

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs. Finocchiaro to the Minister for Workforce Training

Workforce NT

1. Where can Territorians find a budget allocation for the NT Training Commission?

There was no budget allocation in the previous financial year, and no budget has been allocated for the 2018-19 financial year for the NT Training Commission (the Commission).

2. If this body has moved, merged or been abolished, please advise when this happened.

In April 2017, following the NT Government's review of Government Boards and Committees, it was found that the Commission's statutory functions do not align with the current Government's policy agenda which includes a broader focus on labour market, jobs and employment outcomes. Subsequently, it was recommended that the Commission membership be revoked and amend the Training and Skills Development Act to remove the Commission.

The Department of Trade, Business and Innovation has commenced the process to abolish the Commission.

3. Who was consulted prior to any action been taken?

The Industry Skills Advisory Council NT (ISAC NT) was consulted on the proposed removal of the Commission; ISAC NT supported this proposal. The ISAC NT Board comprises of business and industry representatives from a broad sector of the NT.

Further consultation is not necessary as there will be limited public interest in the proposal as the Commission's functions are fulfilled by the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation.

4. What resources does Budget 18/19 make available to the NT Training Commission?

No budget has been allocated for the 2018-19 financial year for the Commission.

5. How much has been spent on the NT Training Commission since its establishment in July 2016?

There has been no spending on the Commission since its establishment.

6. How many times has the NT Training Commission Board met since 2016?

The Commission has never met since being established. Shortly after the Commission was established, the chairperson resigned on 14 October 2016, and all meetings were postponed pending the NT Government's review of Government Boards and Committees.

7. How many people are there on the board of the NT Training Commission?

The Commission comprises of nine members. Following the resignation of the chairperson on 14 October 2016, that position has remained vacant. Four members terms recently expired in July 2018, and the remaining four members term are due to expire on 31 July 2019.