



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**Public Accounts Committee**

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**Associated Minutes of Proceedings**

**Public Accounts Committee  
Annual Report 2017-18**

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**August 2018**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 10**

12pm, Thursday, 6 July 2017

Via teleconference

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Member for Sanderson (Chair)  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Member for Blain (Deputy Chair)  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

**Apologies:**

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Julia Knight, Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. MEETING**

**2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS 8 AND 9**

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 8 and 9 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted and submissions were accepted.

**5. PUBLICATION OF SUBMISSIONS**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Wood seconded:

That the Committee authorises the publication of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics submission to the inquiry into taxi licensing and subleasing excluding appendices D and F which remains confidential and include a note to Appendix E, Policy 5.20 Authority to Allocate Licences Under Certain Conditions, advising that the Policy was only in place during the 2015 Commercial Passenger Industry Review and was withdrawn following the completion of the review in February 2016.

Question put and passed.

**6. COMPLAINT FROM [REDACTED]**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

The Committee asks the Chair of the Committee to write to:

- (1) the Speaker to seek precedence under Standing Order 229 to move a motion to refer [REDACTED] complaint to the Privileges Committee for investigation
- (2) [REDACTED] to advise that the Committee has written to the Speaker to seek precedence for a motion to refer the complaint to the Privileges Committee for investigation and proposes to write to [REDACTED] to advise him a complaint has been made and the importance of not intimidating or punishing witnesses, subject to consideration of any objection [REDACTED] may raise
- (3) subject to no objection being raised by [REDACTED] advising that:
  - (a) the Committee has received a complaint alleging [REDACTED]
  - (b) punishing a person for giving evidence to a committee of the Legislative Assembly is a breach of the privileges of the Assembly, for which the Legislative Assembly may impose a sentence of imprisonment for up to 6 months or a fine up to \$5,000 for a person or \$25,000 for a corporation under section 25 of the *Legislative Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act*, and is also an offence under section 20 of that Act for which a court may impose a maximum penalty of 40 penalty units or imprisonment for 6 months for a natural person or 215 penalty units for a corporation
  - (c) the Committee is seeking precedence for a motion to be moved in the next meeting of the Assembly to refer this complaint to the Committee of Privileges to investigate whether the Assembly's privileges have been breached
  - (d) the PAC is not able to investigate whether the complaint is justified but is seeking to have it referred to the Privileges Committee as it has the role of investigating such matters
  - (e) if, as alleged, [REDACTED] could be considered to aggravate its seriousness.

**7. INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The Committee agreed that the Deputy Chair would be the media spokesperson in the Chair's absence during the following week.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 20 July 2017  
Meeting closed at 12.35pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 11**

11.00 AM, Thursday, 20 July 2017

Central Australia Development Office, 55 Todd Mall, Alice Springs

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett (Via teleconference)  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

Mrs Lambley, Mr Paech, Mr McConnell and Ms Wakefield were apologies.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Colin Dawson, Manager, **Combined Cabs Pty Ltd (T/A Alice Springs Taxis)**
- Mr George Cooke, **Combined Cabs Pty Ltd (T/A Alice Springs Taxis)**
- Mr Stephen Patullo, **Combined Cabs Pty Ltd (T/A Alice Springs Taxis)**
- Mr Lynn Polglase, **Combined Cabs Pty Ltd (T/A Alice Springs Taxis)**

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr George Jacob, President, **Alice Springs Drivers Association**
- Mr Jaspreet Singh, Public Officer, **Alice Springs Drivers Association**
- Mr Amrit Sra, **Alice Springs Drivers Association**

Jaspreet Singh tabled a list of Alice Springs taxi plate owners and lessees.

George Jacob tabled a letter confirming successful application Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) Operator Accreditation.

Jaspreet Singh tabled a Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act Certificate of Accreditation.

The witnesses withdrew.

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Shakeel Husain, Taxi Driver
- Mr Shiju George, Taxi Driver

The witnesses withdrew.

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Samih Habib, Taxi Owner

The witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.54 pm and the meeting continued in private.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 10 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted.

**5. NEXT MEETING**

24 July 2017.

Meeting closed at 2.00 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 12**

9.06 AM, Monday, 24 July 2017

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin (Via teleconference)  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. PUBLIC HEARING- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Kuldeep Singh
- Mr Kamal Khattra

The witnesses withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Terry Pachos, Director, **Blue Taxis Pty Ltd**

The witness withdrew.

