

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

## WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Treasurer, for all agencies falling under the Treasurer's portfolio responsibilities:

### AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

**Note 1:**

We have submitted similar questions to those below in past years prior to the Estimates Committee Hearings. Although it appears there will not be any Estimates Committee Hearings this year; we are submitting these questions in the interests of accountability and continuity, to enable the comparison of agency information across years.

**Note 2:**

If there is to be a Whole of Government response to any of the questions, it would be appreciated if these are referred early to the Minister responsible to enable a response within the same timeframe as the remainder of the questions.

**Note 3:**

My Office would be very grateful if the question could be inserted at the beginning of each answer.

### STAFFING

1. Please provide details for the following staffing questions as at 30 June 2019, and as at 31 March 2020:

a) How many staff were employed in the following categories:

- i. Full time equivalent
- ii. Permanent part time contract
- iii. Contract

b) Please advise the number of staff who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander as at 30 June 2019, as at 31 March 2020, and as a percentage of the Agency total employment as at 31 March 2020 (all classifications);

c) Please advise the number of frontline staff as FTE as at 31 March 2020 and as a percentage of the Agency total employment (all classifications).

a) Staffing numbers are provided by FTE. Note, the data includes the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation.

	As at Pay 26 (June 2019)	As at Pay 19 (March 2020)
Full time equivalent	135.10	121.71
Permanent part time	10.21	6.81
Contract	31.37	33.60

- b) A whole-of-government response to Question 1(b) will be provided by the Minister for Public Employment.
- c) There is no code that allows the Department of Treasury and Finance to identify frontline staff.

The Department of Treasury and Finance is classified as a Support and Central agency and provides advice to government and/or services to other agencies.

2. Please advise, in each category:

- a) The total number of staff on contracts (by executive and temporary employment contracts) as at 30 June 2019 and as at 31 March 2020
- b) By position, the levels at which staff are employed on executive or temporary employment contracts as at 30 June 2019 and as at 31 March 2020

As at 30 June 2019 and 31 March 2020, the following were employed with the Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation.

Executive Contract Officers by FTE:

	as at Pay 26 (June 2019)	as at Pay 19 (March 2020)
ECO6	1	1
ECO4	1	2
ECO3	3	3
ECO2	3	5
ECO1	10	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>

Temporary Employees excluding ECOs by FTE:

	as at Pay 26 (June 2019)	as at Pay 19 (March 2020)
AO7	1	1
AO6	1	1
AO5	2	0
AO4	1.77	4.6
AO3	0	1
AO2	0.60	0
GRADT	7	9
WILS	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.37</b>	<b>16.60</b>

- 3. For the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 how many staff:
  - a) Resigned
  - b) Were made redundant
  - c) Were terminated

For the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020, the following number of staff resigned, terminated or were made redundant in the Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation:

	<b>As at Pay 26 (June 2019)</b>	<b>As at Pay 19 (March 2020)</b>
Resigned	17	14
Were made redundant	0	1
Were terminated	0	0

4. How many staff were unattached or categorized as redeployees for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020?

Below is the number of staff within the Department of Treasury and Finance or Northern Territory Treasury Corporation who were unattached or categorised as redeployees as at 30 June 2019 or as at 31 March 2020.

	<b>As at Pay 26 (June 2019)</b>	<b>As at Pay 19 (March 2020)</b>
Unattached	18	14
Redeployee	0	0

5. How many staff were categorized as supernumerary for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020?

Below is the number of staff within the Department of Treasury and Finance or Northern Territory Treasury Corporation who were categorised as supernumerary as at 30 June 2019 and as at 31 March 2020.

	<b>as at Pay 26 (June 2019)</b>	<b>as at Pay 19 (March 2020)</b>
Supernumerary	38	24

6. How many staff have been engaged through employment agency arrangements, for what purpose, for what duration and at what cost for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020?

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>As at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>As at 31 March 2020</b>
	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

No staff were engaged in the Department of Treasury and Finance or Northern Territory Treasury Corporation through employment agency arrangements as at 30 June 2019 and as at 31 March 2020.

7. How many locums have been employed, for what purpose, what duration and at what cost for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020?

Not applicable.

8. How many positions had Special Measures applied when advertised for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020?

