

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr. Higgins to the Minister for Housing and Community Development:

#### Indigenous Interpreters

1. How many trained Indigenous interpreters are employed as liaison officers in each and all phases of the housing program, from basic consultation and planning, training and employment delivery through to maintenance and management activities?

While not specifically employed through the Remote Housing Program, the Aboriginal Interpreter Service employs trained interpreters who are available to be booked by the Department's Remote Housing Program staff to assist with interpreting for Aboriginal language speaking clients during any phase of the housing program.

2. In which communities are these interpreters employed?

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service currently has registered interpreters based in the following communities:

Ali Curung	Imanpa	Haasts Bluff
Ampilatwatja	Jabiru	Peppimenarti
Angurugu	Kalkarindji/Daguragu	Pirlangimpi
Barunga	Katherine	Ramingining
Batchelor	Kintore	Santa Teresa
Bathurst Island	Lajamanu	Tennant Creek
Belyuen	Lake Evella	Ti Tree
Beswick	Laramba	Timber Creek
Bulman	Maningrida	Umbakumba
Canteen Creek	Milikapiti	Urapuntja
Daly River/Naiiyu	Milingimbi	Wadeye (Port Keats)
Elcho Island	Mutitjulu	Warruwi
Elliott	Nguiu	Willowra
Galiwinku	Ngukurr	Yarralin
Groote Eylandt	Nhulunbuy	Yuelamu
Palumpa	Numbulwar	Yuendumu
Papunya	Nyirripi	Yulara
Hermannsburg	Gunbalanya/Oenpelli	

Interpreters travel to other communities as needed.

3. What efforts are being made to training and hiring Indigenous interpreters in the Northern Territory and at what cost?

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service continues to deliver in-house professional development and specialist training to all new and existing interpreters, as well

as work with the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters to develop, training and testing to attain high certification levels. The Aboriginal Interpreter Service has recently developed a Community Services School Based Traineeship for interpreters. The budget for the Aboriginal Interpreter Service is \$8.4 million.

4. How many Indigenous interpreters were there in the Northern Territory Government as at 1 January 2016, 1 January 2017 and 1 January 2018? How many were there as at 1 January 2019? Please provide in table format the number of interpreters and the number and names of the languages they covered.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Registered Aboriginal Interpreters at 1 January</b>	<b>Number of Interpreters engaged in paid interpreting throughout the year</b>
2016	307	253
2017	362	224
2018	416	217
2019	477	176 (YTD)

The total 35 languages covered include:

Alyawarr	Iwaidja	Nunggubuyu
Anindilyakwa	Kriol	Pintupi
Anmatyerr	Kunwinjku	Pitjantjatjara
Burarra	Luritja	Rembarrnga
Central Arrernte	Maung	Warlpiri
Dhuwal	Modern Tiwi	Warnmanpa
Djambarrpuyngu	Murrinh-Patha	Warrimirri
Eastern Arrernte	Ndjebbana	Warumungu
Galpu	Ngaanyatjarra	Western Arrernte
Gumatj	Ngan' gikurunggurr	Yankunytjatjara
Gupapuyngu	Ngan' giwumirri	Yanyuwa
Gurindji	Ngarinyman	

5. What agreements exist between departments and organisations on the use of government Indigenous interpreters?

Indigenous interpreters are engaged by various government departments and other users as required.