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Khalid Nadeem, Director, **B&A Dispatch Services Pty Ltd T/A Darwin Radio Taxis**

The witness withdrew.

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- Dr Ali Rkein, President, **NT Taxi Council**

The witness withdrew.

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

- Mr Andrew Kirkman, Chief Executive, **Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics**
- Mr Alex Rae, Director Passenger Transport, **Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics**
- Mr Greg Turner, Acting Manager Commercial Passenger Vehicle, **Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics**

The witnesses withdrew at 12.20 pm.

Meeting closed at 12.20 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 13**

12.12 PM, Tuesday, 15 August 2017

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillet (via teleconference)  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson
- Apologies** Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Julia Knight, Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
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**1. PRIVATE HEARING- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

- [REDACTED]

The witness withdrew at 12.55 pm.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS 11 AND 12**

Mr Mills moved and Mrs Lia Finocchiaro seconded that:

That the Minutes of Meeting Numbers 11 and 12 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Sieves seconded that:

The correspondence be noted and submissions accepted.

Question put and passed.

The Committee agreed to consider the letter from Mr Wood at its next meeting.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT**

The Committee agreed to consider the draft Annual Report at its next meeting.

**5. INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Mills seconded that:

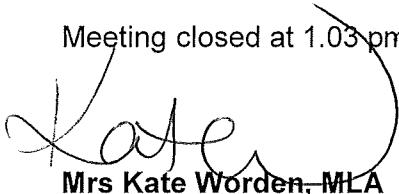
The Committee authorise publication of the transcripts of the public hearings held on 20 July 2017 and 24 July 2017.

Question put and passed.

**6. NEXT MEETING**

12 noon, Tuesday, 22 August 2017

Meeting closed at 1.03 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate', is written over a large, faint circular stamp or watermark.

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 14**

12.00 PM, Tuesday, 22 August 2017

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin
- Apologies** Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Julia Knight, Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer
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**1. MINUTES OF MEETING 13**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 13 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence and accepted the submissions.

**3. COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Wood seconded that:

The Committee authorises the Chair to provide the following documents to the Privileges Committee on a confidential basis, apart from item 1(g) which is provided as a published transcript:

1. All submissions and other information that [REDACTED] has provided to the PAC in relation to its inquiry into taxi licensing and subleasing or his complaint to the PAC.
  - a. [REDACTED]
  - b. [REDACTED]
  - c. [REDACTED]
  - d. 7a. CONFIDENTIAL emailed complaint received 4 July 2017.EML
  - e. 7b. Emailed complaint received 4 July 2017 cc'd to others.msg

- f. 10. Email from [REDACTED] to PAC, dated 6 July 2017.msg
  - g. TRANSCRIPT PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MONDAY 24 JULY 2017 FINAL.pdf (published 16/8/17).
2. All correspondence between [REDACTED] and the PAC
- a) Submission Acknowledgement [REDACTED]
  - b) Submission Acknowledgement [REDACTED]
  - c) Email to [REDACTED]
  - d) Signed Letter to [REDACTED] from Russell Keith, dated 7 June 2017.PDF
  - e) 6. Submission Acknowledgement [REDACTED]
  - f) 9. Letter [REDACTED] Complaint Acknowledgement, dated 5 July 2017
  - g) 13. Letter from the Public Accounts Committee to [REDACTED] dated 6 July 2017
  - h) 14. Email correspondence between [REDACTED] and Keith, dated 7 July 2017
  - i) 16. Email response to [REDACTED] dated 11 July 2017
  - j) 18. Email from [REDACTED]
  - k) 20. Email to [REDACTED] dated 14 August 2017
  - l) 21. Email to [REDACTED] dated 15 August 2017.
3. All correspondence between [REDACTED] and the PAC
- a. 15. Signed [REDACTED] regarding complaint, sent 10 July 2017.
4. Any other information relevant to [REDACTED] complaint.
- a. 5. Correspondence from [REDACTED]
  - b. [REDACTED]
  - c. PAC complaint context statement by A McCall, dated 5 July 2017
  - d. 8. Email from [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] dated 5 July 2017
  - e. 11. Signed Letter to Speaker from Chair, dated 6 July 2017
  - f. 12. Acknowledgement from Madam Speaker to Chair, dated 6 July 2017
  - g. 17. CONFIDENTIAL Letter from Speaker to Chair, dated 13 July 2017.