No positions had special measures applied when advertised in the Department of Treasury and Finance or Northern Territory Treasury Corporation for the full financial year ending 30 June 2019 and for the period from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020
No of positions	0	0

9. How many positions that had Special Measures applied, as referred to in the question above, had to be re-advertised due to the initial process not securing suitable candidates?

No positions had to be re-advertised as a result of special measures applied in the Department of Treasury and Finance or Northern Territory Treasury Corporation as at 30 June 2019 and as at 31 March 2020.

	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020
No of positions	0	0

10. How many grievances have arisen as a direct result of the Special Measures program since 1 July 2019. Of these, how many remain unresolved?

A whole-of-government response to Question 10 will be provided by the Minister for Public Employment.

## **OUTSOURCING**

11. For the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020, detail any decision(s) to outsource, contract out or privatise functions that have traditionally been carried out by the Agency. Is consideration being given to outsource, contract-out or privatise in financial year 2020/21? If so, provide details.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation did not outsource, contract out or privatise any functions that are traditionally carried out by the agency for the period in question.

Consideration is not being given to outsourcing, contracting out or privatising any functions in 2020-21.

## LEGAL EXPENSES

12. What has been the expenditure on legal advice or related expenses for the financial year 2019/20? Provide details on:

- a) The matter(s) (designate which ones are finalised and which ones are ongoing)
- b) The amount paid by matter
- c) The amount paid to each outside legal firm or barrister engaged

The Department Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation legal advice or related expenditure for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 was **\$196 993**.

Details of each legal expense is as follows:

12 (a)	12 (b)	12 (c)	
Matter	Status: Ongoing/Finalised	Amount	Legal firm/Barrister
Commercialisation of the Land Title Office	Finalised	60,000	Minter Ellison Lawyers
Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) Loan to NT Airports Pty Ltd	Finalised	11,962	Clayton Utz Pty Ltd
NT Application of the National Electricity Law (Package 2b)	Finalised	67,899	Australian Government Solicitor
Reliability Framework Advice	Finalised	7,575	Australian Government Solicitor
Solicitor for NT - Interim NT Electricity Market 2.0	Finalised	2,328	Australian Government Solicitor
Southport Water Supply Issues	Finalised	5,993	Allens Arthur Robinson
David Stuart Tyrwhitt	Ongoing	150	Territory (NT) Debt Collectors
Discharge Statutory Darren A	Ongoing	24	Department of Corporate and Information Services
GEMCO v The Secretary Appointed Pursuant to Section 49AA, <i>Mineral Royalty Act</i>	Ongoing	4,500	Sheila Kaur-Bains
Historic Company Searches	Ongoing	71	Department Of Attorney-General and Justice
McCourtta - Todd Andrew McCourtta	Ongoing	151	Territory (NT) Debt Collectors
Newmont Tanami Pty v The Secretary, Territory Revenue Office	Ongoing	3,990	Sheila Kaur-Bains
Pinelands NT - Todd Andrew McCourt	Ongoing	180	Risk & Security Management Ltd
Recovery of Payroll Tax Debt from Rusca Group	Ongoing	4,536	HWL Ebsworth Lawyers
Relational Extract	Ongoing	51	Department Of Attorney-General and Justice
Northern Territory Electricity Ring Fencing Code	Ongoing	24,440	Seaton Legal Pty Ltd
Recovery of overpayment to a Superannuation Fund	Finalised	3,144	Clayton Utz Pty Ltd
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$196 993</b>	

## PROCUREMENT / CONSULTANCIES

13. For the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020, please detail expenditure on each report and consultancy (excluding annual reports) that has been obtained from outside the NTPS. For each report/consultancy detail:

- a) Purpose
- b) Cost
- c) Person or entity engaged
- d) Whether the person or entity has their principal place of business in the Northern Territory or elsewhere (if elsewhere, please provide the address of the principal place of business of the person or entity)
- e) Whether a report has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly as a result of the report or consultancy
- f) Outcomes or key performance indicators for the report or consultancy
- g) Whether tenders or expressions of interest were invited prior to work on the report or consultancy being undertaken

Total Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation expenditure for consultant fees was **\$990 056** for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

Details of expenditure on each consultancy is attached.

