

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins to the Chief Minister:

Annual Report – Department of the Chief Minister

1. Reference is made throughout the report to the local decision making agenda as a future priority. Please advise the details of the local decision making agenda that has been developed and provide a copy of the implementation plan.
2. There is no mention in the report of Statehood. Can you please advise what specific staff are devoted to Statehood and will you provide a copy of the implementation plan to achieve Statehood for the Northern Territory?
3. The report does not break down staffing numbers to business unit. However, given that the number of staff in the Office of the Leader of the Opposition are less than the previous Opposition, please explain why the total number of Ministerial staff has increased and with what outcome?
4. In relation to the question above, are there any union staff employed by Ministers and if so how many?
5. Why have the number of staff employed in Tennant Creek been reduced and is it correct that this is from 6 to 3, a reduction of 50%? What impact has this had on the Barkly Region programs? What programs will not be delivered as a result of this reduction?
6. The Legislative Assembly agreed to adopt a whole of Parliament approach to growing the population in August 2017. Would you please advise how you propose to engage with the Members of the Legislative Assembly to develop the population plan? Do you propose to bring this to the Parliament for debate and if so when?
7. Please provide the details of the one off executive terminations as a result of the change of government expenses.
8. What are the specific outcomes of the SA-NT Strategic Partnership that directly benefit Territorians in relation to:
 - New infrastructure
 - New investment
 - Increased leisure visitors and expenditure
 - Environmental conservation

- Development of the arts
 - Improvements in the delivery of cross border services
9. What are the specific details of the key intergovernmental agreements achieved?
 10. With respect to the 'have your say' website, how many initiatives were posted and how many submissions were received? Will you make all of these available?
 11. How many meetings of the First Circles Engagement group were held during the year and what were the specific outcomes of this program?
 12. A key achievement of the Barkly Regional Office was the continued support of the Tennant Creek and Mount Isa Cross-Border Alliance. Please advise what the Mount Isa Cross-Border Alliance specifically achieved during the year?
 13. Can you please advise the specific financial commitment to support the creation of a railway spur line to QLD?
 14. Please provide a copy of the due diligence that was undertaken on Equatorial Launch Australia who are the proponents of the DEAL aerospace development initiative in the East Arnhem Region? What funding has been provided to this organisation by the NTG?
 15. What was the outcome of advocacy, listed as an achievement of the Central Australia Regional Office, for the development of a senior's village in Alice Springs?
 16. There is no mention of the Community Champions program in the report. Please advise whether the vacant positions on the program have been filled and what specific outcomes were achieved for each of the 13 community champions?
 17. What are the agreed performance success measures with the four NT Land Councils and please specify the outcomes achieved against these measures?
 18. Can you please advise the additional cost as a result of the extensions of the Royal Commission into the Protection and detention of Children in the Northern Territory?
 19. Can you please advise the additional cost as a result of the extensions of the Hydraulic Fracturing Inquiry above the estimated \$3 million?
 20. It is noted that during 2014-15 and 2015-16, 54 and 38 Freedom of Information requests respectively, were received under the *Information Act*. Can you please advise how many of these were submitted by the then Labor Opposition?

21. Please advise the names of the Members of the Indigenous Sub Committee of Cabinet, the selection criteria and process for these appointments and when the appointments were made.