Question put and passed.

#### 4. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Mr Kirby moved and Mr Sievers seconded that:

The Committee:

- a) adopts the report
- b) endorses the draft media release.

Question put and passed.

#### 5. COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM

The Committee agreed to defer the decision of its work program.

**6. PRIVATE HEARING- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

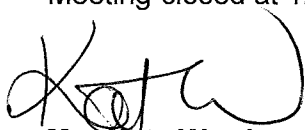
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

The witness withdrew at 1.15 pm.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

12 noon, Tuesday, 10 October 2017

Meeting closed at 1.16 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 15**

12.00 PM, Wednesday, 11 October 2017

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett
- Apologies** Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer
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**1. MINUTES OF MEETING 14**

Mr Wood moved and Mr Sievers seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 14 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

**3. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

The Committee agreed to refer the relevant legal advice dated 27 September 2017 for comment to the:

1. Minister for Housing and Community Development regarding the Litchfield Council (Dog Management) By-Laws 2017 [No 12 of 2017], and the
2. Minister for Health regarding the Termination of Pregnancy Law Reform Regulations [No 201 of 2017].

The Committee agreed to write to Minister for Environment and Natural Resources regarding the Bushfires Management (General) Regulations to:

- Welcome the Minister's intention to remove serious offences from the schedule providing for infringement notices
- Note its concern about the 12 month timeframe and seek the Minister's commitment to amending the Regulations within 3 months
- refer the Committee's legal advice dated 10 October 2017 and recommend the adoption of guidance for infringement notices similar to that put out by the Victorian Attorney-General

- ask the Minister to indicate her response to the Committee by 16 October 2017 as the Committee will need to determine whether a notice of motion to disallow the Regulations will be required.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The Committee agreed to defer consideration till its next meeting.

**5. COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM**

The Committee agreed to write to the Auditor-General to arrange a meeting at the earliest convenient time after the current sittings to discuss:

- Her August report and discuss options for its work program
- The extent to which the Infrastructure Strategy addresses the recommendations of her June 2016 audit of the Palmerston Regional Hospital
- The forthcoming audit program
- Potential issues for a formal inquiry by the Committee, such as the management of major projects.

The Committee agreed to:

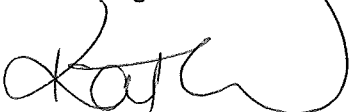
- Invite the Electoral Commissioner to brief the Committee on his 2016 Election Report at a date to be determined
- Write to Correctional Services requesting a written update on their progress towards the recommendations in the Ombudsman's Women in Prison II Report by the end of January 2018.

**6. NEXT MEETING**

The Committee agreed to tentatively schedule meetings for lunchtime on sitting Tuesdays, and as required have meetings on Wednesday mornings if the Assembly is meeting at 2 pm.

12 noon, Tuesday, 17 October 2017

Meeting closed at 1.30 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 16**

12.00 PM, Wednesday, 17 October 2017

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. MINUTES OF MEETING 15**

Mr Wood moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 15 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

The Committee agreed to write to the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources to thank her for her letter and note that it addressed its concerns.

**3. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The Committee considered the draft report.

**4. NEXT MEETING**

12.30 pm, Thursday 26 October 2017

Meeting closed at 1.12 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate".

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 17**

12.00 PM, Thursday, 25 October 2017

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett (via telephone)  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Guest:** Ms Julie Crisp, NT Auditor-General

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. AUDITOR-GENERAL BRIEFING**

The Auditor General briefed the Committee on her August 2017 report and her forthcoming audit program.

The Chair advised the Committee that her husband had worked as a subcontractor to a business receiving an Indigenous Employment Provisional Sum and this may be a relevant conflict of interest if the Committee were to give any consideration to that scheme.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING 16**

Mr Wood moved and Mr Mills seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 16 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

**4. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The Committee considered the draft report.

**5. COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAM**

Mr Wood moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded:

The Committee agreed to hold public briefings on 22 November 2017 about the following matters:

- (1) Warren Park rugby league stadium with the Department of Tourism and Development
- (2) Room to Breathe program with the Department Housing and Community Development

Question put and passed.

**6. REFERRAL OF UNPUBLISHED EVIDENCE TO DIPL**

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Mills seconded:

That the Committee advise the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics of the portions of unpublished legal advice and private hearings it is considering including in its report and ask whether it had any objections to the publication of the material.

