

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr Higgins to the Chief Minister:

**Appropriation Bill – Department of the Legislative Assembly**

Please provide copies of:

- All questions, which have been received from the public in relation to the Estimates process and consideration of the Appropriation Bill for the 2017/18 financial year; and
- The answers to those questions that were presented to the Estimates Committee.

Please provide the information requested below for Agencies and Government authorities for which you have responsibility, as at 31 March 2017.

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

*Please accept apologies if questions are not under the correct Output. Where this is the case, it would be appreciated if you could indicate the appropriate Output in your response. Thank You.*

**OUTPUT GROUP: CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE**

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***Staffing***

1. How many Full Time Equivalents are currently employed within this Agency, broken down by Output and Business Unit?
2. How many Full Time Equivalents have resigned, retired, taken a redundancy package or have been made redundant, or terminated? Please break down these numbers by Output and Business Unit.
3. What has happened to these positions? Has the work been reallocated to existing staff?
4. Are there any plans to fill these positions in the near future?

5. Please advise the amount of travel allowance per trip and for what duration that has been paid to the Member for Barkly for travel to Darwin from 1 July 2009 to 31 March 2017.
6. Please advise whether a copy of a lease agreement from the Member for Barkly has been received for accommodation used whilst he is on official business in Darwin.
7. If the answer to question 6 is yes, please advise what the address is, the terms of the lease agreement and when the original or copy of this agreement was provided.
8. Please advise if this lease agreement has been included in the Member for Barkly's register of interests and if so when was the declaration to this effect provided?

Question 1

Category	STAFF COUNT
	2016
Fixed period Electorate Officers	54
Casual Electorate Officers	40
Department of the Legislative Assembly	39
Office of the Speaker	2
Casual DLA Officers (Hansard and Education)	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>

Question 2.

Due to the small size of the DLA, these figures are not provided by Output and Business unit as this would identify individuals and breach their privacy. In summary:

- One DLA employee retired
- Three DLA employees resigned to take up other roles outside of the NT Government
- There were no redundancies.

As a result of the NT General election in August 2016 the following electorate office staff were separated:

- 37 casual contracts were ceased.
- 39 fixed term contracts were ceased. Of this number 16 officers received a severance pay and accrued entitlements and 23 received their accrued entitlements as their final pay outs.

Question 3.

The DLA and electorate officer positions were recruited to and filled.

Question 4.

Yes, if they become vacant again.

Question 5.

Travel allowance provided for is payment of breakfast, lunch, dinner and incidental expenses, see Schedule 3C of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination No 2. of 2016 (the RTD) for applicable rates. Minister McCarthy did not receive any Travel Allowance during the period identified.

Travelling allowance is defined in the RTD as “an amount payable to a Member or Office Holder to offset personal costs he or she, or any person authorised to travel as an accompanying person, may incur during travel at Government expense, see Schedule 3A and B of the RTD for applicable rates. Minister McCarthy was paid travelling allowance as per the table below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total TA</b>
<b>2009</b>	\$0
<b>2010</b>	\$0
<b>2011</b>	\$0
<b>2012</b>	\$7,849
<b>2013</b>	\$24,146
<b>2014</b>	\$33,700
<b>2015</b>	\$24,740
<b>2016 (Jan - Aug)</b>	\$15,740
<b>2016 (Sept - Dec)</b>	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$106,175</b>

Question 6.

This question is unable to be answered by the responsible portfolio Minister.

Rules for access to the Register of Members' Interests are determined by the Committee of Members' Interests. The Chairperson of this Committee is the Hon Natasha Fyles MLA.

Question 7.

This question is unable to be answered by the responsible portfolio Minister.

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Question 8.

This question is unable to be answered by the responsible portfolio Minister.

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