13 (a)	13 (b)	13 (c)	13 (d)	13 (e)	13 (f)	13 (g)
Purpose	Cost \$	Entity/Person	Principal place of business	Report Tabled	Outcomes/KPIs	Tenders/EOIs
Commercialisation of the Land Titles Office and Integrated Land Information System	293 670	Investec Australia Limited	NSW	No	Specialist advice in relation to commercialisation options of the Land Title Office	Select Tender
Commercialisation of the Land Titles Office and Integrated Land Information System	1 400	Merit Partners Pty Ltd	NT	No	Provision of advice in relation to the commercialisation options of the Land Title Office	Tier 2

Implementation of the NT Electricity Market	186 857	Oakley Greenwood Pty Ltd	QLD	No	Provision of Economic, Regulatory, Compliance and Technical Advice	Public Tender
NT Public Sector (NTPS) Workers compensation costing and premium calculation	44 327	Cumpston Sarjeant Consulting Actuaries	VIC	No	NTPS workers compensation costing of policy options, premium calculations by agency for 2019-20 and related work including advice on Gallagher Bassett Return-to-work metric	Select Tender
Actuarial Services for NT Public Sector Workers Compensation Scheme	35 805	Cumpston Sarjeant Consulting Actuaries	VIC	No	NTPS Workers compensation outstanding claims liability calculation as at 30 June 2019	Select Tender
Framework for government to recover cost in respect of Onshore Petroleum Industry	34 210	Marsden Jacob Associates	VIC	No	Options for a cost-recovery framework for government to recover its costs in respect to the onshore petroleum industry	Public Tender
Advice for Darwin Ship Lift and Marine Industry Infrastructure Project transaction	17 700	Ernst & Young	NT	No	Accounting assistance (Phase 1) on the Darwin Ship Lift and Marine Industry Infrastructure Project transaction	Tier 2

14. Please detail expenditure paid, or expected to be paid, to Hawker Britton and/or associated entities for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020. Outline the tasks performed.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation has not and does not expect expenditure to be paid to Hawker Britton and/or associated entities for period 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

15. How many contracts and tenders have been awarded to business entities with their principal place of business in the Northern Territory so far, and what works have been undertaken?

Two contracts and tenders were awarded by the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation to business entities with their principal place of business in the Northern Territory during the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

- Provision of Internal Audit Services to assess compliance with new leases accounting standard and new whole of government software
- Provision of Internal Audit Services to assess internal controls, IT controls and self-assessment.

16. How many contracts have been awarded to business entities with a principal place of business outside the Northern Territory for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020? Detail the work being undertaken by each business entity and the selection criteria for the successful business entity on the applicable contract or tender.

Four contracts were awarded to business entities with a principal place of business outside the Northern Territory during the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

- Provision of Northern Territory Redress Scheme Liability Valuation as at 30 June 2019.
- Provision of Electronic Information Services for a Period of 60 Months (NT TCorp).
- Provision of Registry Services for a Period of 60 Months (NT TCorp).
- Provision of EViews Subscription for a Period of 12 Months.

The administrative effort to provide further information is excessive and would result in undue diversion of resources from service delivery.

17. For Tier 3, Tier 4 and Tier 5 procurement activities, how many public quotations were undertaken during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020?

**No** public quotations for Tier 3 and above were undertaken for the Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation during the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.



18. For Tier 3, Tier 4 and Tier 5 procurement activities, how many contracts or tenders were awarded without undertaking a public quotation process during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020?

From 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020, **three (3)** contracts were awarded by the Department of Treasury and Finance for Tier 3, 4 and 5 procurement activities without undertaking a public quotation process.

19. For each instance identified in the question above, where a public quotation process was not undertaken, including for Certificates of Exemption:

- a) What is the description of the goods and services contracted?
- b) What is the value of the goods and services contracted?
- c) What was the reason for not using the public quotation process or for requiring a Certificate of Exemption?
- d) Who recommended the course of action in c) above?
- e) Who approved the course of action in c) above?

