

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

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

Future Ferry Services in Darwin Harbour

On 15 June 2016, DIPL awarded a tender for \$164,360 to maritime engineering consultants Mott Macdonald Australia Pty Ltd to undertake planning of infrastructure for future integrated ferry services in Darwin Harbour.

Three years later on 4 June 2019, DIPL announced the completion of studies resulting in the identification of four priority infrastructure sites for future ferry service infrastructure, including Mandorah, Cullen Bay, Elizabeth River and Darwin Waterfront.

At the time DIPL concluded that timing for development of new ferry sites will be dependent on demand generated by tourism, economic and population growth and integration with land use and transport networks.

Questions:

1. Why wasn't the Mott Macdonald study released publicly? Will you provide a copy?
2. Why did this study take three years to be completed? What were the delays? Were there any contract amendments including additional costs? What were these changes? What was the final cost of the tender including variations?
3. How were the priority four sites selected from the potential 27 sites identified in the study? Given you have labelled this as a 50 year planning initiative, why weren't other sites included such as Middle Arm, Southport, Lee Point and Gunn Point?
4. Why has nothing been done for two years since the completion of this study?
5. Taking three years to complete at considerable cost, is this study still considered relevant, or has the Chief Minister thrown it in the bin?
6. What triggers need to be hit to determine there is sufficient demand to progress new ferry sites? What kind of economic and population growth figures are you waiting on?