



JULALIKARI COUNCIL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

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Submission

Inquiry into Housing Repairs and Maintenance on Town Camps

Terms of Reference

To inquire into and report on the repairs and maintenance of housing on town camps in the Northern Territory with particular regards to:

- a) Timeliness of completing repairs
- b) Cost of repairs, and
- c) Consistency, accessibility and efficiency of administrative arrangements

PAC Members

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the repairs and maintenance in Urban Living Areas or Community Living Areas, the Board of Directors of Julalikari Council have stated that the terminology "Town Camps" is derogatory and that bureaucracy need to change the way they speak so that Aboriginal people and the living standards can be comparable to public housing in the towns. By using the word "**town camps**" gives service providers and bureaucrats an excuse of providing a lesser standard of work.

Many of the tenants in the CLA/ULAs contribute to the rent system of the Department of Housing, therefore should be entitled to better standards of service.

The current processes utilised by the department of housing is nothing but shocking,

This is an example of the process:

1. Tenant contacts the Department to report the issue/damage to house
2. Department contacts Service Provider
3. Department of Housing and or Service Provider contacts contractors with job card number
4. Contractor does inspection and provides quote to the Department of Housing/Service Provider
5. Contractor given approval to undertake work-
6. Contractor invoices the Department of Housing

Feedback from families in the CLA

- is that no one tells them the process and it has been weeks before the Contractor comes to complete the work
- There are also instances where the contractor has been called around to fix an issue, however needs to be recalled to the same job 3-4 times (air-conditioning) Does this mean the Department pays the provider 3 times for the same job? There is no guarantees/warranty that the work would be done properly the first time

(This was a real issue for Julalikari Council, (if we didn't send someone from the organisation to check that work was done)

I consider your Inquiry is too narrow as the questions that need to be asked "how the tenders were offered to mainstream businesses?" When they do not have a partnership with Aboriginal entities and who is actually paid a wage it definitely not the Aboriginal workers even though they are included in the stats.



Pat Brahim
CEO

Anyinginyi Manu Anyula Parkamarri Wilyangka

"Our Country, Us Mob, Hold it Strongly"