<b>19a – What is the description of the goods and services contracted</b>	<b>19b – what is the value of the goods and services contracted</b>	<b>19c – What is the reason for not using the public quotation process or for requiring a Certificate of Exemption</b>	<b>19d – Who recommended the course of action in c) above?</b>	<b>19e – Who approved</b>
Darwin – Provision of Registry Services for a Period of 60 Months (NT TCorp)	\$421 554	Supplies available from limited or single source	Manager of Financial Assets and Liabilities	Under Treasurer
Darwin - Consultancy – Internal Audit Services to assess compliance with new leases accounting standard and new whole of government software	\$50 300	Supplies available from limited or single source	Director Financial Reporting	Deputy Under Treasurer (Corporate)
Darwin – Provision of Electronic Information Services for a Period of 60 Months (NT TCorp)	\$146 101	Supplies available from limited or single source	Manager of Financial Assets and Liabilities	Under Treasurer

20. Please advise the total number of NTG Corporate Credit Cards within the Agency, including the position titles and levels of the staff holding the corporate credit cards for the purchase of goods and/or services as at 31 March 2020.

As at 31 March 2020:

- Department of Treasury and Finance: 3 credit cards

Position titles and levels of the staff holding the corporate credit card are:

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Position Title</b>	<b>Position Level</b>
1	Finance Officer	AO4
2	Executive Assistant	AO4
3	Group Coordinator	AO4

- Northern Territory Treasury Corporation: 1 credit card

Position titles and levels of the staff holding the corporate credit card are:

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Position Title</b>	<b>Position Level</b>
1	Finance Officer	AO4

## **FOCUS GROUPS / POLLING / SURVEYS**

21. Please detail expenditure during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020 on opinion polls and focus groups, including costs and entities that conducted the work.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation did not have any expenditure during the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 relating to opinion polls and focus groups.

22. Please provide copies of the surveys identified in the question above and detail all surveys undertaken, their form, the cost and what inducements were provided to incentivise participation during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

Not applicable.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING**

23. Please detail expenditure on advertising and communications during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

For each advertisement for which an expense was incurred:

- a) What was the purpose / description of the advertisement?

- b) Who was the advertisement placed with, i.e. media outlet, newspaper, and television station or similar?
- c) What was the total production cost, including, but not limited to, design, commissions, and placement costs?
- d) Were tenders or expressions of interest called? If not, why not?

Advertising and communication expenditure for the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 is as follows:

a) The purpose / descriptions of the advertisements were:

- Budget Repair
- 2019-20 Budget
- Remuneration notices
- Careers Expo August 2019
- Electricity Pricing Order
- LinkedIn Careers
- My Fuel NT
- Property Activation Levy
- 2019 Recreation service milestone
- Promotional merchandise for early careers program
- Promotion of NTTC/NTG in 2020 High-Grade Issuer Yearbook

b) The advertisements were placed with the following media outlets:

- Katherine Times
- Business News Australia
- Economic Society of Australia website
- Australian Financial Review
- LinkedIn
- NT News
- Centralian Advocate
- Sunday Territorian
- Tennant Creek & District Times
- 104.1 Territory FM
- Larrakia 94.5
- Sun FM Alice Springs
- CAAMA Radio
- MIX 104.9 FM Darwin
- HOT 100.1 NT
- YOLNU Radio
- 10 Digital Darwin
- Imparja Television
- Channel 9 Darwin
- Channel 7
- National Career Hub
- SBS
- Facebook
- Google
- TheAustralian.com.au
- NT News Digital
- Seek
- Promotional products
- Exhibitor Booth
- KangaNews

- c) Total expenditure for advertising and communications during the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 was \$115 190 inclusive of design, commission and placement costs.
- d) Tenders or expressions of interest were not called, as procurement of these services were undertaken using the Northern Territory Government Procurement rules, including where relevant the following panel contracts:
- D17-0375 (Advertising in the Northern Territory);
  - D19-0046 (Media Monitoring Services); and
  - D19-0132 (Creative, Communication and Research Services).

## TRAVEL

24. Please provide the total expenditure and itemised details of travel, including, but not limited to travel-related costs such as accommodation, travel allowance, entertainment, car rental, meals and incidentals, in each Agency and authority for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020 broken down to:

- a) International travel
- b) Interstate travel
- c) Intrastate travel

a) International Travel – Not applicable.

b) Interstate Travel – the Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation incurred total expenditure of **\$115 572** for the period between 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

c) Intrastate Travel – the Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation incurred total expenditure of **\$6977** for the period between 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020.

