

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins for the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development:

Aboriginal Interpreter Service

- 1. How much does it cost to run the Aboriginal Interpreter Service? When was it last reviewed? Are there any plans to expand the service?**

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service 2019-20 budget is \$8 058 000.

The Labor Government provided an additional \$1 million annually to expand the service. The Aboriginal Interpreter Service is constantly seeking to increase its pool of casual interpreters in as many languages as possible all over the Northern Territory, and is about to start recruiting for Aboriginal trainee interpreters. This will be the first time that such a traineeship has been offered and will target school aged Aboriginal people who speak Aboriginal languages.

- 2. How much has been spent on training for the Aboriginal Interpreter Service? Does that come out of the AIS \$8.4 million budget?**

During 2018-19, the total amount spent on the Aboriginal Interpreter Service interpreter and administrative staff training was \$152 611.

All Aboriginal Interpreter Service training is funded within the budget.

- 3. How much has been paid by other agencies for using the AIS?**

The total amount paid by other agencies for the use of the Aboriginal Interpreter Service in 2018-19 is \$1 284 123.

- 4. How much has been spent on travel and accommodation for interpreters from the AIS?**

In 2018-19, the total amount spent on travel and accommodation for Aboriginal Interpreter Service interpreters was \$258 846.

- 5. How much does it cost to run the Interpreting and Translation Service NT? How many staff does the Service have? How many interpreters?**

The Interpreting and Translating Service NT's 2019-20 budget is \$773 000. There are four staff within the service, with 121 interpreters.