

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics:

Indigenous Development Plans

- 1. I understand that all remote housing contracts require an Indigenous Development Plan to be submitted within 14 days of the contract being awarded, could you advise if these plans are made public?**

All remote housing contracts require an Indigenous Development Plan (IDP) to be submitted within 14 days of the contract or work package. These plans are Commercial-in-Confidence with the contractor.

- 2. What must an Indigenous Development Plan include?**

An IDP includes details of:

- the contractor representative responsible for the plan;
- employment strategies and targets that the contractor will meet, such as sources of labour, intended skill to be sought, mentor strategies;
- training strategies and programs, including nominating the intended Registered Training Organisation;
- local development capacity and opportunities, including what will be sought and purchased locally;
- consultation and communication protocols they will undertake with the community and other stakeholders; and
- monitoring and reporting processes.

- 3. How are Indigenous Development Plans monitored?**

The Contractor Compliance Unit (CCU) within the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) undertakes an initial review of all IDPs. The CCU assess the plan against the Request for Tender criteria and provide a recommendation to the Superintendent to either approve or reject the IDP.

The Superintendent Representative or Project Manager reviews the Key Performance Indicators in the contract and monitors the IDP commitments through regular meetings, usually quarterly. In the housing contracts, there is also a requirement for submission of a monthly employment report and a final IDP report at the end of the project.

4. What is the outcome if the Indigenous Development Plan is not maintained?

The CCU has systems in place to follow up and work with the Superintendents Representative / Project Managers and the contractor to address any open audit findings identified in the Corrective Action Report.

For example, this could include extensions of time, providing guidance on material / resources, regular meetings, and subsequent audits. After all attempts have been exhausted to work with the contractor to address any open audit findings, the matter is escalated to the Superintendent for further action at their discretion. This action may include reflection of non-conformance in the contractor's performance scorecard or written notice giving a direction to the contractor.

The achievements or non-achievements under the IDP are reflected in the Contractor Performance Report, which is referenced and may influence future procurements.