

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Giles to Minister for Local Government

Local Government Services in Territory Growth Towns

In relation to the delivery of local government in Northern Territory Growth Towns:

For each of the identified growth towns of Maningrida, Wadeye, Borroloola, Galiwinku, Nguiu, Gunbalanya, Milingimbi, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Angurugu/Umbakumba, Gapuwiyak, Yuendumu, Yirkala, Lajamanu, Daguragu/Kalkarindji, Ramingining, Hermannsburg, Papunya, Elliott, and Ali Curung –

- 1. What planning has been put in place to answer the needs of the proposed growth towns in relation to local government services and management.**

Answer:

Planning for all Territory Growth Towns is being carried out in line with inter-government agreements made under the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement.

This includes:

- (i) Systematic collection of baseline data to underpin and establish a basis for measuring change for each of the Growth Towns.

These reports, providing a range of demographic, social and economic indicators, will describe the current situation in each town and a detailed picture of government services and infrastructure in each town, as well as an analysis of strengths and areas for local implementation plans to address.

- (ii) Development of Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) for each of the Growth Towns being developed with the assistance of Government Business Managers, Indigenous Engagement Officers, Local Reference Groups, Shire Councils and relevant Territory and Australian Government agencies.

The LIPs prioritise the actions of governments and communities in each Territory Growth Town over the next five years and are being closely linked to Shire service delivery plans and the Budget processes of the Australian and Territory governments.

2. In relation to each town:

- (a) what services is the current local government body responsible for; and**
- (b) what services does the current local government body deliver on behalf of the Commonwealth and Territory governments.**

Answer:

Detailed plans outlining services and current service delivery arrangements for each location are currently in preparation.

Each plan for each site will differ according to the history, current practice and needs of each site.

The baseline data informing the plans, and Local Implementation Plans, are being developed with the direct involvement of local shires.

Local Implementation Plans can be made available as they are endorsed by local reference groups and the partners involved, including local shires.