



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Public Accounts Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Report on Repairs and Maintenance of Housing on Town Camps

May 2016



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 45

10.30 am, Tuesday, 16 February 2016
Alice Springs Correctional Centre
and Araluen Electorate Office

Present: Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

Staff: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee

1. VISIT TO CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES AT THE ALICE SPRINGS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

The Correctional Services Commissioner and staff of the Department of Correctional Services showed the Committee the Correctional Industries facilities at the Alice Springs Correction Centre.

The Committee suspended its meeting at 1.30 pm and resumed at 2.30 pm for a deliberative meeting at the Araluen Electorate Office.

2. INQUIRY INTO TOWN CAMPS

The Committee agreed:

To inquire into the repair and maintenance of housing on town camps in the Northern Territory, with particular regard to the:

- a) timeliness of completing repairs
- b) cost of repairs
- c) consistency, accessibility and efficiency of administrative arrangements

To conduct this inquiry, the Committee agreed to:

call for submissions by 15 March 2016,

write to town camp housing organisations, contract service providers, and the departments of Housing and Local Government and Community Services seeking submissions,

ask the departments of Housing and Local Government and Community Services to brief the Committee on the management of town camps on Monday, 29 February 2016, and

advertise the call for submissions in the NT News, Alice Springs Centralian Advocate, Tennant and District Times and the Katherine Times.

3. NEXT MEETING

29 February 2016.

Meeting closed at 2.45 pm.

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RL', positioned to the right of the name 'Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA'.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 46

10.00 am, Wednesday, 2 March 2016
Litchfield Room

Present: Mrs, Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

Staff: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee
Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. INQUIRY INTO HOUSING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF TOWN CAMPS PUBLIC HEARING

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee in relation to its inquiry into housing repairs and maintenance of Town Camps:

Department of Local Government and Community Services

Mr Mike Chiodo, Chief Executive Officer

Ms Noelene Swanson, Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Department of Housing

Ms Leah Clifford, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Jim Bamber, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Bamber took a question on notice regarding contract expenditure.

Ms Clifford took a question on notice regarding rent collection.

Ms Clifford took a question on notice regarding the value of contracts.

Mr Chiodo tabled a Remote Contracting Policy.

Ms Clifford took a question on notice regarding triennial reviews under a sublease.

Ms Clifford took a question on notice regarding house builds.

Mr Bamber took a question on notice regarding Aboriginal employment reporting.

The witnesses withdrew

2. BRIEFING FROM THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

The Auditor-General briefed the Committee on the findings of her February 2016 report.

3. NEXT MEETING

15 March 2016

Meeting closed at 2.00 pm

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RL', with a small mark to the right.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 47

12 noon, Tuesday 15 March 2016
Litchfield Room

Present: Mrs, Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

Staff: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee
Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Lauren Copley-Orrock, Administrative/Research Officer

1. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Fyles moved and Mr Wood seconded,

That the Minutes of Meeting Number 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46 be confirmed.

Question – put and passed.

2. OUTSTANDING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – LATITUDE TRAVEL

The Committee resolved that the Chair write to the Department of the Chief Minister requesting the answers to outstanding questions on notice regarding Latitude Travel, should the Secretariat not receive the answers by Friday 18 March 2016.

3. PUBLICATION OF QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Ms Manison moved and Ms Fyles seconded

That the following answers to questions taken on notice from the 4 February 2016 public hearing be published:

Palmerston Hospital

Question No. 1

Question No. 2

Question No. 3

Question No. 4

Correctional Industries

Question No. 1

Question – put and passed.

4. PUBLICATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Ms Fyles moved and Mrs Lambley seconded

That Submissions 1, 2 and 3 to its inquiry into Town Camp Housing be published.

Question – put and passed.

5. ANNUAL REPORTING

The Committee resolved to write to Chief Executive Officers of the departments of Health, Housing, the Chief Minister, Education, Infrastructure, and Transport to provide feedback and seek further information regarding the departments' compliance with annual reporting standards.

