

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Workforce Training:

Training Audits

1. Please advise if the Government will engage in an audit and consultation process for training needs and interests of remote Aboriginal communities?
2. Please advise if there will be a return of the Remote Area Teacher Education program

ANSWERS:

1. The Department of Trade Business and Innovation (DTBI) undertake Remote Town Jobs profiles every three years¹. These are published online to help employers with their workforce planning, and help government and training providers make decisions on training investment².

The NT Government has also committed \$1.3 million to commence government's Local Decision Making agenda.

Local Decision Making is a 10 year commitment to transfer, where possible, government service delivery to Aboriginal people and organisations based on their community aspirations. It is about the NT Government, Aboriginal organisations and Aboriginal people working together on:

- Housing
- Local Government
- Education and Training
- Health
- Looking after children
- Law and Justice.

Officers from DTBI's Workforce NT division are working alongside staff from the Office of the Chief Minister to engage with communities on training and employment opportunities.

¹ In 2011, 2014 and 2017.

² The information from the 2017 Remote Town Jobs profiles are due to be published in the next few weeks and will feed into the Local Decision Making Framework.

2. The Department of Education has provided the following response.

There is no program called the Remote Area Teacher Education program; however, the 2010-2012 Remote Indigenous Teacher Education (RITE) program trialled in Maningrida and Elcho Island was considered to be a very resource intensive model with limited impact. The More Indigenous Teachers Initiative followed this program, and whilst this model had a greater number of participants, outcomes remained low.

The current initiative that the Department of Education is investing in to support Aboriginal Pre-Service Teachers is titled 'Teaching – Growing Our Future'. This Aboriginal Teacher Education Scholarship provides financial support to Aboriginal students studying full time undergraduate or postgraduate initial teacher education courses at Charles Darwin University. Aboriginal residents of the NT are eligible to apply for this scholarship.