



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

14<sup>TH</sup> Assembly

Public Accounts Committee

ACPAC 2024

JURISDICTION REPORT

## Scope of Committee

The PAC examines the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Northern Territory, and each statement and report tabled in the Legislative Assembly by the Auditor-General, pursuant to the *Financial Management Act 1995* and the *Audit Act 1995*. The Committee may inquire into and report on any question relating to the public accounts of the Northern Territory referred by the Legislative Assembly, the Administrator, or a Minister. The Committee is empowered to self-reference and, pursuant to Standing Orders, may inquire into and report on any matters within the executive authority of Ministers of the Territory. In addition, pursuant to Sessional Order 12, the Committee is responsible for considering whether petitions that have been read in the Assembly should be debated. The Committee is also required to provide an annual report of its activities to the Assembly.

## Composition

The Committee is comprised of three Government members including the Chair, Ms Natasha Fyles MLA, Deputy Chair, Mr Paul Kirby MLA, and Mrs Nicole Manison MLA; one Opposition member, Mr Bill Yan MLA, and one Independent member, Mrs Robyn Lambley MLA.

## Program of Work since the last conference:

1. In May 2023 the Committee tabled its report on its self-referred inquiry into the Government's Local Decision-Making Framework. Commenced in June 2021 this was a significant body of work for the committee. Unfortunately, travel restrictions due to COVID-19 limited the amount of travel the Committee was able to undertake over the course of the inquiry. A copy of the report and the Government's response can be found at: <https://parliament.nt.gov.au/committees/list/PAC/LDM>.
2. The PAC has continued to review Auditor-General's reports. This includes:
  - (a) Briefings from the Auditor-General after tabling to identify issues and agencies for follow-up
  - (b) Evidence gathering as follow up on issues raised in the Auditor-General's reports, and
  - (c) Reporting to the Legislative Assembly on the outcome of the reviews of the Auditor-General's reports.
3. The Committee received briefings from agencies on the following matters:
  - (a) NT Procurement Framework and its application to infrastructure procurement
  - (b) Outcomes of the Government's electricity market reform program
  - (c) Responses to qualified opinions on end of year reviews and asset revaluation audits.
4. Since March 2022 the Committee has considered 14 petitions.
5. Members of the PAC also form the membership of the Estimates Committee and the Government Owned Corporations Scrutiny Committee. Estimates hearings are conducted over a two week period in June.

## ACPAC

The NT PAC secretariat continues to participate in quarterly videoconferences with other ACPAC secretariats to discuss current issues for PACs.

**Ms Natasha Fyles MLA**  
Chair