### Key items to note:

- Travel amount includes official travel related costs of airfare, accommodation, meals, travelling allowance, car rental and incidentals.
- Travel expenditure reported is from TRIPS and is inclusive of GST as at 22 May 2020.

25. In the case of international travel identified in response to the question above, please provide the purpose, itinerary, persons and costs involved in each trip.

Not Applicable.

26. Please provide itemised details and itemisation of costs of all travel undertaken by the Minister that was paid for by the Agency or authority, including travel on charters during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

A whole-of-government response to Question 26 will be provided by the Chief Minister.

## HOSPITALITY / FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS

27. Please provide full details of all public service hospitality provided for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

In relation to each occasion on which official hospitality was undertaken:

- a) What was the purpose of the hospitality?
- b) How many guests attended?
- c) How many Ministers attended?
- d) How many Ministerial staff attended?
- e) How many MLAs attended?
- f) How many Public Sector employees attended?
- g) What was the total cost incurred?

Total expenditure on public service hospitality for the period of 1 July 2019 ending 31 March 2020 for the Department of Treasury and Finance was \$3190.

Official hospitality expenditure relates to the 2019 Chief Minister's Awards for Excellence in the Public Sector, forums and dinner events.

## GRANTS AND DONATIONS

28. Please detail expenditure on grants and donations paid by your Agency (including the recipient of each grant) during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

Detail of grants and donations paid for the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020:

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
BuildBonus	3 760 000
Darwin Harbour Advisory Committee	10 000
First Home Owners Grant Scheme	3 269 000
Household Goods Grant Scheme	318 000

**TOTAL**

**\$7 357 000**

29. Please detail the funds utilised to distribute awards and sponsorships in the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020. Indicate which awards and sponsorships were managed by Regional Offices. What is anticipated for the 2020/21 financial year?

Detail of grant expenditure for awards and sponsorships for the period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 are:

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Casuarina Senior College	200
Centralian Senior College	200
Darwin High School	600
Darwin Middle School	150
Katherine High School	200
Mackillop Catholic College	350
Nightcliff Middle School	180
Northern Territory Board of Studies	500
O'Loughlin Catholic College	250
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic College	112
Palmerston College	370
Sanderson Middle School	120
St John's College	150
St Phillips College	450
Tennant Creek High School	360
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4192</b>

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation do not have regional offices.

2020-21 grant expenditure for awards and sponsorships will be assessed on application.

30. Please detail the amounts paid on grants to non-Government organisations for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020, including to which organisation and the services to be provided?

Not Applicable.

## **MEDIA MONITORING SERVICES**

31. Provide expenditure details on media monitoring services for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020 (including entities engaged and who utilises the service).

The media monitoring contract is managed by the Department of the Chief Minister on behalf of all Northern Territory Government agencies.

**INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

32. How many projects have been submitted or are in the process of being submitted to Infrastructure Australia to be considered for the Infrastructure Priority List?

A whole-of-government response to Question 32 will be provided by the Minister for Trade and Major Projects.

33. Please provide details of newly committed projects for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

A whole-of-government response to Question 33 will be provided by the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

34. Please provide details of contracts awarded to interstate firms, for what purpose, the cost and why a Territory firm was not chosen.

A whole-of-government response to Question 34 will be provided by the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

**GOVERNMENT LEASED BUILDINGS**

35. What is the total annual power bill of each Government building owned/leased/used by each Department for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020?

The total power bill of each government building owned/leased/used by the Department of Treasury and Finance from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020 is:

<b>Building</b>	<b>As at 31 March 2020</b>
Charles Darwin Centre, 19 Smith St	\$35 697

36. What is the total annual leased space of each Government building used by each Agency/authority and at what cost for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020?

A whole-of-government response to Question 36 will be provided by the Minister for Corporate and Information Services.

37. How much Government owned or leased premises or office space is currently under-utilised (at less than 100 per cent occupied) or vacant?

A whole-of-government response to Question 37 will be provided by the Minister for Corporate and Information Services.

**FEES AND CHARGES**

38. Please detail the statutory or legislative fees and charges levied by your Agency/authority, the revenue raised in the 2019/20 financial year and whether any of these fees and charges was increased following the passage of the 2019/20 financial year budget.

