



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
14th Assembly
Estimates Committee
Terms of Reference

Resolution of 6 May 2021

That the Assembly resolves that:

1. There be appointed an Estimates Committee of the Legislative Assembly (the Committee) for the purposes of examining and reporting on the:
 1. estimates of proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation (2021- 2022) Bill (the Appropriation Bill) and related budget documents,
 2. Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 and related documents, and
 3. activities, performance, practices and financial management of the Power and Water Corporation, Jacana Energy and Territory Generation, with reference to those corporations' Statements of Corporate Intent 2021-22.
2. The membership of the Committee will be three Government Members, being:
 - the Member for Johnston, Mr Joel Bowden MLA - who will be the Chair of the Committee;
 - the Member for Arafura, Mr Lawrence Costa MLA; and
 - the Member for Fong Lim, Mr Mark Monaghan MLA.

The remainder of the Committee will comprise one Opposition Member and one non-party aligned Member to be nominated in writing to the Speaker by the relevant Whip or non-party aligned Member.

3. The Committee may hold hearings on the following days:
 - Tuesday, 15 June 2021
 - Wednesday, 16 June 2021
 - Thursday, 17 June 2021
 - Monday, 21 June 2021
 - Tuesday, 22 June 2021
 - Wednesday, 23 June 2021
 - Thursday, 24 June 2021
4. The total time for hearings of the Committee may not exceed 60 hours.
5. The maximum time of the appearance of the Chief Minister shall not exceed 9 hours, and for each other Minister and the Speaker shall not exceed 7 hours.
6. The Committee will publish a schedule of the days and times of hearings, and the times allotted for hearing from Ministers, the Speaker and Board Chairs by 21 May 2021. The Committee may only amend the published schedule with the consent of the Leader of Government Business.
7. The Committee shall examine the proposed expenditure contained in the Appropriation Bill by portfolios in accordance with an agenda published by the Committee and the proposed expenditure shall be considered on an output by output basis for each portfolio unit.

8. All hearings will be available to the public via live stream to be COVID safe, and the Committee will implement a COVID safety plan.
9. All questions should conform to Standing Order 109 and answers will be concise and directly relevant to the question asked.
10. Answers to questions taken on notice during the hearings, or additional information about an answer given by or on behalf of a Minister, the Speaker or Board Chair, are to be written and given to the First Clerk Assistant by 19 July 2021. Answers or additional information so received are authorised for publication.
11. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is authorised to publish a transcript of the Committee proceedings, whether or not it has been edited, as soon as practicable.
12. Evidence taken in public by the Committee and documents presented to the Committee are deemed to be authorised for publication by the Committee, unless the Committee orders otherwise.
13. At a hearing of the Committee, the Chair may, after a warning, order any Member of the Assembly whose conduct, in the opinion of the Chair, continues to be disorderly or disruptive to immediately withdraw from the Committee for a period of 1 hour.
14. Following their second reading, the Appropriation Bill and the Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 stand referred to the Committee for report by 25 June 2021.
15. The Assembly's Routine of Business for Thursday, 24 June 2021 is:
 1. 2.30pm
Prayers and Acknowledgement of Country
 2. Report from Estimates Committee and consideration of Appropriation Bill and the Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021
16. When the Committee's report on the Appropriation Bill and the Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 is presented, the Assembly shall immediately consider the question:

that the expenditure proposed in the Appropriation (2021-2022) Bill stand as part of that Bill, and the clauses of the Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 stand part of that bill, and the report of the Estimates Committee be noted.
17. The following time limits shall apply to the debate on this question:
 - Ministers, Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Ministers: 20 minutes;
 - Any other Member: 10 minutes;
 - The maximum period for consideration shall be 5 hours.
18. When the question on the expenditure proposed in the Appropriation Bill and the clauses of the Financial Integrity and Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 is agreed to, the following question is proposed and put immediately:

that the remainder of the Bills stand as part of the Bills.
19. When the Bills have been agreed to by the Assembly, their third reading may be taken into consideration immediately.
20. This resolution shall have effect notwithstanding anything contained in Standing and Sessional Orders.