6. 2016 ACPAC MID-TERM MEETING ATTENDANCE

All Committee Members indicated their attendance at the 2016 ACPAC Mid-Term Meeting in Alice Springs on 27-28 April 2016.

7. 2016 ESTIMATES ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee agreed to write to the Leader of Government Business to seek clarification of the arrangements for the 2016 Estimates process.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON TOWN CAMPS

The Committee resolved to confirm witnesses for the upcoming hearing on 11 April 2016 in relation to its inquiry into Town Camps out of session via email.

9. NEXT MEETING

Public Hearings 11 April 2016

Meeting closed at 12.22 pm.

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair



19/4/16



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 48

8.15 am, Monday, 11 April 2016
Litchfield Room

Present: Mrs, Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

Staff: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. PUBLICATION OF SUBMISSIONS

Mr Wood moved:

That the Committee authorises the publication of the Submissions 4 to 6 and 8 to 11 to its inquiry into Town Camp Housing.

Question – put and passed.

2. PUBLICATION OF ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Ms Manison moved:

That the Committee authorises the publication of the following answers to questions taken on notice from the 4 February 2016 public hearing:

Homeland Grants

Questions 1 & 2

Latitude Travel

Questions 1, 2, 3 & 4

That the Committee authorises the publication of the answers to questions taken on notice by the Department of Housing at the hearing on town camps on 2 March 2016.

Question – put and passed.

3. TOWN CAMPS PUBLIC HEARINGS

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation

Mr Colin Tidswell, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Jeffrey Guilas, Accountant

Mr John Adams, Works Manager

The witnesses withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

Aboriginal Development Foundation Inc.

Mr Bernard Valadian, General Manager

The witness withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee via videoconference:

Kalano Community Association Inc.

Mr Graham Castine, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Alan Mole, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Ms Adrianna Weetra, Housing Manager

The witnesses withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

Tangentyere Council

Mr Walter Shaw, Chief Executive Officer

The witness withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee via videoconference:

Zodiac Business Services

Ms Mellissa Young, Director

The witness withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee via videoconference:

Ingkerreke Commercial

Mr Callum Mathison, Chief Executive Officer

Louise Wellington, Marketing Manager

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

Central Australian Affordable Housing Company

Ms Sally Langton, Chief Executive Officer

Mr David Avery, Chairperson

The witnesses withdrew

The following witness appeared before the Committee:

Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation

Ms Pat Brahim, Chief Executive Officer

The witness withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

Central Australian Aboriginal Legal Aid Service (via videoconference)

Ms Lauren Macaulay, Social Justice Legal Officer

Ms Katie Gordon, Welfare Rights Legal Officer

North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency

Ms Priscilla Collins, Chief Executive Officer

Ms Lauren Walker, Deputy Manager and Senior Solicitor – Civil Sector

The witnesses withdrew

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee:

Department of Housing

Ms Leah Clifford, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Jim Bamber, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Mr Phil Luck, Executive Director

Department of Local Government and Community Services

Mr Mike Chiodo, Chief Executive Officer

Mrs Noelene Swanson, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

The witnesses agreed to take further questions on notice.

The witnesses withdrew

4. PALMERSTON REGIONAL HOSPITAL PUBLIC HEARING

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee in relation to construction and funding of the Palmerston Hospital:

Department of Health

Mr Michael Kalimnios, Chief Operating Officer, Top End Health Services

Mr Adam Walding, Senior Director Capital and Facilities

Department of Infrastructure

Mr David McHugh, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Glen Brady, Project Director

Office of Major Projects, Infrastructure and Investment

Ms Anne Tan, Acting Coordinator General

Mr Brett Brogan

Mr McHugh showed a video simulation of the Palmerston Regional Hospital and tabled photos of the construction, road intersection and simulated completed building.

Mr Walding took a question on notice.

The witnesses withdrew

5. CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES PUBLIC HEARING

The following witnesses appeared before the Committee in relation to the operation of Correctional Industries:

Department of Correctional Services

Mr Mark Payne, Commissioner

Mr Rob Steer, Deputy Commissioner

The witnesses withdrew

6. OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee agreed to formalise written question on notice for the Department of Housing and Department of Local Government and Community Services at the next meeting on 19 April 2016.