Question put and passed.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting to be held as soon as convenient following revision of the draft report and then public briefings from 10am on Wednesday 22 November 2017.

Meeting closed at 3.40 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 18**

3.00 PM, Monday, 6 November 2017

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan (via telephone)  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson (via telephone)  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett (via telephone)  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain (via telephone)

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT- INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

The Committee considered the draft and agreed that a revised draft is to be circulated for consideration as soon as practicable.

**2. NEXT MEETING**

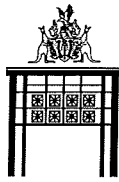
The next meeting is to be held following circulation of a revised draft of the report on taxi licensing and subleasing.

A public briefing has been scheduled from 10am on Wednesday 22 November 2017.

Meeting closed at 3.50 pm

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kate', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 19**

2.00 PM, Wednesday, 15 November 2017

Ormiston Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan (via telephone)  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson (via telephone)  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett (via telephone)

**Apologies:** Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. MEETING**

Mr Mills was an apology

**2. PREVIOUS MINUTES MEETINGS 17 AND 18**

Mr Kirby moved and Mr Sievers seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 17 and 18 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**4. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

Mrs Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded:

Proposed resolution:

That the Committee note the advice on Regulations 27, 28 and 543 of 2017.

Question put and passed.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT - INQUIRY INTO TAXI LICENSING AND SUBLEASING**

Mr Kirby moved and Mr Wood seconded:

That the Committee adopts the Inquiry into Taxi Licensing and Subleasing Report.  
Question put and passed.

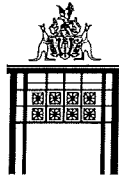
**7. NEXT MEETING**

Public briefing Thursday 23 November 2017 at 12 pm.

Meeting closed at 2.10pm

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**





LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 20**

12.05 PM, Thursday, 23 November 2017

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. MEETING**

There were no apologies

**2. PUBLIC BRIEFING**

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee from the Department of Tourism and Culture:

- Mr Alastair Shields, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Phillip Leslie, Executive Director, Sport and Recreation
- Ms Susan Kirkman, Executive Director, Infrastructure and Corporate Services

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee from the Department of Housing and Community Development:

- Mr Jamie Chalker, Chief Executive Officer
- Mr Jim Bamber, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Karen Elligett, Executive Director Corporate Services
- Mr Michael Leonard, Chief Procurement Officer
- Mr Ken Tinkham, Chief Financial Officer
- Mr Dwayne McInnes, Senior Executive Officer, Remote Program Delivery Office

The witnesses withdrew

**3. PREVIOUS MINUTES MEETING 19**

Mr Sievers moved and Mr Wood seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 19 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted.

**6. NEXT MEETING**

TBA

Meeting closed at 1.40pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 21**

1.05 PM, Wednesday, 7 February 2018

Ormiston Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain
- Guest:** Ms Julie Crisp, NT Auditor-General
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. AUDITOR-GENERAL BRIEFING**

The Auditor General briefed the Committee on her November 2017 report and her forthcoming audit program.

The Member for Spillett advised that if the Committee wished to consider further the Darwin Waterfront or AustralAsia Railway she may have a relevant conflict of interest.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING 20**

Mr Wood moved and Mr Mills seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 20 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

The Committee directed the secretariat to obtain from the Department of Housing and Community Development a list of communities where works had been carried out to date under the Room to Breathe program.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

Mrs Worden could not attend the ACPAC conference, the Committee agreed that Mr Wood would represent the Committee at the ACPAC Conference in Melbourne on 5-7 April 2018.

**5. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

The Committee considered Professor Aughterson's advice and the briefing.

**6. REPORTS OF STATUTORY BODIES**

The Committee noted the reports and briefings.

**7. NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER 2016 ELECTION REPORT**

The Committee resolved to invite the Electoral Commissioner to their next meeting.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held 13 March 2018.

Meeting closed at 1.55 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 22**  
12.00 PM, Tuesday, 13 March 2018  
Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett
- Apologies:** Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain
- Guest:** Mr Iain Loganathan, Electoral Commissioner
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

Mr Mills was an apology.

**2. ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER BRIEFING**

The Electoral Commissioner briefed the Committee on his 2016 Territory Election Report and Department of the Chief Minister's Consultation Discussion Paper on Electoral Reforms and Electronic Voting Information Paper.

