

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Purick to the Minister for Lands and Planning

#### Planning and Planning Commission

1. How many academically qualified planners are there in the planning department and what are their respective qualifications and how many of them are members of the relevant professional body?

There are 28 qualified urban and regional planners employed by the Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment. The minimum requirement for an urban and regional planner to be employed by the Northern Territory Government includes relevant Australian qualifications or equivalent, or membership to the Planning Institute of Australia. All planners employed by the Department meet these requirements. A number of additional staff with formal planning qualifications are employed by the Department in various positions.

2. How many academically qualified planners are there in the planning commission and what are their respective qualifications and how many of them are members of the relevant professional body?

The Chairman of the Planning Commission, the Hon Gary Nairn AO, has undertaken town planning as a major component of his qualification as a Licensed Surveyor.

Approximately half of the Department's urban and regional planners work on Planning Commission projects under the direction of the Chairman.

The Commission also engages persons with appropriate qualifications and expertise to assist it to perform particular functions on an as needs basis.

3. How many academically qualified surveyors are there in the planning department and how many of them are members of the Surveying Institute?

There are 11 surveyors employed by the Department with formal qualifications in surveying, of which five are members of the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute.

To operate as a land surveyor and perform boundary surveys in the Northern Territory, it is a requirement to be a Licensed Surveyor under the *Licensed Surveyors Act*. Of the 11 surveyors employed with the Department, nine are licensed under the Act.

4. How many academically qualified surveyors are there in the planning commission and how many of them are members of the Surveying Institute?

The Chairman of the Planning Commission, the Hon Gary Nairn AO, is a Licensed Surveyor and an Honorary Fellow of the Surveying and Spatial Sciences Institute.

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