

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Lambley to the Minister for Territory Families

Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme

1. What changes are you planning to make to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme?
2. Will you be reducing the total funding allocation to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme?
3. Will most seniors be entitled to more or less under the proposed changes to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme?
4. Please list exactly which aspects of the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme will be changed and how they will be changed.
5. How much did the Northern Territory Government spend of the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2016/17?
6. How much did the Northern Territory Government spend of the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2015/16?
7. How much did the Northern Territory Government spend of the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2014/15?
8. How much did the Northern Territory Government spend of the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2013/14?
9. What is the budget allocation for the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2017/18?
10. How many people are employed by the Northern Territory Government to manage the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme as of 1st June 2017?
11. How many people are employed by the Northern Territory Government to manage the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme as of 1st June 2016?
12. How many people are employed by the Northern Territory Government to manage the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme as of 1st June 2015?

13. Will any “changes” to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme mean more or less staff employed to administer the scheme?
14. The Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme was managed by the Department of Housing, where is the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme team located and who do they report to?
15. How much did Senior Territorians claim in electricity and water rebates through the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2016/17?
16. How much did Senior Territorians claim in electricity and water rebates through the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2015/16?
17. How much did Senior Territorians claim in council rates rebates through the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2016/17?
18. How much did Senior Territorians claim in council rates rebates through the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme in 2015/16?
19. Will there be changes to the travel entitlements? If so what will these changes be?
20. On the Northern Territory Government website you state: “The current scheme is complex, unfair and open to fraud and rorting”
 - a. How exactly is the current system complex?
 - b. How exactly is the current system unfair?
 - c. How exactly is the current system open to fraud and rorting?
 - d. How will your changes to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme make the system less complex?
 - e. How will your changes to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme make the system fairer?
 - f. How will your changes to the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme make the system less open to fraud and rorting?
 - g. Can you guarantee the “new scheme will be introduced on 1 January 2018”?
21. All senior Territorians aged 65 years and over will receive a minimum of \$700 every two years.
 - a. Please provide details of how “all senior Territorians aged 65 years and over will receive a minimum of \$700 every two years”?

- b. How much do most Pensioners and Carers currently receive from the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme every 2 years?
- c. Which seniors of 75 years of age will receive more than \$700 every 2 years from the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme?
- d. Will some seniors of 75 years of age receive less than \$700 every 2 years from the Pensioner & Carer Concession Scheme?
- e. When exactly will the discussion paper be released for the community consultation?
- f. How will this discussion paper be made available to seniors?

22. Please provide details of the community consultations.

- a. When will the community consultations occur?
- b. Where will the community consultations occur?
- c. What process of community consultations will be used?
- d. Who exactly will be consulted?
- e. What community organisations will be consulted?
- f. How will the feedback from these consultations be collated and used?

23. At the moment senior Territorians feel confused and concerned by the lack of detail in these proposed changes to the PCCS. What are you currently doing to ease the worry and concern of these people?