Not applicable

**INTERNAL AUDITS**

39. How many internal audits and financial investigations were conducted in the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020?

Three internal compliance audits were conducted by the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation during this timeframe:

- Value for Territory (Buy Local) and procurement rules, which was finalised in September 2019
- Treasury Controls/Internal Controls Testing
- Control Self-Assessment review.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation did not undertake any financial investigations in this timeframe.

40. What were the terms of reference or focus for each investigation?

For the period of 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2020, the terms of reference or focus of investigations conducted by the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation were:

Internal Audit /Investigation	Terms of Reference or Focus	Objective
Internal Audit	Value for Territory (Buy Local) procurement	Review compliance with government’s Procurement Rules, Governance Policy and Buy Local Plan for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2018.
Internal Audit	Treasury Controls/Internal Controls Testing (NT TCorp)	Ensure key areas of compliance are met, best practice frameworks are being applied and provide recommendations for areas of improvement in processes and frameworks where applicable.
Internal Audit	Control Self-Assessment review (NT TCorp)	Consider the design and operating effectiveness of the key controls within key process areas.



41. Please provide detail of any fraud, anomalies, breaches of financial legislation or Northern Territory Government policy and procedures exposed by the audits and financial investigations.

Regular internal compliance activities are undertaken throughout the year and the compliance activities have not identified any fraud or anomalies.

## BOARDS / ADVISORY BODIES

42. Please detail all boards and advisory bodies in your Agency in 2019/20, also providing the following information:

- a) The Terms of Reference, if changed from last year
- b) The current members and when they were appointed
- c) The total remuneration paid to each Board member during the 2019/20 financial year
- d) The itemised total cost incurred by the Board during the 2019/20 financial year
- e) The number of times the Board met during the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020

The following board and advisory body are in the Treasurer's Portfolio:

The Superannuation Trustee Board was dissolved at the end of 2018-19.

Board	Terms of Reference	Members and Date Appointed	Remuneration (including Superannuation)	Total Costs	No. of meetings
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Utilities Commission of the Northern Territory	The Commission operates under section 2 and 6 of the <i>Utilities Commission Act 2000</i> .	Mr Lyndon Rowe – 31/12/2018  Mr Richard Owens – 12/04/2017	\$65 696  \$50 535	\$132 839	Eight

Fall within Treasurer Portfolio, not part of DTF					
Advisory Body	Terms of Reference	Members and Date Appointed	Remuneration (including Superannuation)	Total Costs	No. of meetings
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Motor Accidents (Compensation) Commission	The Commission operates under the <i>Motor Accidents (Compensation) Act 1996</i> .	Mr James Colvin – 30/06/2018 (statutory appointee – No Board established under the <i>Act</i> )	\$197 100	\$210 589	Not Applicable

## REVIEWS AND INQUIRIES

43. Details of all reviews and inquiries completed or commenced during the 2019/20 financial year, also providing the following information:
- a) The Terms of Reference
  - b) The criteria for selection of all panel members
  - c) The composition, qualifications and state or territory of residence of the persons undertaking the review/inquiry
  - d) The cost of the review/inquiry
  - e) How the information was/is accumulated to contribute to the review/inquiry
  - f) If completed, when, the outcome and whether the report has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly
  - g) If not completed when this is expected

The Utilities Commission of the Northern Territory, functioning as an Independent authority, to the Department of Treasury and Finance, conducted one review during the 2019-20 financial year – The independent investigation of the Alice Springs systems black incident on 13 October 2019

- a) Terms of Reference are attached at Attachment A.
- b) Panel Members:
  - Sections 10(1) and 12(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act 2000* set out the required qualifications for Utilities Commissioners.
- c) Composition, qualifications and state/territory of residence:
  - The Utilities Commission of the Northern Territory is composed of the Commissioner Mr Lyndon Rowe (NSW) and Associate Commissioner Mr Richard Owens (NSW). Section 10(1) and 12(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act 2000* set out the required qualifications for Commissioners.
- d) The cost:
  - The total cost was \$ 59 124 (excluding GST).
- e) How the information accumulated:
  - Information provided by the relevant licensees (Power and Water Corporation, Territory Generation and Uterne Power Plant Pty Ltd) at the request of the Commission under section 25 of *Utilities Commission Act 2000* and 41 interviews held with stakeholders.
- f) Date completed and whether tabled within the Legislative Assembly:
  - The report was completed on 22 November 2019. The report has not been tabled in Legislative Assembly, however was released publicly on 9 December 2019.
- g) If not completed, when this is expected:
  - Not applicable

# **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## **INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF ALICE SPRINGS SYSTEM BLACK INCIDENT ON 13 OCTOBER 2019**

On the afternoon of Sunday, 13 October 2019, an extended system black power outage in Alice Springs and connected communities affected about 12 000 customers, some for a period of up to nine hours.

