



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Social Policy Scrutiny Committee

Associated Minutes of Proceedings

Report on Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill 2017

November 2017



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 5

12.00 pm, Wednesday, 18 October 2017

Litchfield Room

- Present:** Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine
Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett
- Apologies:** Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
- Secretariat:** Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Elise Dyer, Senior Research Officer
Annie McCall, Administration Officer/Research Officer

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Mr Paech moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 4 of 12 October 2017 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Following confirmation from the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice that they endorsed publication of their answers to the Committee's questions provided at the public hearing of 9 October 2017, the Committee Secretary advised that this document has now been published on the Committee's website.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

The Committee authorise publication of Submission No. 12

Question put and passed.

4. INQUIRY INTO ICAC BILL

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee:

1. Endorse the proposed amendments for drafting and inclusion in the Committee's report.
2. Endorse the proposed recommendations for inclusion in the Committee's report.
3. Write to the Attorney-General to request that the Committee be able to access the assistance of the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel in the drafting of proposed amendments.

Question put and passed.

5. INQUIRY INTO MISUSE OF DRUGS AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Mr Paech seconded that:

The Committee agrees to call for submissions, to be received by Wednesday, 8 November, by:

- a) issuing a media release,
- b) advertising via the Legislative Assembly website, Facebook and Twitter,
- c) issuing a notification via the Committee's email subscription service.

Question put and passed.

6. STANDARD PROCEDURES FOR BILL INQUIRIES

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee adopts the following standard procedure for inquiries into Bills referred by the Assembly:

1. The Committee will call for submissions on the Bill to be due by the Wednesday in the second week before the next sittings of the Assembly;
2. Following the end of a sittings period, the Chair of the Committee will issue a notice listing the bills on which the Committee is calling for submissions and the date by which submissions are due;
3. Notices calling for submissions will be distributed on the Assembly's website, by email to subscribers of the committee email alert service, by Facebook and Twitter posts, by media release, and by email or letter to persons and organisations determined by the Chair following consultation by email with Committee Members;
4. After the due date for submissions, the Chair will determine whether and when to hold public hearings and who shall be invited to appear at the hearings, following consultation with Committee Members;
5. Unless circumstances require otherwise, the public hearings will be held on Wednesday mornings of sittings weeks;
6. If any Member wishes to amend this standard procedure for a particular bill, they shall advise the Chair who will then convene a meeting to consider that Bill's inquiry process at the earliest convenient opportunity.

Question put and passed.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Paech raised the issue of whether the Committee Office had sufficient resources to deal with the additional workload arising from Bill referrals. The First Clerk Assistant advised that the Department was currently considering its prioritisation of resources. The Chair further noted that this issue needs to be included in the proposed review of the Bill referral process.

8. NEXT MEETING

9.00 am, Friday, 10 November 2017

Meeting closed at 1.01 pm



Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

SOCIAL POLICY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting No. 6

9.00 am, Friday, 10 November 2017
Litchfield Room

Present: Ms Ngaree Ah Kit MLA, Chair, Member for Karama
Ms Sandra Nelson MLA, Member for Katherine
Mrs Lia Finocchiaro MLA, Member for Spillett

Apologies: Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA, Deputy Chair, Member for Araluen
Mr Chansey Paech MLA, Member for Namatjira

Secretariat: Julia Knight, Committee Secretary
Russell Keith, First Clerk Assistant
Annie McCall, Administration/Research Officer

1. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Minutes of Meeting No. 5 of 18 October 2017 be confirmed.

Question put and passed.

2. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Noted

3. **INQUIRY INTO ICAC BILL**

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

1. The Committee adopt the Inquiry into the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Bill 2017 report subject to minor amendments to be confirmed by email.
2. The Committee table the report with the Speaker on Wednesday 15 November 2017 pursuant to Standing Order 200(4) and circulate to all Members for consideration ahead of the November meeting period.

Question put and passed.

4. **BILL REFERRALS**

Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill

Ms Nelson moved and Mrs Finocchiaro seconded that:

The Committee adopt the 'No Issues Report' for the Misuse of Drugs Amendment Bill 2017 for tabling in the November meeting period.

Question put and passed

Parks and Wildlife Commission Amendment Bill

- As no submissions were received the Committee agreed to write to key stakeholders giving them a further opportunity to provide any comments they may have in relation to the proposed amendments – in particular the removal of the mandatory requirement that the Minister must establish an advisory council – by Friday 17 November 2017.

Question put and passed

ICAC (Consequential and Related Amendments) Bill 2017

Mrs Finocchiaro moved and Ms Nelson seconded that:

The Committee forward the legal advice to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice for consideration and comment by Friday, 17 November 2017.

Question put and passed.

5. NEXT MEETING

9.00 am, Wednesday, 22 November 2017 in the Ormiston Room

Meeting closed at 10.00 am

Ms Ngaree Ah Kit, MLA
Chair