7. NEXT MEETING

12 noon, Tuesday, 19 April 2016

Meeting closed at 4.56pm

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair



19/4/16



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 49

12 noon, Tuesday
12 noon, Tuesday, 19 April 2016
Litchfield Room

- Present:** Mrs, Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson
- Staff:** Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
- Guest:** Ms Julie Crisp, Auditor-General

1. AUDITOR-GENERAL'S UPDATE

The Auditor-General, Ms Julie Crisp, provided an update on the audit program.

2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chairman.

Ms Manison proposed Mr Wood be Deputy Chair of the Public Accounts Committee. Mrs Lambley seconded the proposal.

There being no other Member proposed to be Deputy Chair, the Chair declared Mr Wood elected as Deputy Chair of the Committee.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Manison moved and Mr Wood seconded

That the minutes No. 47 and No. 48 be confirmed.

Question – put and passed.

4. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Mr Wood moved and Ms Manison seconded

That the Committee write to the Chief Executives of Department of Housing and Department of Local Government and Community Services regarding additional questions in relation to their inquiry into housing repairs and maintenance on town camps.

Question – put and passed.

5. ESTIMATES PREPARATION

Ms Manison indicated she would circulate the Opposition's time suggestions for Ministers' appearances by the end of the week.

6. REPORT – INQUIRY INTO HOUSING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE ON TOWN CAMPS

The Committee agreed to meet at 9.30 am on Monday, 16 May 2016, to consider the draft report.

7. IPAA ANNUAL REPORTING AWARDS

Ms Manison moved and Mr Wood seconded

That the Chair present the IPAA Annual Reporting Awards as business of the Committee.

Question – put and passed.

8. ACPAC MID-TERM MEETING

The Committee agreed that the recommended dress for the ACPAC Mid-term Meeting would be smart casual.

9. NEXT MEETING

ACPAC Mid-Term Meeting 27-28 April 2016

Meeting closed at 12.54 pm

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair



20/5/16



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting No. 50

12 noon, Friday, 20 May 2016
Litchfield Room

Present: Mrs, Robyn Lambley, MLA, Chair, Member for Araluen
Ms Natasha Fyles, MLA, Member for Nightcliff
Ms Nicole Manison, MLA, Member for Wanguri
Mr Gerry Wood, MLA, Member for Nelson

Staff: Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant and Secretary of the Committee
Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Lauren Copley-Orrock, Administration/Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ms Fyles moved and Mr Wood seconded

That the minutes No.49 be confirmed.

Question – put and passed.

2. TOWN CAMPS DRAFT REPORT

Ms Manison moved and Mr Wood seconded

That the Report on Repairs and Maintenance of Housing on Town Camps be adopted, subject to any amendments emailed through by midday Monday, 23 May 2016 and agreed to by Committee Members.

Question – put and passed.

The Committee proposed that the report be tabled in the Assembly on Tuesday, 24 May 2016, after Question Time.

3. PUBLICATION OF WRITTEN ANSWERS

Ms Manison moved and Ms Fyles seconded

That the Committee authorise the publication of answers to written questions received by the Department of Housing and Department of Local Government and Community Services.

Question – put and passed.

4. PUBLICATION OF ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Ms Manison moved and Ms Fyles seconded

That the Committee authorise the publication of the answer to the question taken on notice from the Department of Health on 11 April 2016.

Question – put and passed.

5. ANNUAL REPORTING

The Committee agreed to write to the following departments seeking their responses to the Committee's letter of 11 April 2016 by Friday, 27 May 2016:

- Department of the Chief Minister
- Department of Education
- Department of Housing
- Department of Infrastructure
- Department of Transport

6. 2016 ESTIMATES & GOVERNMENT OWNED CORPORATIONS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HEARINGS

The Committee discussed arrangements for the Estimates and Government Owned Corporations Scrutiny Committee hearings.

7. NEXT MEETING

12.30 pm, Thursday, 26 May 2016

Meeting closed at 12.54 pm

Mrs Robyn Lambley, MLA

Chair