The Power and Water Corporation and Territory Generation are investigating the incident.

### **Referral**

Pursuant to section 6(1)(g) of the *Utilities Commission Act 2000*, the Utilities Commission is to conduct an independent investigation into the Alice Springs and connected communities system black incident that occurred on 13 October 2019.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of this investigation are to identify:

- the causes of the incident, its severity and duration
- broader implications for future power system reliability and security for Alice Springs and connected communities, and
- appropriate remedial measures to infrastructure, systems and processes.

### **Scope**

The investigation is to address the following matters:

- the power system situation that existed prior to the system black incident (having regard for the current transition process from Ron Goodin Power Station to Owen Springs Power Station), the sequence of events leading to the incident and the state of the power system after the incident, plus any related subsequent incidents
- the root causes of the incident from a technical standpoint including any operational and maintenance activities
- the Alice Springs power system's history of major incidents, their investigation and implementation of remedial actions
- the response of generators to the disturbance and their protection systems
- the response of automatic dispatch and automatic generator control systems during the incident
- standards and procedures followed by System Control to mitigate the risk of system insecurity and their performance against these standards during this incident (including black start procedures and adequacy of employees training)
- any other causal factors and factors contributing to both the occurrence and severity of the incident
- the adequacy and speed of the response to the incident, including established emergency management protocols, external communication and mitigations taken to protect vulnerable consumers
- the time taken to restore the system, including any issues that may have negatively impacted the restoration time, and compliance with and adequacy of current power system restoration procedures, including the identification of any

gaps

- the adequacy of the Alice Springs spinning reserve policy and automatic generator controls to respond to system events thereby providing reliable and secure power in the future
- actions that may be required to prevent a recurrence of such an incident, including the design of the power system and related power system operation and maintenance practices
- whether limits of normal operation of automated generator control are understood and, therefore, at what point operations determine that system security is at risk and remedial action needs to be taken, including the implementation of system constraints
- the outlook for the system over the next 12 months, including how the plans for the retirement of the Ron Goodin Power Station and the battery commissioning (separately and combined) are assisting or undermining the capacity of the network to manage these incidents, and whether the plans and emergency responses are adequate for each phase, and
- subsequent investigations and appropriate timing, if the above matters are unable to be addressed within the specified timeframe.

### **Delivery**

The Utilities Commission is to draw on external technical resources as it considers appropriate.

The Utilities Commission is to provide an investigation report to the Hon Nicole Manison MLA, Treasurer and the Hon Dale Wakefield MLA, Minister for Renewables, Energy and Essential Services by 18 November 2019.

### **Stakeholders**

Key stakeholders are to be consulted during the course of the investigation, including but not limited to:

- Territory Generation
- Power and Water Corporation System Control
- Power and Water Corporation Networks
- Epuron (in relation to Uterne Power Plant Pty Ltd)
- Licensed retailers
- Workers' unions
- Northern Territory Government, and
- Employees involved in the incident and restoration.

### **Budget**

The Department of Treasury and Finance will provide funding to meet the Utilities Commission's costs for external technical resources to conduct the investigation.

## **WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY**

44. Please provide the number, nature and cost of reportable safety issues for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation did not have any notifiable safety issues between 1 July 2019 and 31 March 2020.

45. Please detail the number of stress related matters and claims for the period beginning 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

The Department of Treasury and Finance and Northern Territory Treasury Corporation did not have any stress related matters or claims between 1 July 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

## **REGIONAL OFFICES**

46. Please detail expenditure on staff located in regional offices across the Territory. Include the number of staff, their functions and outcomes achieved in the 2019/20 financial year. What are the locations for which they are responsible?

Not Applicable.