

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Gunner to the Minister for Children and Families:

Office of Children and Families as of 1 January 2013 – public servant numbers

How many public servants were employed in the Office of Children and Families as of 1 January 2013 in the following categories:

- Full time or the equivalent;
- Part time or the equivalent;
- On temporary contracts;
- At a lower classification than they were on 25 August 2012.

Answer to Question on Notice

The Commissioner for Public Employment is the employer of Northern Territory Public Service employees.

The Commissioner reports on the state of the public service annually and provides public sector staffing levels on a quarterly basis through the website www.ocpe.nt.gov.au

The Commissioner advises that quarterly reporting is appropriate given seasonal fluctuations and irregularities that can be misunderstood in month to month data.

The Commissioner for Public Employment's quarterly arrangements have existed in the current form since 2003.

As at December 2012, there were 19,989 FTE positions in the Northern Territory Public Service – an increase of 645 from the same time the year before. In the five years to December 2012, the Northern Territory Public Service grew 23.8% from 16,152 to 19,989.

Over the same period Executive Contract Officers, who earn between \$183,962 and \$331,376, grew by over 50% from 336 to 581.

The Northern Territory Government, in trying to contain further growth in the public sector and ensure agencies focus their endeavours at the front line, is ensuring that the community's and taxpayer's interests are protected.

The most recently released quarter ending Dec 2012 is reproduced attached:

NORTHERN TERRITORY PUBLIC SECTOR STAFFING
December quarters 2011, March to December quarters 2012
Measured as Full Time Equivalent

Agency	2011		2012			Change Dec to Mar	Change Mar to Jun	Change Jun to Sep	Change Sep to Dec	Yearly change Dec11 to Dec12
	Average Dec qtr	Average Mar qtr	Average Jun qtr	Average Sep qtr	Average Dec qtr					
Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority #	29	29	31	33	31	..	2	2	-2	2
Arts & Museums	..	..	..	new	152	..	..	..	152	152
Attorney- General & Justice	..	..	..	new	471	..	..	..	471	471
Auditor General	4	4	4	4	5	..	..	..	1	1
Business	..	..	..	new	319	..	..	..	319	319
Business & Employment	765	807	806	803	ceased	42	-1	-3	-803	-765
Chief Minister	278	278	275	248	205	..	-3	-27	-43	-73
Children & Families	632	659	741	790	753	27	82	49	-37	121
Commissioner for Public Employment	32	31	32	35	33	-1	1	3	-2	1
Construction & Infrastructure	426	423	407	405	ceased	-3	-16	-2	-405	-426
Corporate & Information Services	..	..	..	new	605	..	..	..	605	605
Correctional Services	..	..	..	new	854	..	..	..	854	854
Darwin Port Corporation	95	100	105	105	103	5	5	..	-2	8
Education & Children's Services (Education & Training)	4 459	4 423	4 584	4 509	4 598	-36	161	15	-1	139
Health	5 470	5 477	5 600	5 633	5 681	7	123	33	48	211
Housing	..	..	..	new	442	..	..	..	442	442
Infrastructure	..	..	..	new	404	..	..	..	404	404
Justice	1 338	1 389	1 428	1 438	ceased	51	39	10	-1 438	-1 338
Land Development Corporation	..	..	..	new	11	..	..	..	11	11
Land Resource Management	..	..	..	new	257	..	..	..	257	257
Lands, Planning & Environment	..	..	..	..	314	..	..	..	314	314
Housing, Local Govt & Regional Svcs	631	638	674	656	ceased	7	36	-18	-656	-631
Lands & Planning	554	559	567	564	ceased	5	8	-3	-564	-554
Legislative Assembly	107	103	96	90	92	-4	-7	-6	2	-15
Local Government	..	..	..	new	35	..	..	..	35	35
Mines & Energy	..	..	..	new	125	..	..	..	125	125
Natural Res, Env't, Arts & Sport	817	803	791	793	ceased	-14	-12	2	-793	-817
NT Electoral Commission	17	32	43	56	18	15	11	13	-38	1
Ombudsman	14	14	14	14	13	..	..	..	-1	-1
Parks & Wildlife Commission	..	..	..	new	277	..	..	..	277	277
Police, Fire & Emergency Services #	1 915	1 911	1 957	1 990	2 030	-4	46	33	40	115
Power & Water Corporation	1 033	1 048	1 054	1 057	1 063	15	6	3	6	30
Primary Industry & Fisheries	..	..	..	new	298	..	..	..	298	298
Regional Development & Indigenous Advancement	..	..	..	new	165	..	..	..	165	165
Resources	438	429	427	424	ceased	-9	-2	-3	-424	-438
Sport & Recreation	..	..	..	new	55	..	..	..	55	55
Tourism NT #	118	115	117	121	123	-3	2	4	2	5
Transport	..	..	..	new	275	..	..	..	275	275
Treasury	172	183	180	181	182	11	-3	1	1	10
TOTAL	19 344	19 455	19 933	20 039	19 989	111	478	106	- 50	645

NT Police seconded to AFP for airport security 15 11 5 3 2 (not included in the above count)

Note: Table shows totals for paid full-time equivalents, including casuals, averaged over all pays in the stated quarter.

The uniformed police component of PFES, the Territory Discoveries component of Tourism NT and the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority are administered under their own Acts, not under the Public Sector Employment & Management Act.