiru Town - **See Attachment A.**

2. There are 6 full time equivalent (FTE) positions that have responsibility for the coordination of lease agreements with the Executive Director Township Leasing and Land Trusts for all government assets in remote communities across the Territory.

- 1 X ECO1
- 1 X SAO1
- 2 X AO7
- 2 X AO6

3.

- a) Leases over infrastructure and /or community housing has been secured in 57 communities across the Territory-

Ali Curung	Alpurrurulam	Amanbidji	Amplitawatja
Angurugu	Areyonga	Arlparra	Barunga
Belyuen	Beswick	Bulman	Daguragu
Daly River	Galiwinku	Gapuwiyak	Gunbalanya
Gunyangara	Haasts Bluff	Hermannsburg	Imangara
Imanpa	Kaltukajara	Kintore	Kybrook Farm
Lajamanu	Maningrida	Manyallaluk	Milikapiti
Milingimbi	Milyakburra	Minjilang	Mount Liebig
Nganmariyanga	Ngukurr	Nturiya	Numbulwar
Nyirripi	Papunya	Peppimenarti	Pigeon Hole
Pmara Jutunta	Ramingining	Robinson River	Tara
Titjikala	Umbakumba	Wadeye	Wallace Rockhole
Warruwi	Weemol	Willowra	Wilora
Wutungurra	Wurrumiyanga	Yirrkala	Yuendumu
Wudapuli>Nama			

In addition to these communities there are leases over 17 Alice Springs Town Camps and 8 Tennant Creek Town Camps.

A total of 782 parcels of land occupied by government assets has been secured across the Territory with a further 488 still to be secured through a lease agreement

A total of 3,851 parcels of land occupied by community housing have been secured to date.

- b) The purpose of the leases is to secure tenure over government assets such as schools, clinics, training centres, sewerage ponds, other essential services assets, government employee housing and community housing.
- c) The valuation of the land varies however the value of parcels of land were set by the Australian Valuation Office and the recommended lease payments based on the following:
- The unimproved capital value of the land
  - The percentage of the unimproved capital value for an annual lease payment, being 10% for government employee housing, 7% for other assets and peppercorn for community housing.
- d) Leases for government assets are for a term of 40 years, community housing leases vary from 6 years, 10 years 12 years and 40 years depending on negotiations.
- e) The annual lease payments for government assets are estimated at \$2.7 million.
- Lease payments are made to the relevant Land Council for distribution to Traditional Owners.

#### **4. Communities funded for Asbestos Removal**

Communities funded for Asbestos Removal from non-government buildings identified with Asbestos Containing Material in the “medium Risk” category based on the Asbestos Register include:

Ali Curung, Galiwinku, Milingimbi, Pmara Jutunta, Wurrumiyanga, Amanbidji, Gunbalanya, Minjilang, Ramingining, Warruwi, Amoonguna, Gapuwiyak, Ngukurr, Rittarangu, Yuendumu, Angurugu, Gunyangara, Santa Teresa, Yirrkala, Barunga, Papunya, Titjikala, Belyuen, Hermannsburg, Peppimenarti, Umbakumba, Docker River, Maningrida, Pigeon Hole, Wadeye, Finke, Milikapiti, Pirlangimpi and Wallace Rockhole.

Total value of the program is \$19.543M over 3 years 2013 – 2016.

Estimated expenditure for 2013-14 is approximately \$943k.

Estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is approximately \$9.7M.

Estimated expenditure for 2015- 16 is approximately \$6.7M.

The agreement with the Commonwealth Government is that an 8% administration allowance will be provided to the Northern Territory.

#### **5. For each of the 34 communities**

- a. See attached Scope of Works (Attachment B)
- b. See attached Scope of Works (Attachment B)
- c. Contracts let under the scheme to date include:
  1. Coffey Projects (Australia) Pty Ltd – up to \$1,833,243 (6 December 2013 – 5 December 2016) depending on final works program.
  2. Health Safety Environment Australia Pty Ltd - \$7,019 (Hygienist inspections at Docker River).
  3. KAEFER Integrated Services Pty Ltd - \$102,742 (Asbestos Removal Works at Belyuen).
- d. Tender process requires all tenderers to be licenced and accredited according to *Work Health Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*. A Panel has been established for hygienists and a Panel is being established for licenced asbestos removal contractors. All the above are licenced under NT Worksafe.
- e. Early works at Ramingining was completed in October/November 2013 with all removed Asbestos being disposed of at the Darwin licenced asbestos waste management facility. All contracted works under the program must dispose of removed Asbestos at licenced asbestos waste management facilities as part of the contracted agreements.

## 6. Details by community

### a. Estimated increase in population over the next decade

Information on population growths at the community level is not available. Regional population projections are published by the Department of Treasury and Finance as Northern Territory Population Projections Main Update (2014 Release). Based on this regional information, the Indigenous population in remote regions is projected to increase in the 15 years to 2026 as follows:

Region	Indigenous population		
	2011	2026	% change 2011-2026
Rest of Darwin	12,852	15,760	22.5%
East Arnhem	10,154	12,396	22.1%
Katherine	11,283	13,353	18.3%
Barkly	4,474	5,179	15.8%
Alice Springs	16,127	19,795	22.7%

### b. Key community infrastructure requirements linked to expected population growth

Information linking infrastructure requirements to population growth is not available.

My department is a stakeholder in the Northern Territory Regional Infrastructure Study that is developing a regional infrastructure plan to identify investment requirements over the next 30 years.

The Department of Transport is the lead agency for the NT Regional Infrastructure Study, which is due for completion in November 2014.

My department facilitates infrastructure development projects across agencies.