



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 231

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Uibo to the Chief Minister, Hon Lia Finocchiaro MLA:

Additional Estimates Questions for Chief Minister and Cabinet Outputs

1. Please outline the reasons for the additional appropriation of more than \$1 million provided to the Office of the Administrator in the 2026–27 Budget, including the purpose of the additional funding and how it is expected to be allocated.
2. What performance measures, key performance indicators or reporting requirements apply to this additional funding?
3. Where will the outcomes or performance reporting associated with this additional funding be published?
4. Has the Northern Territory Government reviewed the process used for the appointment of the Administrator?
5. If a review has occurred, what findings or recommendations arose from that review?
6. If a review has not occurred, does the Northern Territory Government intend to review the process for future senior statutory or constitutional appointments?
7. What changes, if any, will the Northern Territory Government make to strengthen vetting, due diligence or appointment processes for future senior appointments?

ANSWERS:

1. The funding reflects the continuation of existing functions and actual expenditure requirements. The Office of the Administrator has historically operated with insufficient funding, with accumulated funding shortfalls exceeding \$820,000 since at least 2021. Funding is provided to meet the continuation of existing functions.
2. Refer to answer provided for question 1.
3. Reporting on the management of resources provided by the Northern Territory Government for the support to the Administrator of the Northern Territory's duties and care of the heritage listed Government House Estate can be found within the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet's published Annual Reports —. <https://cmc.nt.gov.au/supporting-government/strategies-and-plans/annual-reports>.

4. Under section 32 (1) of the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978 (Cth)*, the Administrator is appointed by the Governor-General by Commission under the Seal of Australia.
5. The Office of Administrator of the Northern Territory is an official Commonwealth Statutory Office remunerated by the Commonwealth Government. Its role is publicly listed on the Australian Government Directory. The appointment process and performance of the holder of the office is a matter for the Commonwealth Government and not within the remit of the Northern Territory Government.
6. Refer to answer provided for question 5.
7. Refer to answer provided for question 5.