



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 46

## WRITTEN QUESTION

J Davis to the Chief Minister, Hon Lia Finocchiaro MLA:

### Public Service Restructure

1. Executive Contracts
  - a) How many additional executive contracts were created as part of the public service restructure in 2024?
  - b) What was the total cost of creating these additional executive contracts, including salaries, benefits, and associated administrative costs?
  - c) How many existing executive contracts were terminated or not renewed as part of the restructure, and what were the associated payout costs?
2. External Consultants
  - a) How much money has been allocated to external consultants as part of this public service restructure?
  - b) Can you provide a breakdown of the services provided by external consultants, including their scope of work and fees charged since January 2024?
  - c) How was the Value For Territory principle applied when assessing tenders for these consultancies?
  - d) Were local consultants prioritised, and what percentage of the expenditure went to Territory-based firms versus interstate or international consultants?
3. Restructure Costs and Benefits
  - a) What is the total expenditure to date on the 2024 public service restructure, including all associated costs such as recruitment, training, and consultancy fees?
  - b) What are the projected savings or efficiencies expected as a result of the restructure, and over what timeframe?
  - c) How was the need for this restructure assessed, and what evaluation measures are in place to determine its success?
4. Public Service Workforce Impact
  - a) How many public service positions were abolished or downgraded as part of the restructure, and what were the cost savings from these changes?
  - b) How many new positions, aside from executive contracts, were created as part of the restructure, at what level, and at what cost?
  - c) What efforts were made to engage with public service employees and their unions during the restructure planning process?

5. Accountability and Transparency
- a) What processes are in place to ensure transparency and accountability for expenditure related to the restructure?
  - b) Will a detailed report on the costs and outcomes of the public service restructure be tabled in Parliament, and when?
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**ANSWER**

Consistent with our election commitment there were no job cuts as part of our machinery of government (MOG) changes.

It is estimated MOG changes cost \$256,000 to implement and was absorbed within agency budgets.

There was a need to restructure so agencies are best positioned to deliver our plan to reduce crime, rebuild the economy and restore lifestyle.

The MOG changes have seen the creation of smaller more nimble agencies with fewer lines of reporting so that from bottom to top agencies can be more responsive to the needs of Territorians and have been warmly received by the public sector.

The upcoming Budget, Budget Estimates, Annual Reports and the Auditor-General provide avenues for accountability and transparency of expenditure of public moneys.