

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr. Higgins to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

***Port Keats Road Maintenance***

1. Please advise if a select tender has been used in the past with respect to road maintenance on the Port Keats road?  
  
If not, why not? If yes, when and why?
2. Community concern in the West Daly region is that in future the open tender for road maintenance will move from a competitive open tender process to a select closed tender. Is this true, and how concerned should residents be about this transition?
3. How are select tenders awarded? What criteria is used to identify potential winners of select tenders?
4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using a select tender option for a project like road maintenance?
5. In the past NT Feral Pig Harvesting Pty Ltd has won the competitive tender to re-sheet sections of the Port Keats road. NT Feral Pig has been advised that the competitive tender for maintenance of the Port Keats road will end and move to a select tender process. Why is this so? Please outline the reasons for this decision.
6. The current contract with NT Feral Pig Harvesting Pty Ltd expires in March 2019. Has the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) advised local businesses in the area that:
  - (a) the contract with NT Feral Pig will expire in March 2019; and
  - (b) the competitive tender process for maintenance work on the Port Keats Road will transition to a select tender process.
7. Is DIPL aware of the capacity and capability of local Indigenous business such as Thamarrurr Development Corporation (TDC) to perform road maintenance work?

8. When was the last time DIPL carried out a capability audit of businesses in the West Daly region?
9. What support does DIPL provide to facilitate Indigenous businesses to win contracts for road maintenance?
10. What support and guidance does DIPL provide to Indigenous Businesses to win public contracts in an open competitive tender process?
11. Does DIPL have any way to distinguish an Indigenous business located and operating exclusively in the West Daly Region and an Indigenous business based in Darwin and operating across the Top End?
12. What is the criteria used by DIPL for a business to qualify as being Indigenous?