



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Social Policy Scrutiny Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Inquiry into the Local Government Bill 2019

October 2019



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 58

12.00 pm, Thursday, 19 September 2019
Litchfield Room

Present: Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Mrs Kate Worden MLA, Member for Sanderson

Apologies: Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira

Secretariat: Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russel Keith, First Clerk Assistant

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mrs Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 57 of 16 September 2019 be confirmed

Question put and passed.

2. NEW BILL REFERRALS

Proposed Bill Inquiry Plan noted

Mrs Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee Call for submissions to its inquiries into Bills referred in the September sittings to be received by Tuesday 8 October 2019.

Question put and passed.

3. NEXT MEETING

Public Hearing and Public Briefings – Monday 23 September 2019:

- 8.30 am Public Hearing – Burial and Cremation Bill 2019
- 10.30 am Public Briefing – Local Government Bill 2019
- 11.00 am Public Briefing – Mental Health and Related Services Amendment Bill 2019
- 11.30 am Public Briefing – Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

Meeting closed at 12.12 pm.

Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 59

8.30 am, Monday, 23 September 2019

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Mrs Kate Worden MLA, Member for Sanderson
- Apologies:** Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
- Secretariat:** Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
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1. PUBLIC HEARING – BURIAL AND CREMATION BILL 2019

The Committee heard from the following witnesses:

City of Palmerston

Luccio Cercarelli: Chief Executive Officer
Shane Nankivell: Executive Manager Finance

Member for Nhulunbuy

Yingiya Mark Guyula MLA

Northern Land Council

Robert Gosford: Manager Policy and Communication
Diane Brodie: Research and Policy Officer
Tom Weston: Paralegal

Central Land Council

Josie Douglas: Policy Manager
Dean Murphy: Lawyer

Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development

Maree De Lacey: Executive Director Local Government and Community Development
Lee Williams: Senior Director Legislation and Policy
Ethan Redshaw: Senior Legislation and Policy Officer

Question Taken on Notice: Can you please clarify for the Committee, what face-to-face consultation was undertaken on the Bill with key stakeholders, in particular residents in remote communities, in the lead up to and following publication of the exposure draft of the Bill?

2. PUBLIC BRIEFING – LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2019

The Committee heard from the following witnesses:

Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development

Maree De Lacey: Executive Director Local Government and Community Development
Lee Williams: Senior Director Legislation and Policy
Hugh King: Manager, Legislation and Policy

3. PUBLIC BRIEFING – MENTAL HEALTH AND RELATED SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2019

The Committee heard from the following witnesses:

Department of the Attorney-General and Justice

Jenni Daniel-Yee: Director, Legal Policy

Josine Wynberg: Principal Policy Lawyer

4. PUBLIC BRIEFING – EVIDENCE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019

The Committee heard from the following witnesses:

Department of the Attorney-General and Justice

Jenni Daniel-Yee: Director Legal Policy

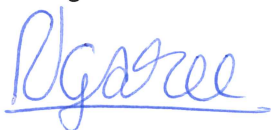
Leonique Swart: Principal Policy Lawyer

Question Taken on Notice: The Bill provides for a recorded statement of a complainant to be adduced as evidence-in-chief in a proceeding for a domestic violence order. In the absence of any specific provisions, can you clarify whether the complainant can elect to give evidence in person in court instead of, or in addition to, reliance on the recorded statement?

5. NEXT MEETING

Deliberative Meeting: 9.30 am, Monday 30 September 2019 (Consideration of Evidence – Burial and Cremation Bill 2019 and Statute Law Revision and Repeals Bill 2019)

Meeting closed at 11.58 am



Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 62

12.00 pm, Thursday, 17 October 2019
Litchfield Room

Present: Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Mrs Kate Worden MLA, Member for Sanderson

Secretariat: Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 61 of 7 October 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. EVIDENCE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submissions received

Question put and passed.

Mr Paech moved and Mrs Lambley seconded that:

The Committee forward the questions of the Department to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice requesting a written response by Wednesday 23 October 2019.