The Northern Territory Electoral Commission position on electoral reform is articulated in the election report. The NTEC submission to the electoral reform discussion paper discussed two issues not covered in the report that the Electoral Commissioner brought to the attention of the Committee:

- the impact the change to optional preferential voting system at Legislative Assembly elections had on unintentional informal rate at the 2017 council election
- due to the significant increase in electors early voting, allow these counts to commence before 6pm on election day to ensure timely release of results.

The Committee agreed to place a discussion item at its next meeting about the 2016 Territory Election Report.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING 21**

Mr Wood moved and Mr Sievers seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 21 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

The Committee directed the secretariat to obtain from the Department of Housing and Community Development further details of the Room to Breathe program works that have been carried out at each community on the list provided, in particular, how many houses involved within each location.

**5. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

The Committee considered Professor Aughterson's advice and the briefing.

The Committee agreed to refer Professor Aughterson's comments regarding the Racing and Betting Amendment Regulations [No 36 of 2017] to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice for advice.

**6. REPORTS OF STATUTORY BODIES**

The Committee noted the reports and briefings.

The Committee directed the secretariat to circulate the following reports electronically to the Committee for discussion at their next meeting:

- NT Build, 2016-2017
- Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Board, 2016-2017
- Jabiru Town Development Authority, 2016-2017

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held 20 March 2018.

Meeting closed at 1.15 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 23**

1.00 PM, Thursday, 22 March 2018

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett
- Apologies:** Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain
- Guest:** Ms Julie Crisp, NT Auditor-General
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer
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**1. APOLOGIES**

Mr Mills was an apology.

**2. NT AUDITOR-GENERAL BRIEFING**

The Auditor-General briefed the Committee on her *March 2018 Report to the Legislative Assembly*.

The Auditor-General left the meeting.

The Committee agreed to invite the Auditor-General to their next meeting for further briefing and discussion on Berrimah Farm, NT Build and the Jabiru Town Development Authority.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING 22**

Mr Kirby moved and Mr Wood seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 22 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Committee noted the correspondence.

**5. 2016 TERRITORY ELECTION REPORT**

The Committee discussed the report.

**6. REPORTS OF STATUTORY BODIES**

The Committee discussed and noted the reports.

**7. INQUIRY INTO POLICING**

Mr Wood moved, and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded:

That the Committee inquire into the Northern Territory Police Force in accordance with the terms of reference that Mrs Lambley moved in General Business on 14 March 2018.

The Committee divided. Ayes: Mrs Finocchiaro and Mr Wood. Noes: Mr Sievers and Mrs Worden. The votes being even, the Chair gave her casting vote with the noes so the motion was not agreed.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting to be held before 6 April 2018.

Meeting closed at 1.30 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 24**

12.10 PM, Tuesday, 3 April 2018

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin (via telephone)  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett (via telephone)  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Guest:** Ms Julie Crisp, NT Auditor-General

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. NT AUDITOR-GENERAL DISCUSSION**

The Auditor-General and the Committee discussed her *March 2018 Report to the Legislative Assembly*. The Auditor-General took two questions on notice.

The Auditor-General left the meeting.

The Committee agreed to invite the CEO's of the Departments of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics and Primary Industry and Resources to a public hearing 3 May 2018 to answer their questions on the Berrimah Farm Redevelopment.

The agreed to extend an invitation to attend the public hearing to the Auditor-General.

**3. MINUTES OF MEETING 23**

The Committee confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting, subject to the correction that it was Mr Sievers instead of Mr Kirby voting in the division on the motion on an inquiry into policing.

**4. DISALLOWABLE INSTRUMENTS**

The Committee discussed the Joint Management Plan, Watarrka National Park, February 2018.

Mr Wood moved and Mr Sievers seconded:

That the Committee do not seek external legal counsel advice regarding the Plan due to it being an administrative as opposed to a legislative instrument and note the briefing.

Question put and passed.

**5. NEXT MEETING**

Public Hearing, 12 noon, 3 May 2018

Meeting closed at 1.00 pm



**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 25**

12.05 PM, Tuesday, 3 May 2018

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. PUBLIC BRIEFING – BERRIMAH FARM REDEVELOPMENT**

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee from the Department of Primary Industry and Resources:

- Mr Alister Trier, Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Lorraine Corowa, Director Market and Enterprise Development
- Ms Karen Timms, Berrimah Farm Project Manager

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee from the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics:

- Mr Andrew Kirkman, Chief Executive
- Mr Bruce Michael, Executive Director Transport Planning
- Ms Karen White, Senior Manager Land Transactions

Andrew Kirkman tabled a diagram titled "Integrated Land Use and Infrastructure Planning" (PAC Tabled Paper no 5).

The witnesses withdrew.

**3. NEXT MEETING**

Meeting closed at 1.26 pm

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
**Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 26**

12.07 PM, Tuesday, 8 May 2018

Litchfield Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

**2. MINUTES OF MEETING 24 AND 25**

Mr Sievers moved and Mr Wood seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 24 and 25 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted.

The Committee considered the information regarding joining the Commonwealth Association of Public Accounts Committees (CAPAC) and decided not to join at this stage.

The Committee agreed that the Chair write to the Attorney-General requesting the timelines of making a new Racing and Betting regulation as indicated in her letter dated 1 May 2018.

**4. BERRIMAH FARM REDVELOPMENT**

Mr Sievers moved and Mr Mills seconded:

- a) That the Committee invites the Auditor-General to further discuss the matter at the Committee's next meeting, and
- b) That the Chair writes to the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics requesting a full chronology of the matter indicating key decision points up to the award of contracts with the successful tenderer/s.

Question put and passed.

**5. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

Advice from Professor Aughterson and the briefing was noted.

**6. REPORT FROM ACPAC MID-TERM MEETING**

Mr Wood and Mr Keith verbally reported back on the ACPAC Mid-Term Meeting.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

2pm, Monday 14 May 2018

Meeting closed at 12.50 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate', with a large, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 27**

2.05 PM, Monday, 14 May 2018

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson (via telephone)  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain
- Apologies:** Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan
- Guests:** Ms Julie Crisp, NT Auditor-General
- Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer
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**1. APOLOGIES**

Mr Sievers was an apology.

**2. BERRIMAH FARM REDVELOPMENT**

The Committee discussed the project with the Auditor-General.

The Committee agreed to consider options for responding to issues raised by the project after receiving the project's chronology requested of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

**3. PREVIOUS MINUTES, CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS**

The Committee deferred other matters to its next meeting.

**4. NEXT MEETING**

TBA after the receipt of the Berrimah Farm Redevelopment chronology requested of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

Meeting finished at 3.05pm

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA**  
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
13<sup>th</sup> Assembly

**Public Accounts Committee**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Meeting No. 28**

3.10 PM, Monday, 18 June 2018

Ormiston Room

**Present:** Mrs Kate Worden, MLA, Chair, Member for Sanderson  
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson  
Mr Paul Kirby, MLA, Member for Port Darwin  
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro, MLA, Member for Spillett  
Mr Terry Mills, MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Blain  
Mr Tony Sievers, MLA, Member for Brennan (via telephone)

**Secretariat:** Mr Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Committee Secretary  
Ms Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer  
Ms Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

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**1. PREVIOUS MINUTES MEETING 26 AND 27**

Mr Mills moved and Mr Sievers seconded:

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 24 and 25 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

**2. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted.

The Committee requested to keep a watching brief on the amended Racing and Betting Regulations commencement.

**3. BERRIMAH FARM REDVELOPMENT**

Mrs Finocchiaro declared her husband, Mr Sam Burke, was currently Acting Executive Director, Strategic Infrastructure and Projects, Department of Trade, Business and Innovation and therefore working on major projects.

The Committee noted that the material it had received about the Berrimah Farm Project did not yet provide a comprehensive picture of the management of the Berrimah Farm redevelopment project, but that at this point the resources of the Committee would be best used seeking assurance that the Government now had sufficiently robust systems for the management of such projects. The Committee therefore agreed that the Chair would prepare a proposal for the Committee to examine whether there were now sufficiently robust systems in place for the management of major projects.

The Committee further agreed to include in its Annual Report a report on its work on the Berrimah Farm Redevelopment.

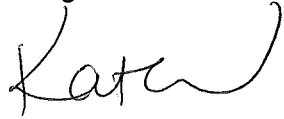
**4. SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION**

The Committee noted Professor Aughterson's advice and the brief.

**5. NEXT MEETING**

14 August 2018, unless earlier convened by the Chair.

Meeting finished at 3.40pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Mrs Kate Worden, MLA  
Chair**