Question put and passed.

3. MENTAL HEALTH AND RELATED SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Mr Paech moved and Mrs Lambley seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft 'No Issues' report, *Inquiry into the Mental Health and Related Services Amendment Bill 2019* to be presented to the Speaker on Friday 18 October 2019 pursuant to SO 200(4) for subsequent tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday 26 November 2019.

Question put and passed.

4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2019

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mrs Worden seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submissions and supplementary information received.

Question put and passed.

Mrs Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee forward the questions of the Department to the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development requesting a written response by Wednesday 23 October 2019.

Question put and passed.

The Committee requested that the committee secretary contact Mr Kon Vatskalis and seek further information regarding issues of concern to Darwin City Council regarding the Local Government Bill 2019 to be received by close of business 23 September 2019.

5. PROCEDURAL RESOLUTION

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

Pursuant to Standing Order 194(1), unless the Department requests confidentiality, the Committee authorises publication of departmental responses to the Committee's written questions on Bills following receipt.

Question put and passed.

6. NEW BILL REFERRALS

Mrs Worden moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

1. The Committee call for submissions to its inquiries into Bills referred in the October sittings to be received by Wednesday 13 November 2019
2. The Committee write to the responsible Ministers requesting a contact officer in relation to Bills referred in the October sittings and inviting departmental representatives to appear before the Committee at a public briefing on Wednesday 30 October 2019.

Question put and passed.

7. PETITION REFERRAL

Mr Paech moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

Pursuant to Sessional Order 17(2), the Committee notify the Clerk that the Committee recommends that the Assembly debate Petition No. 42.

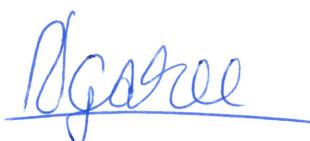
Question put and passed.

8. NEXT MEETING

Public Briefings and Deliberative – Wednesday 30 October 2019:

- 9.30 am Public Briefing – Marine Pollution Legislation Amendment Bill 2019
- 10.00 am Public Briefing – National Disability Insurance Scheme (Worker Clearance) Bill 2019
- 10.30 am – Deliberative (Consideration of departmental responses to the Committee's written questions on the Local Government Bill 2019 and the Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019)

Meeting closed at 12.35 pm.



Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 63

9.30 am, Wednesday, 30 October 2019

Litchfield Room

Present:	Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama Mr Gary Higgins MLA, Member for Daly Mrs Kate Worden MLA, Member for Sanderson
Apologies:	Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Secretariat:	Julia Knight, Committee Secretary Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer

1. PUBLIC BRIEFINGS

The Committee heard from the following witnesses:

Marine Pollution Legislation Amendment Bill 2019

Karen Avery: Executive Director, Environment Policy and Support, Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Kathleen Davis: Director, Environment Policy, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

National Disability Insurance Scheme (Worker Clearance) Bill 2019

Samantha Livesley: Senior Director, Office of Disability, Department of Health

Michelle Wright: Acting Deputy Director, Office of Disability, Department of Health

Rosa Nardone: Senior Policy Officer, Office of Disability, Department of Health

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mrs Worden moved and Ms Ah Kit seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 62 of 17 October 2019 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of the submission received from City of Darwin.

Question put and passed.

4. EVIDENCE AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2019

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report *Inquiry into the Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019* to be presented to the Speaker on Thursday 31 October 2019 pursuant to SO 200(4) for subsequent tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday 26 November 2019.

Question put and passed.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2019

Mrs Worden moved and Mr Higgins seconded that:

The Committee adopt the Chair's draft report *Inquiry into the Local Government Bill 2019* to be presented to the Speaker on Thursday 31 October 2019 pursuant to SO 200(4) for subsequent tabling in the Assembly on Tuesday 26 November 2019.

Question put and passed.

6. NEXT MEETING

Deliberative: 9.00 am – 10.00 am, Monday 18 November 2019 (consideration of submissions received on Bills referred in October sittings).

Meeting closed at 10.24 am.

Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair