



Northern
Territory
Government

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND REGIONAL SERVICES

Annual Report

2009–2010



© Northern Territory Government
Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services

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www.nt.gov.au/dhlgrs

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Dear Ministers,

In accordance with the provisions of section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*, I am pleased to submit the Annual Report on the activities and achievements of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services and NT Home Ownership for the year ending 30 June 2010.

It is my view the system of internal control and audit provides reasonable assurance that:

- (a) proper records of all transactions by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services and NT Home Ownership are kept and all employees under my control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*, the Financial Management Regulations and Treasurer's Directions;
- (b) procedures within the agency of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services and NT Home Ownership afford proper internal control and a current description of such procedures is recorded in the accounting and property manual and other Departmental documents, which have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act*;
- (c) there is no indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error or omission from the accounts and records;
- (d) in accordance with section 15 of the *Financial Management Act*, the internal audit capacity available to the agency is adequate and the results of internal audits have been reported to me;
- (e) financial statements included in the Annual Report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions;
- (f) all Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment have been satisfied; and
- (g) in respect of my responsibilities pursuant to section 131 of the *Information Act*, I advise that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the agency has implemented processes to achieve compliance with the archives and records management provisions as prescribed in Part 9 of the *Information Act*.

I commend the report to you.

Yours sincerely



KEN DAVIES
Chief Executive

30 September 2010

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OVERVIEW
Part One



HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

The 2009-10 Annual Report of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has been prepared for the Chief Executive to satisfy the requirements of section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act*.

The report provides a comprehensive account of the agency's functions and performance against the approved budget and resources for 2009-10, and outlines priorities looking forward.

The primary purpose of the report is to inform the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly, other agencies, our staff and other stakeholders, of our agency's performance in 2009-10.

The report also provides information about the agency's responsibilities, internal governance arrangements and relationships with its external environment.

The 2009-10 Annual Report is divided into seven parts. A summary of the various parts of the report are as follows:

PART ONE – OVERVIEW

The overview provides the Chief Executive's perspective about the agency's achievements and performance for the year, and the focus for 2010-11.

PART TWO – WHO WE ARE

Introduces the agency and explains our role and services provided. It includes a profile of the agency, including our vision, values, strategic objectives and stakeholders. Our leadership team is introduced in this part of the Report.

PART THREE – OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

This part details our achievements by outcomes, as well as our priorities for 2010-11. Our regional snapshots provide information on our operations and achievements at a regional level.

PART FOUR – OUR PERFORMANCE

This part is divided into our output groups, and provides output performance tables, which report on our performance in 2009-10, in terms of the measures published in Budget Paper No. 3.

PART FIVE – MAKING IT HAPPEN

This part discusses the agency's corporate governance arrangements, risk management, audit practices, legislation administered and the public's access to information.

Community consultations and the agency's contribution towards whole of government frameworks are also discussed in this section.

PART SIX – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This part contains the financial statements of the agency and NT Home Ownership and accompanying notes, along with an overview and analysis of our financial performance.

PART SEVEN – APPENDICES

The appendices provide additional information relating to the agency, including statutory bodies and authorities administered and grant programs. This part also includes a list of acronyms, as well as tables and figures located throughout the report.



Improving access to services in remote communities

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW



KEN DAVIES
Chief Executive

I am proud to present the Annual Report of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services for 2009-10.

The agency has embraced the opportunities brought by the amalgamation of the housing and local government areas with regional development, the Service Delivery Coordination Unit and the Office of Indigenous Policy following the changes to government departments announced on 4 December 2009.

The agency's task is to strengthen Territory communities by delivering social housing programs and related infrastructure, and by building stronger regions and communities through sustainable economic development and effective local government. To achieve this we have focused on creating and sustaining a client centred culture that understands the regional perspective and is proactive in anticipating future client needs.

The combination of business areas that comprises our agency has enabled a greater focus on building economic and social capacity in our remote areas and our regions. We are entering a period of significant and exciting change and there are many challenges ahead as we implement Northern Territory Government priorities relating to housing, local government and regional services.

We are a diverse, dispersed and responsive organisation that has full-time employees located across the Northern Territory, in places such as Katherine, Borroloola, Wadeye, East Arnhem, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and of course Darwin.

We have worked to be flexible and responsive to our clients and the community, and build the capacity of our committed and professional staff to meet the challenges of service delivery in a range of locations.

To do this we have developed partnerships across government and with the community sector, municipal councils and shires. We have worked to build on our achievements and learn from our experiences to drive our business.

Territory 2030 is the Northern Territory Government's road map for the future, setting priorities to guide government's efforts over the next two decades. Our agency activities are already making progress. The *Working Future* Territory Growth Towns strategy is well under way and housing and land release Territory-wide are bringing appropriate and affordable housing online for more Territorians.

Through the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing, the agency is committed to improving access to housing for remote Territorians. The construction of new housing, upgrading existing housing and provision of associated infrastructure and essential services is well under way in communities. At 30 June 2010, the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) was at work in 30 communities and more than 250 local Indigenous people were participating in training and employment programs. Since SIHIP commenced, a total of 67 houses had been built and a further 344 houses refurbished. In 2009-10 SIHIP exceeded its target for new houses by seven and the refurbishment target by 192.

Forty year housing precinct leases were secured in Galiwinku, Gunbalanya, Maningrida and Wadeye, allowing major works through SIHIP to commence.

The agency has played a key role in delivering results for Territorians under the Territory Government's *Housing the Territory* strategy. This comprehensive package launched in March 2009 is aimed at getting the balance of housing right. It has four areas of focus – land to grow, new places to buy, new places to rent and new public housing.

As part of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan social housing component, construction commenced on four new facilities and upgrade works on three existing facilities to provide additional managed and supported accommodation in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs. Good progress is being made with several facilities ready for operation. All are expected to be completed during 2010-11. The plan is to add new public housing and provide more accommodation options for people, depending on their needs.

Expressions of interest for the Affordable Housing Rental Company were sought and the company is expected to be operating by December 2010 and will provide affordable

rental dwellings for key workers and families. Similarly, the Wurrina development was tendered in 2009 and a proponent Sitzler, selected in August 2010.

NT Home Ownership provided 145 new home ownership loans during 2009-10, including clients who were public housing tenants transferring from the social housing welfare system into home ownership.

In the local government area the agency supported the increase in the number of jobs transitioned from Community Development Employment Program to full employment in shire councils from about 400 to almost 500 jobs for Indigenous employment.

Under the Northern Territory Government's *Working Future* strategy, Territorians living in remote areas will continue to benefit from a whole of government approach to improved and increased services and opportunities for economic participation and jobs.

Working Future will see a number of Indigenous communities transformed over

The agency has embraced the opportunities brought by the amalgamation of the housing and local government areas with regional development, the Service Delivery Coordination Unit and the Office of Indigenous Policy following the changes to government departments announced on 4 December 2009.

time into towns that are properly planned and designed. The Territory Growth Towns will have services, buildings and facilities like any other country town and benefit from targeted investment in infrastructure. These Territory Growth Towns will be the economic and service delivery centre for Territorians living in the region, including people living on homelands and outstations.

The Northern Territory Government's 2009-12 Indigenous Economic Development Strategy was launched in October 2009 at the fourth biennial Indigenous Economic Development Forum held in Alice Springs. More than 300 delegates from across the Territory and Australia attended the Forum indicating the increased interest, commitment and support for Indigenous economic development.

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service (AIS) celebrated 10 years of operation in April 2010. The AIS has continued to expand its services by establishing offices in Yuendumu, Wadeye, and Maningrida. The AIS has played a significant role in ensuring Aboriginal people without English as their first language have access to important services including health, housing, legal support and Centrelink services.

I would like to thank the department's staff for their dedication, professionalism and commitment over the past year. I would also like to acknowledge the work and achievements of the previous Chief Executive Dr David Ritchie. The programs introduced during his time as the Chief Executive of the previous Department of Local Government

and Housing have started to achieve results and are continuing to make real differences to the lives of many Territorians.

I have enjoyed the challenges of bringing the new agency together and driving the important connections we need to improve public housing, our engagement with the local government sector and regional development. I look forward to working with our staff and stakeholders to continue the focus on Northern Territory Government priorities and partnerships to deliver lasting benefits for all Territorians.



KEN DAVIES
Chief Executive

30 September 2010


WHO WE ARE
Part Two





WHO WE ARE

The primary role of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is to deliver social housing programs and related infrastructure across the Territory, and to build stronger regions and communities through sustainable economic development and effective local government.



The agency provides a range of services to support and strengthen communities throughout the Northern Territory including public housing, government employee housing, supported accommodation, local government monitoring and support, interpreter and translator services, Indigenous policy, regional and Indigenous development, coordination of remote service delivery, water safety and animal welfare. The government business division (GBD), NT Home Ownership, provides housing assistance products to increase home ownership opportunities for low to middle income earners in the Northern Territory. The agency is committed to moving the Territory ahead through strengthening its regions, innovative policy development and effective service delivery. We aim to support and strengthen social and community capacity in everything we do.

Services are provided through key business areas, with offices located around the Territory:

KEY BUSINESS AREAS

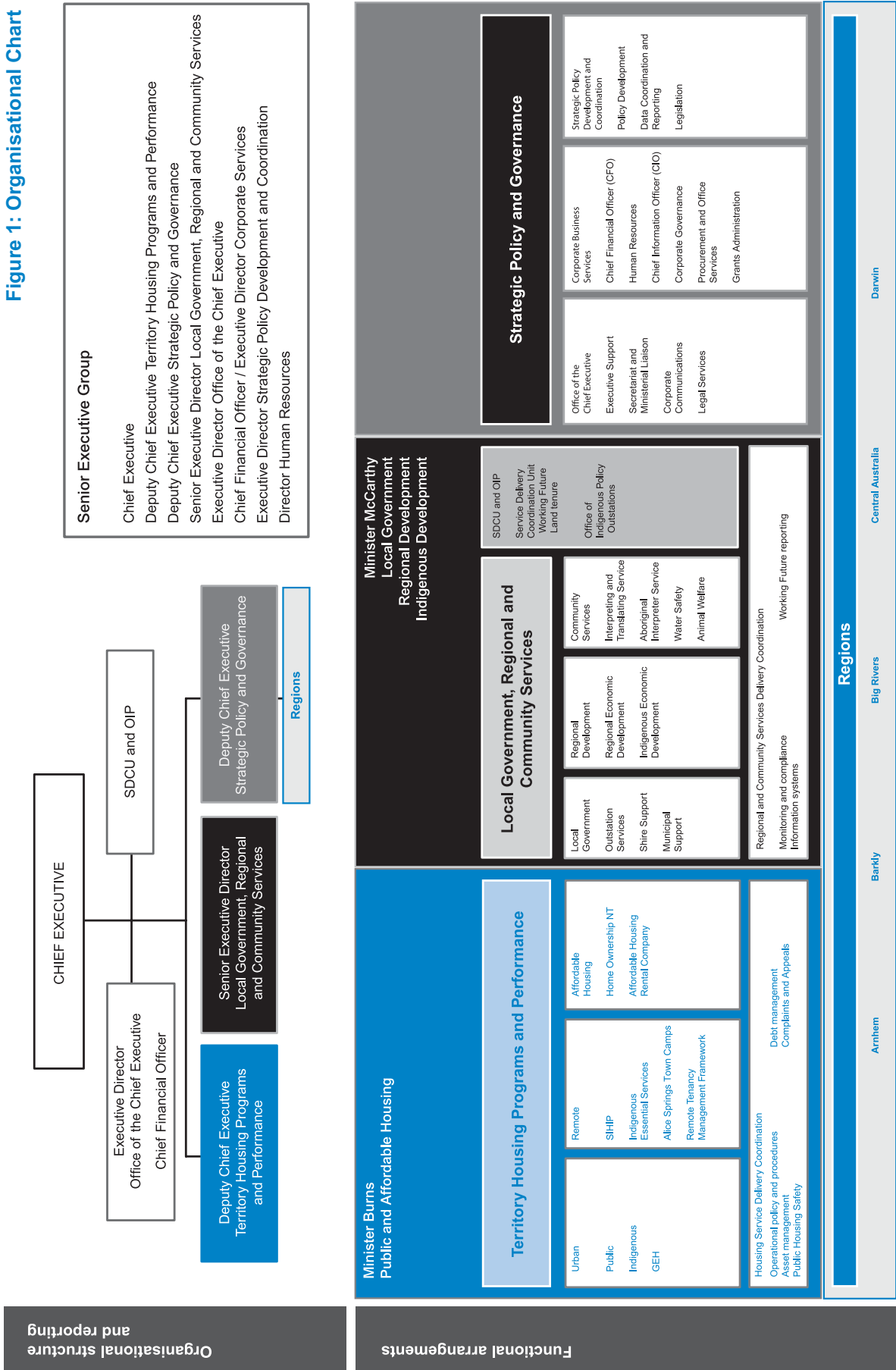
- Territory Housing Programs and Performance
- Local Government, Regional and Community Services
- Strategic Policy and Governance
- NT Home Ownership.

REGIONAL OFFICES

- Arnhem Region
- Barkly Region
- Big Rivers Region
- Central Australia Region
- Darwin Region.

Our key business areas and regional offices are shown in Figure 1: Organisational Chart.

Figure 1: Organisational Chart



OUR VISION

Our vision is *a strong thriving sustainable Territory community*.

This vision underpins the work of the agency in delivering Government's priorities in social housing, local government, regions and communities across the Territory.

OUR VALUES

The way we behave and how we operate guide the actions and integrity of our agency. In our day to day business we will:

- be professional
- be honest
- be respectful
- be accountable
- work together
- value diversity.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

Our strategic goals pursue our vision and define how we operate as a cohesive organisation:

- improve access to safe, secure, appropriate and affordable housing
- strong regions, communities and local governments
- a collaborative, influential and capable organisation.

The agency's business units are grouped into three output groups and a GBD for budgeting and reporting purposes.

Table 1: Output Groups and Outputs

Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services	
Output Group	Output
Territory Housing Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Public Housing • Remote Indigenous Housing • Government Employee Housing • Indigenous Essential Services
Local Government, Regional and Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government • Regional Development • Interpreter and Translator Services • Water Safety and Animal Welfare
Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination
Business Line	
NT Home Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NT Home Ownership

Further details of our business units' performance and achievements can be found in Part Three – Our Achievements and Part Four - Our Performance.

IMPLEMENTING AND CONTRIBUTING TO GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

The agency plays a key role in implementing Australian and Northern Territory Government strategies that contribute to a strong, thriving, sustainable Territory community.

Table 2: Australian and Northern Territory Government Strategies

Australian Government	
• National Partnership Agreement on Affordable Housing	• National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing
• National Partnership Agreement on Indigenous Reform	• National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery
• National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing	• National Partnership Agreement on Closing the Gap
• National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness	
Northern Territory Government	
• Territory 2030	• A Safe Territory
• Housing the Territory	• Open Government
• Working Future	• Indigenous Economic Development Strategy
• Growing the Territory	• Closing the Gap of Indigenous Disadvantage - A Generational Plan of Action

Territory 2030 is the Northern Territory Government's 20 year strategic plan. Our agency is responsible for implementing a number of actions under *Territory 2030*, and details of our progress can be found in Part Five – Making it Happen.

OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Our activities are aligned with the *Territory 2030* Strategic Plan and other strategic Government policy objectives, and we seek to add value through fostering strong relationships with community organisations, local governments, and other Northern Territory and Australian government agencies.

OUR LEADERSHIP

Senior Executive Group

The Senior Executive Group was established by the Chief Executive in January 2010 as part of the strategic governance arrangements in the newly constituted agency. The group provides direct support to the Chief Executive.

The group is responsible for the strategic decision making and policy setting for the agency's operational and internal processes. The group also provides strategic leadership and direction across the organisation to ensure the agency meets its corporate responsibilities and priorities.

The Senior Executive Group consists of the following senior members of the agency's management team.

Table 3: Senior Executive Group

Name	Title
Ken Davies	Chief Executive
Catherine Weber	Deputy Chief Executive, Strategic Policy and Governance
Mychelle Curran	Deputy Chief Executive, Territory Housing Programs and Performance (commenced August 2010)
Fran Kilgariff	Senior Executive Director, Local Government, Regional and Community Services
Trish Angus	Executive Director, Strategic Policy Development and Coordination
Karen Elligett	Executive Director, Office of the Chief Executive
Dwayne McInnes	Executive Director, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer
Danielle Cross	Director, Human Resources



Establishing a collaborative, influential and capable organisation

A key focus of the Senior Executive Group is to build the agency's capabilities, by developing our people, systems and culture.

Executive Leadership Team

The Executive Leadership Team comprises the Executive Directors of the agency's business areas who support the Chief Executive to provide high level management across agency. The team provides advice to the Chief Executive on policy and operational matters and considers performance against agreed accountability frameworks. The team also discusses strategic issues, which are referred to the Senior Executive Group for decision making.

The team meets every six weeks and is supported by secretariat services from the Office of the Chief Executive.

Executive Leadership Profiles



Ken Davies – Chief Executive

Ken was appointed Chief Executive of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services on 4 December 2009. Prior to this he was the Deputy Chief Executive of the Department of the Chief Minister. In this role he was responsible for coordinating and monitoring whole of government policy and strategic responses relating to Indigenous policy and growth planning in the Northern Territory.

Ken began his career in the Northern Territory as a teacher at Papunya in 1978. He has worked as a principal in Alice Springs and Katherine, and as a regional superintendent in Tennant Creek. In 1999 he moved from Central Australia to Darwin to take up a short-term position in the Department of the Chief Minister, and then General Manager Indigenous Education in the then Department of Education. Ken has worked in a range of executive positions in the Department of Education, most notably the position of Deputy Chief Executive Education Services where he was responsible for a range of key areas including remote schools policy, student services, teaching learning and standards, distance learning and the non-government schools sector.

Ken has degrees in education and public sector management.



Catherine Weber – Deputy Chief Executive, Strategic Policy and Governance

Catherine joined the agency in January 2010, from the Northern Territory Treasury where she had been Assistant Under Treasurer (Corporate and Superannuation) for a number of years. At the executive level since 1998, Catherine held positions in Treasury's public finance, strategic policy, financial management and intergovernmental areas. Prior to this, Catherine worked in several other Territory Government agencies, in Darwin and Alice Springs since the early 1980s.

Catherine has a Master of Public Policy and a Bachelor of Economics and is a member of the Australian Human Resources Institute.



Mychelle Curran – Deputy Chief Executive, Territory Housing Programs and Performance

Mychelle started with the agency in August 2010. Prior to that, she was Director Urban Strategy and Asset Investment for Housing South Australia and held a range of executive roles since 2000. Mychelle has an extensive and diverse background in social housing policy, management and operations with state housing organisations in South Australia and Tasmania.

Mychelle completed post graduate studies in housing management and policy through Swinburne University in 2007.



Fran Kilgariff – Senior Executive Director, Local Government, Regional and Community Services

In 2009, Fran commenced as the Executive Director, Regional and Indigenous Economic Development before taking up her current role in May 2010.

Prior to that Fran spent nearly a decade as the Mayor of Alice Springs. She began her working life as a radiographer, has a degree in archaeology, taught geography to secondary school students and worked as an Australian Government business manager. Fran has also served on many boards, including the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre, Territory and National YMCA, St John Ambulance and The Outback Highway Committee.

Fran is based in Alice Springs.



Andrea Martin – Executive Director, Central Australia Region

Andrea joined the agency in 2007 as the Executive Director Central Australia where she oversees the delivery of all local government and housing initiatives throughout the Central Australian region.

Andrea has lived in Central Australia since 1994 apart from some time spent working in Timor Leste in 2006-2007. Andrea has gained extensive experience working with Indigenous communities through her roles in Indigenous tourism and as a ministerial adviser in both South Australia and the Northern Territory. Andrea has a Masters in Business Administration.



Andrew Kirkman – Executive Director, Remote Housing NT

Andrew joined the agency in early 2009 as Executive Director Darwin Region before moving into his current role in August 2009. Andrew previously held key roles in the Darwin Waterfront Development, AustralAsia Railway and Department of the Chief Minister. He has worked in the Northern Territory Public Sector since 1999.

Andrew has previously worked in finance and commercial roles in the private sector, locally in the mining industry and overseas on public private partnerships. Andrew has largely lived in the Territory since 1975 and undertook all his schooling in Darwin.

He is a Certified Practising Accountant and has tertiary qualifications in business.



Danielle Cross – Director, Human Resources

Danielle joined the agency in March 2010, from the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment where she was the Director of Workforce Development for several years. Danielle has wide public sector experience, particularly in training, development, and change management. She has worked in the Department of the Chief Minister; Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Environment; Department of Employment, Education and Training; and Department of Corporate and Information Services.

Danielle holds a Bachelor of Education, Diploma of Education (Adult Education) and a Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Leadership.



Dwayne McInnes – Executive Director, Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Dwayne is responsible for the agency's corporate services functions and is the Chief Financial Officer. Dwayne has held a range of diverse positions within the Northern Territory Public Sector over the past 12 years and has extensive experience in financial and budget management. This includes a period in Treasury, Territory Housing and the Department of Local Government and Housing, as well as extensive experience in the banking and retail industries.

Dwayne has a Bachelor of Business, majoring in accounting and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Eve Robinson – Executive Director, Arnhem Region

Eve joined the agency in 2008 and was responsible for overseeing the latter stages of the implementation of local government reform in the Northern Territory and was Chair of the Jabiru Town Development Authority until March 2009. She is a member of the Northern Territory Legal Practitioner Disciplinary Tribunal.

Eve has more than 25 years of management experience in the public and private sectors and her most recent roles include CEO of the Northern Territory Seafood Council and Executive Director NT Division of the Property Council of Australia.



Garry Russell – Chief Information Officer

Garry joined the agency in 2007. He has over 30 years of experience in the Northern Territory Public Service in the information and communications technology sector including 16 years in Chief Information Officer roles in a range of different agencies including Infrastructure, Planning and Environment, Justice, Police and Health and Community Services. His particular focus is business information systems to support the achievement of organisational goals.

Garry has tertiary qualifications in computer science, a Graduate Diploma in Public Sector Executive Management and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



John De Koning – Executive Director, Big Rivers Region

John joined the agency in July 2007 as the Executive Director for the Big Rivers Region (Katherine), moving from his previous position as Director of Parks and Wildlife in the Katherine region.

John has lived in the Northern Territory for approximately 30 years, working with both the Northern Territory and the Australian governments predominantly in the national parks and natural resource management fields. During this time, John worked extensively with Indigenous people in the Top End establishing joint management of national parks through on-ground facilitation and at the policy level.

John has tertiary qualifications in natural sciences.



Karen Elligett – Executive Director, Office of the Chief Executive

Karen joined the agency in 2004 and has held executive level responsibility for across agency coordination, executive, housing and central services over several years.

Prior to joining the public sector, Karen worked in a diverse range of industries in the private sector. She has extensive experience in media management, public relations, crisis management and specialist advertising coordination.

Karen is responsible for executive services, ministerial liaison, secretariat and corporate communications.

Karen is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a member of the Public Relations Institute of Australia.



Lorraine Corowa – Executive Director, Regional Development

Lorraine joined Regional Development in July 2008. Lorraine previously managed the Land Development Corporation and supported the development of its five year strategic plan, the Defence Support Hub and the common user facility. Prior to that Lorraine was Director Commercial Services at the Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development overseeing industry development grants.

Lorraine spent 17 years with PowerWater working in most parts of the organisation including finance, retail and assisting the Company Secretary with corporate planning, stakeholder negotiation and risk management.

Lorraine has a Master of International Management, a Bachelor of Business (Accounting, Business Law) and is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors - NT Committee.



Lyn Allen – Executive Director, Office of Indigenous Policy

Lyn has held the position of Executive Director, Office of Indigenous Policy since late September 2009. She was previously Executive Director, Environment, Heritage and the Arts at the Department of Natural Resources, Environment The Arts and Sport.

Lyn has a wide range of experience working at the Territory, national and international levels. Before returning to the Northern Territory in 2004, Lyn was Director Environment and Resource Policy in the Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet. Lyn has also worked for a number of Territory organisations including the Menzies School of Health Research, the former Katherine Regional Aboriginal Legal Aid Service, Greening Australia and the Environment Centre NT.

Lyn has tertiary qualifications in environmental studies and management including a Masters of Business Administration, and is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Mathew Fagan – Executive Director, Service Delivery Coordination

Mathew joined the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services in December 2009, when the Service Delivery Coordination Unit was transferred from the Department of the Chief Minister. In 2008-2009, Mathew worked as a Senior Ministerial Adviser and a Senior Policy Officer in the Department of the Chief Minister. Prior to this, Mathew was Director Community Development in the Department of Local Government and Housing.

Mathew began his career in the Northern Territory in 1998 working for an Aboriginal organisation in the West Arnhem region. Since this time, he has worked in the community sector, and private sectors and within government on matters relating to service delivery, land tenure and community development in remote areas of the Northern Territory.

Mathew has a Bachelor of Law and a Bachelor of Arts (Communications).



Noelene Swanson – Regional Operations Manager

Noelene joined the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services in December 2009, when the Regional Operations Centre was transferred from the Department of the Chief Minister. Prior to this Noelene was the Director of Remote Health Services in the Department of Health and Families for a number of years.

Noelene spent time in the Territory in the early eighties, working in health before travelling to live and work interstate and overseas. She resumed her career in the Northern Territory in 1991, working in a variety of roles in the public and private sector including higher education, vocational education and training and health.

Noelene holds a number of health qualifications, a degree in teaching and post graduate degree in public sector administration.



Trish Angus – Executive Director, Strategic Policy Development and Coordination

Trish has held a number of executive and management positions in government and the community sector over several decades. The majority of these positions have been in the human services field. She moved from the health sector to the housing sector in 1999. During the past 11 years, she has held a range of executive level positions within the areas of housing, local government and community services and has provided stewardship for the agency through a number of significant changes and reforms.

Trish has tertiary qualifications in health and management, including a Masters Degree in Tropical Health.



Wayne Hoban – Executive Director, Barkly Region

Wayne has worked for the Northern Territory Government for 31 years, the majority of that time involved in public housing in various roles. He has also acted in positions with the Department of Lands, the Ombudsman's Office and the former Office of Sport and Recreation.

Wayne has extensive experience in public housing. Over the past three years in his current role he has been instrumental in the implementation of local government reform in the Barkly region and more recently in the implementation of the remote tenancy management framework for public housing management in the Barkly region's remote communities and the Community Living Areas in Tennant Creek.

Wayne is a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

OUR PEOPLE

As at 30 June 2010, the agency employed 645 full time equivalent (FTE) staff spread across the regions to deliver the agency's core services. In 2009-10 our staff have worked together and supported our executives to deliver operational and internal processes and meet our corporate responsibilities and priorities.

To succeed in the complex and challenging environment in which we operate, we rely on our people understanding and demonstrating a commitment to delivering outcomes to all Territorians. Our strength lies in the diversity of our people; inclusive of men, women, people with disability, mature aged people, Indigenous Australians, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Table 4: Staff Snapshot as at 30 June 2010

Staff Numbers	
Full Time Equivalent Staff	645
Part-time Staff	
Permanent Part-Time	8
Temporary	9
Casual	441
Graduates and Trainees	8
Demographics	
Male (FTE)	34%
Female (FTE)	66%
Indigenous employees	130
Employees with Disabilities	25
Employees from non English speaking backgrounds	12
Women in Executive positions	35

The number of full-time equivalent staff employed by the department has increased by 100 since June 2009.

The increase is in part due government changes in late 2009, when the department's responsibilities expanded to include the Office of Indigenous Policy, the Service Delivery Coordination Unit and Regional and Indigenous Economic Development.

Extra resources have also been required to support the expansion of the Aboriginal interpreter services and the roll out of the remote Indigenous housing program.

Table 5: Classification and Gender (FTE) as at 30 June 2010

Designation	Female	Male	Total FTE
Aboriginal Interpreters	30	13	43
Interpreters	11	4	15
NTPS Apprentice	1	2	3
Graduate Trainees	3	2	5
Physical 3	3	1	4
Technical 4	0	2	2
Technical 5	0	31	31
Technical 6	0	1	1
Professional 3	1	1	2
Professional 4	0	1	1
Administrative Officer 1	0	0.5	0.5
Administrative Officer 2	26	18	44
Administrative Officer 3	47	4	51
Administrative Officer 4	68	20	88
Administrative Officer 5	57	23	80
Administrative Officer 6	70	25	95
Administrative Officer 7	40	16	56
Administrative Officer 8	32	23	55
Executive Officer 1	12	11	23
Executive Contract Officer 1	12	11	23
Executive Contract Officer 2	9	6	15
Executive Contract Officer 3	1	4	5
Executive Contract Officer 4	1	0	1
Executive Contract Officer 5	0	0.5	0.5
Executive Contract Officer 6	0	1	1
Total	424	221	645



Developing a highly capable, skilled and professional workforce

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS
Part Three



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS BY OUTCOMES FOR 2009-10

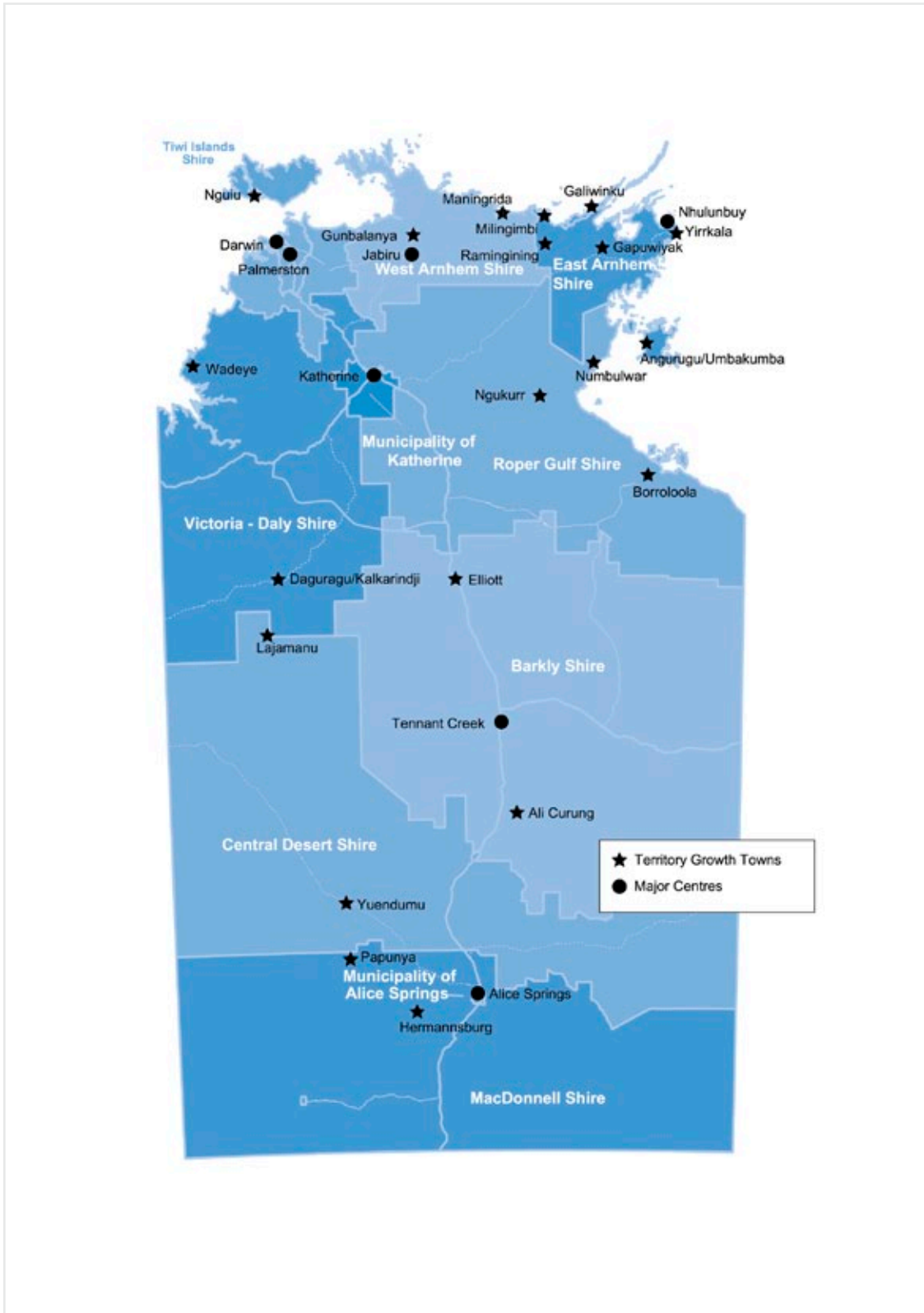
Our achievements for 2009-10 are listed by outcomes:

- Access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing for all eligible Territorians and essential services to promote the health and wellbeing of Territorians living in remote areas.
- Stronger regions and communities.
- Improved social wellbeing and living conditions for Indigenous Territorians, especially those living in remote communities.
- Access to affordable housing through home ownership.

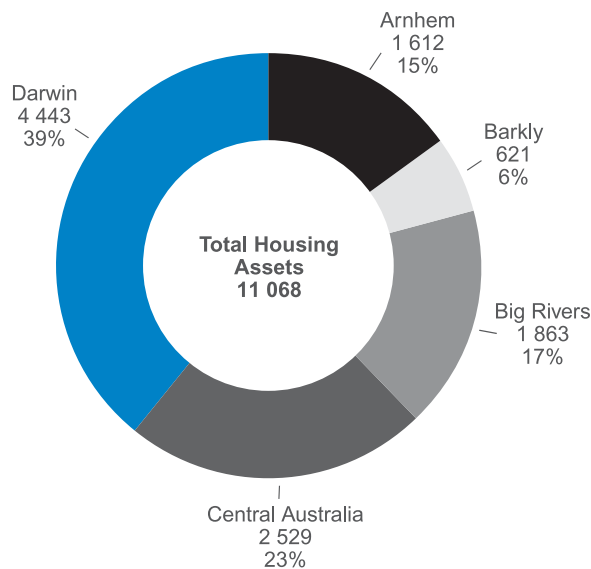
Access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing for all eligible Territorians and essential services to promote the health and well-being of Territorians living in remote areas.

- Additional managed and supported accommodation commenced construction during the year providing short to medium term, safe and secure accommodation and client support services. Funding through the national Stimulus Package will see four new facilities built at Crerar Road, Percy Court, Patterson Street and Coconut Grove and upgrade works on three existing facilities - The Lodge, Catherine Booth House and Goyder Street. Funding through the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness was also provided to community organisations to extend existing facilities.
- Forty year housing precinct leases were secured in Galiwinku, Gunbalanya, Maningrida and Wadeye, allowing major works through the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) to commence.
- SIHIP work was underway in 30 communities, with more than 250 local Indigenous people in the training and employment program in 2009-10.
- Since SIHIP commenced, the Northern Territory has built 67 houses and refurbished a further 344 houses, exceeding its target for new houses by seven and the refurbishment target by 192.
- Seventy-three Housing Reference Groups (HRGs) have now been established across the Territory including 18 for the Alice Springs and Tennant Creek town camps (community living areas).
- Talking books were developed in 15 Indigenous languages to assist remote Indigenous tenants understand their rights and responsibilities under the *Residential Tenancies Act*.
- A successful bid was made to the Australian Government for additional funding to upgrade water infrastructure in Territory Growth Towns Galiwinku, Angurugu/Umbakumba, Nguiu and Wadeye. The upgrades will be delivered through SIHIP.
- Scoping for essential services requirements in the Territory Growth Towns is significantly advanced.

Figure 2: Northern Territory Regions and Territory Growth Towns



Total Housing Assets (Owned or Managed) per Region



Stronger regions and communities

- Partnered with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) to develop projects aimed at increasing the participation and capacity of women in local government.
- The ShiresBiz business system has been remodelled to meet the identified financial management requirements of each of the seven shire councils (and CouncilBiz) using the system.
- Supported the increase in the number of jobs transitioned from CDEP to full employment in shire councils, from approximately 400 jobs to almost 500 jobs.
- In partnership with the Australian Government, the agency commenced an evaluation of the effectiveness of governance among elected members of shire councils. The project will improve the governance capacity of all elected members.
- The agency provided \$4.49M in funding through the Closing the Gap and Special Purpose Grants to support 60 projects across the Territory.
- Commenced a number of reviews of the *Local Government Act*, including election processes.
- Launched a discussion paper on the review of elected members allowances undertaken to determine the structure and process for deciding elected member allowances.
- Established 18 Local Advisory Boards across the Northern Territory.
- Launched the Northern Territory Government's Indigenous Economic Development Strategy 2009-2012. The Strategy is the Territory Government's blueprint for Indigenous economic development and promotes improved training, employment and business participation/ownership outcomes for Indigenous Territorians.
- Held the 4th Indigenous Economic Development Forum in Alice Springs attracting more than 300 delegates.

- Provided Indigenous Business Development Grants to start up and grow 39 businesses across the Northern Territory.
- Provided 10 Regional Economic Development Fund Grants to stimulate growth in regional centres.
- Launched the cross government Indigenous Employment Partnership for the Northern Territory music sector.
- Provided support to the nine Regional Economic Development Committees.
- Interpreter bookings through the Interpreting and Translating Services NT (ITSNT) increased in 2009-10 by 17 per cent, and translating requests increased by seven per cent. Requests were mainly in the areas of health, legal, welfare, settlement and education.
- ITSNT are now able to offer interpreting and translating services for seven additional languages as a result of registering interpreters in those languages.
- The Aboriginal Interpreter Service (AIS) celebrated 10 years of service marking a decade of helping Indigenous Territorians communicate in their first language. AIS now employs more than 370 interpreters on a casual basis, making it one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people across Australia.
- For the first time in Australia, Aboriginal language interpreters were given the opportunity to attain national accreditation. Three AIS interpreters reached the professional level of accreditation.
- The AIS Community Liaison Officers program and an increase in trainers contributed to the successful specialist training of 296 interpreters, with 124 of those being trained in their own communities.
- Established AIS offices in Yuendumu, Wadeye, and Maningrida.
- Inspected 669 new properties for pool or spa advice and issued 1 112 certificates of compliance, including provisional compliance certificates under the *Swimming Pool Safety Act*.
- Delivered public education activities and events, including World Animal Day, Animal Welfare Awareness Week, and Water Safety Week.

Improved social wellbeing and living conditions for Indigenous Territorians, especially those living in remote communities

- Finalised the Overarching Bilateral Implementation Plan between the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to close the gap in Indigenous disadvantage.
- Established a Bilateral Implementation Plan between the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to implement the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement.
- Implemented the organisational framework for the management and delivery of the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement and *Working Future*, including the establishment of:
 - ▶ the Service Delivery Coordination Unit
 - ▶ the Regional Operations Centre (with Australian Government)
 - ▶ the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement Board of Management
 - ▶ the Remote Service Delivery Sub-Committee of Northern Territory Government Chief Executives.

- Drafted 12 Local Implementation Plans under the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery.
- In partnership with the Australian Government and Shire Councils, substantially completed baseline mapping for Territory Growth Towns.
- Centralised the coordination of leasing for all Northern Territory Government remote infrastructure.
- Facilitated consultation and ongoing development of a Northern Territory Government Homelands and Outstations policy as part of *Working Future*.
- Provided secretariat support for the Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council (IAAC), enabling it to hold four meetings in 2009-10.

Access to affordable housing through home ownership

- The number of loans funded increased as a direct result of revised eligibility criteria. The majority of loans funded were to households in the higher income range, assisting families consisting of two or more people. The proportion of Indigenous households receiving home purchase assistance increased.
- Investigated options of extending HOMESTART NT to Territory Growth Towns and continued to work with other areas of the Northern Territory Government in developing affordable government home ownership initiatives.
- NT Home Ownership assisted 21 clients who were public housing tenants transfer from social housing into home ownership.

The Aboriginal Interpreter Service (AIS) celebrated 10 years of service marking a decade of helping Indigenous Territorians communicate in their first language. AIS now employs more than 370 interpreters on a casual basis, making it one of the largest employers of Aboriginal people across Australia.

CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

Table 6: 2009-10 Capital Works Program

Construction Program 2009-10	Program (inc.revote) \$,000	Revised Program \$,000	Expenditure \$,000
Minor New Works	8 200	16 200	17 099
Construct General Purpose Housing	1 547	1 547	1 001
Redevelop Unit Complexes	4 648	4 648	3 388
Bellamack Seniors Village	10 000	11 600	527
Stimulus Stage 1 Element 1	7 100	7 121	5 264
Stimulus Stage 2 Element 1	14 370	14 370	4 463
Stimulus Element Stage 2 (R&M)	2 058	2 058	2 054
A Place to Call Home	2 576	2 576	0
GEH - Closing the Gap	21 290	21 290	8 691
GEH - Construction	11 808	11 808	2 901
GEH - Land Servicing	7 395	7 395	2 454
GEH - Replacements	3 810	3 810	2 106
GEH - Upgrades to Police and Priority GEH Other Agencies	12 548	12 548	12 040
OATSIH Construct	11 180	11 180	1 365
GEH - Construct additional housing in remote locations for teachers	9 028	9 028	6 311
Family and Children Services	1 434	1 304	1 302
Indigenous Housing	124 194	233 789	165 394
Land Servicing and Essential Services	0	74 580	0
Program Delivery	3 298	3 298	2 760
Co-location of Territory Housing to RCG Centre	4 300	4 300	1 793
TOTAL PROGRAM 09-10	260 784	454 450	240 913

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2010-11

Strategic goal: Improve access to safe, secure, appropriate and affordable housing

- Increase social housing supply.
- Implement and monitor standards for delivery and management of public housing.
- Reduce anti-social behaviour in public housing.
- Increase the capacity of clients to sustain successful tenancies.
- Reduce the number of Territorians 'sleeping rough'.
- Drive and implement key social housing initiatives, in partnership with the Australian Government, under the Nation Building and Jobs Plan.
- Reduce the average occupancy rate per remote dwelling.
- Implement and monitor standards for delivery and management of remote public housing that are comparable to rural and urban communities.
- Continued to deliver the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program.
- Improve access to housing for people with disabilities and special needs.
- Develop an integrated and consistent Northern Territory social housing framework.
- Develop the non-government sector through collaboration and engagement.
- Increase home ownership opportunities within the Northern Territory for low to middle income earners through access to HOMESTART NT.
- Increase Indigenous home ownership.
- Continue to provide government employee housing to support priority service delivery in urban and regional centres.
- Provide housing for eligible government employees delivering services in remote communities.
- Establish an Affordable Housing Rental Company.
- Facilitate entrance to the housing market through the National Rental Affordability Scheme.



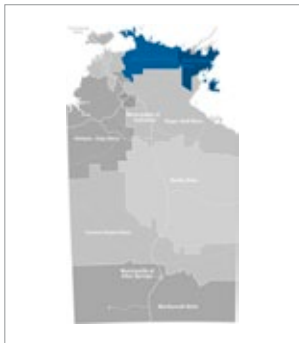
Providing safe and affordable housing

Strategic goal: Strong regions, communities and local governments

- Develop and implement *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans that are agreed by all tiers of government and local people so that Territory Growth Towns can enjoy all normal facilities and services prevailing in other regional towns in Australia of a similar size, are properly planned and designed, and are connected by appropriate infrastructure.
- Implement land tenure reform in remote areas to facilitate service delivery and economic opportunities.
- Establish baseline indicators in Territory Growth Towns and regularly evaluate progress.
- Provide support for homelands and outstations.
- Lead commitments made with Australian Government agreements, government policies and legislation.
- Build strong partnerships with Indigenous Territorians.
- Coordinate government effort to support Indigenous Territorians and communities.
- Develop business and job opportunities for Indigenous people.
- Facilitate investment by developing and maintaining comprehensive economic information about regional centres, remote towns and communities.
- Work with stakeholders to stimulate and grow regional and remote economies.
- Support local governments to deliver core services.
- Support local governments to strengthen governance and management capacity.
- Work with local governments to build their capacity to deliver sustainable services to their communities.
- Strengthen and build the capacity of Aboriginal interpreters in Territory Growth Towns.
- Increase and build on the current capacity of interpreters and translators to provide a high standard of language services.
- Increase the capability of translator and interpreter services.
- Provide water safety education programs across the Territory, including remote areas.
- Promote animal welfare.

REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS

Arnhem Region



East Arnhem Shire

Population	9 653
Land Size	33 302.42 km ²
Wards	Anindilyakwa, Gumurr Gatjirrk, Gumurr Marthakal, Gumurr Miwatj
Communities	109

Unincorporated areas:

- Nhulunbuy Population: 4 112
- Alyangula Population: 956

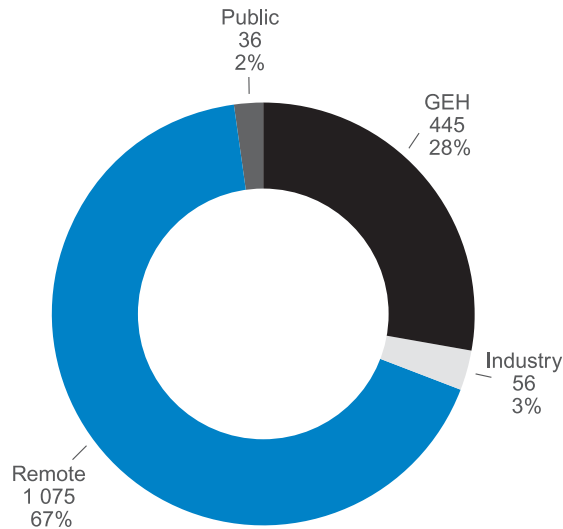
West Arnhem Shire

Population	6 644
Land Size	49 698.26 km ²
Wards	Gunbalanya, Kakadu, Maningrida, Barrah
Communities	102



Training and job opportunities

Arnhem Region Housing Assets (Owned or Managed)



Territory Growth Towns: Angurugu/Umbakumba, Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Yirrkala.

Land Councils: Northern Land Council, Anindilyakwa Land Council.

Economic Development Committee: East Arnhem.

Number of Homelands/Outstations: 131.

Indigenous languages spoken:

- North East Arnhem – 21 Yolngu languages
- Groote Eylandt – Alawa, Anindilyakwa, Kriol, Nunggubuyu
- Gunbalanya, Jabiru – Burarra, Kunwinkju
- Maningrida – Burarra, Djambarrpuynngu, Djinang, Guninggu, Gurrgoni, Kriol, Nakkara, Ndjebbana, Rembarrnga, Yanyangu
- Warruwi – Maung, Walang.

Highlights

- Delivered 23 new homes through Remote Housing NT (SIHIP) in Galiwinku, Groote Eylandt, Gunbalanya and Maningrida. Also refurbished 90 dwellings and rebuilt seven in Galiwinku, Angurugu, Umbakumba, Milyakburra, Gunbalanya, Maningrida and Warruwi.
- Recruited four locally based Community Housing Officers (three are Indigenous).
- Established four HRGs in West Arnhem and eight in East Arnhem.
- Constructed six Government Employee Housing (GEH) dwellings and upgraded 27 dwellings.
- Commenced water source development in Beswick and Barunga and drilled new bores in Rittarangu.
- Established four Local Advisory Boards in East Arnhem and two in West Arnhem. There are now 11 established in the Arnhem region.

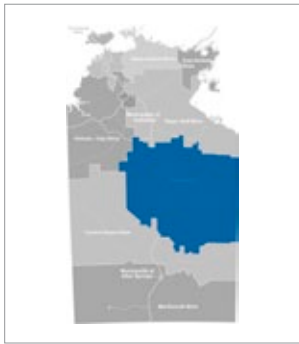
- Provided Special Purpose Grants for:
 - ▶ Purchase of a compactor garbage truck for Jabiru
 - ▶ Renovation of the Milingimbi community hall including the addition of a crèche and child care facility.
- Completed five year community plan for Galiwinku and commenced plans in Gunyangara, Angurugu and Maningrida.
- Provided funding support to:
 - ▶ Buku-Larrnggay Mulka Art Centre to develop its multi-media capacity and market regional artwork
 - ▶ YBE(2) Pty Ltd to support a new bus in Yirrkala
 - ▶ Aboriginal Resource and Development Services (ARDS) to support Yolngu Radio.
- Launched the East Arnhem Economic Profile At a Glance publication.
- Identified one AIS interpreter for National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) Accreditation.
- Signed Stage Two of the Groote Eylandt, Bickerton Regional Partnership Agreement.
- Finalised the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans in Territory Growth Towns Galiwinku, Gapuwiyak, Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Millingimbi, Yirrkala, Umbakumba and Angurugu. Commenced Local Implementation Planning in Ramingining.

Future Priorities

- Upgrade unit complex in Beagle Circuit.
- Continue to provide intensive tenancy support across all communities to improve tenants' ability to successfully maintain tenancies.
- Upgrade four GEH dwellings and construct 38, including 26 for the Department of Education and Training in the Territory Growth Towns Umbakumba, Galiwinku, Ramingining and Yirrkala.
- Continue to provide on-going support and governance education for elected councillors and the development of strong advisory boards.
- Continue developing five year plans for all Arnhem communities.
- Publish the East Arnhem Economic Profile.
- Finalise the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plan in Ramingining.

REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS

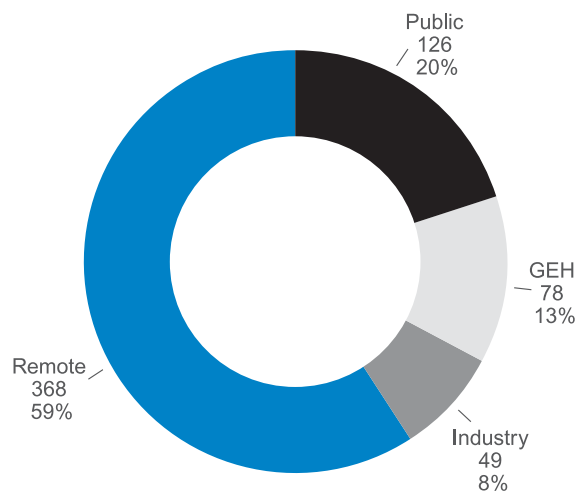
Barkly Region



Barkly Shire

Population	7 924
Land Size	322 693.27km ²
Wards	Alyawarr, Patta, Yapakurlangu
Communities	94

Barkly Region Housing Assets (Owned or Managed)



Territory Growth Towns: Ali Curung, Elliott.

Land Council: Central Land Council.

Economic Development Committee: Tennant Creek.

Number of Homelands/Outstations: 84.

Indigenous languages spoken:

Barkly - Alyawarre, Anmatyerre, Central Arrernte, Eastern Arrernte, Jingili, Kaititj, Mudbarra, Luritja, Ngaanyatjarra, Ngaatjatjarra, Pintupi, Pitjantjatjara, Southern Arrernte, Wambaya, Warlpiri, Warnmanpa, Warumungu, Western Arrernte, Yankunytjara, Wuriaki.

Highlights

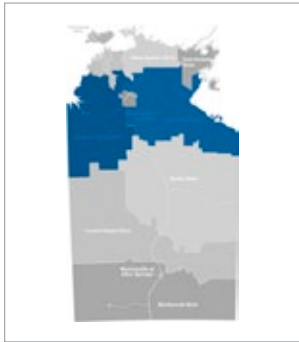
- Constructed a four bedroom dwelling at 19 Ford Crescent and repaired one dwelling through the National Partnership Agreement for Social Housing Initiative, Stage One.
- Achieved a 25 per cent reduction in the number of waitlisted applications for public housing.
- Introduced roles to improve delivery of housing services: Indigenous Client Liaison Officer, Property Management Officer and Maintenance Officer. These roles will focus on asset management, repair and maintenance programming and improve relationships with contractors and Indigenous clients.
- Delivered 24 rebuilds on the Tennant Creek community living areas and refurbished 65 dwellings through Remote Housing NT (SIHIP) in Ali Curung, Imangara and Tara. Condition assessments for all SIHIP communities in the Barkly region are complete.
- Established Housing Reference Groups in Ali Curung, Imangara, Tara and Ampilatwatja.
- Constructed six GEH dwellings in Canteen Creek, Wutunugurra (Epenarra) and Ali Curung and upgraded six dwellings.
- Construction continued on the new power station at Alpurrurulam and connection of Irrultja to the Arlparra electricity grid.
- Completed water source investigation drilling at Alpurrurulam.
- Established one Local Advisory Board. There are now seven established in the Barkly region.
- Worked with other regional offices and local governing bodies to review the Southern Regional Management Plan.
- Provided funding support to the Tennant Creek Foundation to develop businesses at Battery Hill Mining Centre and Nyinkka Nyuyu Art and Culture Centre.
- Launched the Tennant Creek Economic Profile and At a Glance publications.
- Identified six AIS interpreters for NAATI Accreditation.
- Delivered water safety lessons with visits to students in Epenarra, Canteen Creek and Tennant Creek.
- Commenced *Working Future* Local Implementation Planning in Ali Curung and Elliott.
- Secured land for a new subdivision in line with the Northern Territory Government's *Housing the Territory* strategy to provide social and affordable housing.

Future Priorities

- Upgrade the Blain Street unit complex.
- Complete handovers of all SIHIP refurbished dwellings in remote communities and urban living areas.
- Continue to provide intensive tenancy support across all communities to improve tenants' ability to successfully maintain tenancies.
- Establish Housing Reference Groups in Canteen Creek and Wutunugurra (Epenarra).
- Employ and train Community Housing Officers in the Barkly region.
- Construct four Government Employee Housing dwellings.
- Install renewable energy technology at Alpurrurulam to reduce diesel consumption and emission of greenhouse gases.
- Removal of naturally occurring chemicals from the drinking water at Ali Curung.
- Finalise *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans in Ali Curung and Elliott.

REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS

Big Rivers Region



Katherine Town

Population	9 912
Land Size	7 421 km ²

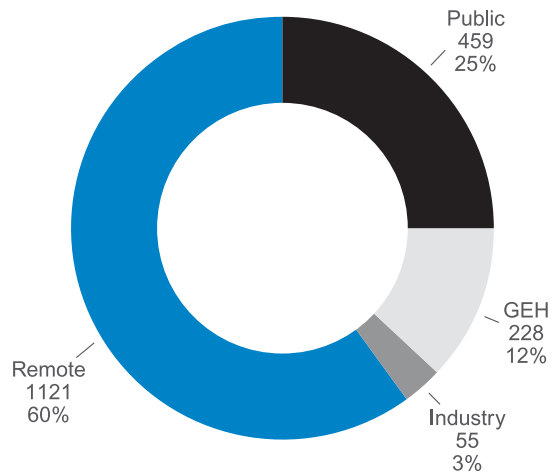
Roper Gulf Shire

Population	6 718
Land Size	185 175.81 km ²
Wards	Never Never, Numbulwar Numburindi, Nyirranggulung, South West Gulf, Yugul Mangi
Communities	96

Victoria Daly Shire

Population	6 699
Land Size	167 575 km ²
Wards	Pine Creek, Milngin, Tyemirri, Nganmariyanga, Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi, Timber Creek, Walangeri, Daguragu
Communities	69

Big Rivers Region Housing Assets (Owned or Managed)



Territory Growth Towns: Borroloola, Daguragu/Kalkarindji, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Wadeye.

Land Council: Northern Land Council.

Economic Development Committees: Katherine, Gulf (Borroloola), Victoria River District.

Number of Homelands/Outstations: 116.

Indigenous languages spoken:

- Katherine – Gurrindji, Jawoyn, Kriol, Mayali, Ngarinman, Nunggubuyu, Warlpiri, Nauiyu Nambiyu (Daly River)
- Peppimenarti – Kriol, Ngangikurrungurr, Ngangiwumirri, Marithiel
- Ngukurr – Kriol, Marra
- Wadeye – Mari-Jarran, Murrinh-Patha, Nungu Jamidi
- Borroloola – Yanyuwa.

Highlights

- Upgraded the unit complex at 54 Acacia through the National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing, repairs and maintenance program. The Kalano Community Association will manage a residential aftercare program to complement its residential rehabilitation program currently provided at Vendale Rehabilitation Centre.
- Provided the Tenancy Sustainability Program (TSP) through CatholicCare to support tenancies at risk of failure. Two tenancies have successfully completed the program and 22 tenancies are currently being assisted.
- Introduced the Indigenous Client Liaison Officer role to improve delivery of housing services and relationships with Indigenous clients.
- Reduced antisocial behaviour at six public housing complexes by declaring the common areas alcohol restricted. There are currently 44 public housing tenants who have their homes declared alcohol restricted to assist in sustaining their tenancies.
- Delivered 17 newly constructed dwellings through Remote Housing NT (SIHIP) in Wadeye, with work on a further 21 commenced. Six houses were refurbished in Palumpa and five in Wadeye. Scoping and community consultations were completed in Ngukurr and Lajamanu.
- Established a tenancy team in Wadeye to provide ongoing support for residents in Wadeye, Peppimenarti, Nganmarriyanga (Palumpa) and Nauiyu (Daly River).
- Established HRGs in Wadeye, Peppimenarti, Nganmarriyanga (Palumpa), Wudapuli, Nama and Ngukurr.
- Placed a full-time officer in the Borroloola Council Complex to provide an ongoing assistance for town camp leasing consultation and negotiations.
- Trialled a new method of data collection in Kalkarindji that will reduce tenancy verification completion times from several weeks to approximately two days.
- Constructed two GEH dwellings.
- Commenced water source development at Beswick and Barunga and drilled new bores at Rittarangu.
- Provided Special Purpose Grants for:
 - ▶ Construction of a community building in Timber Creek
 - ▶ Construction of a community hall in Pigeon Hole.

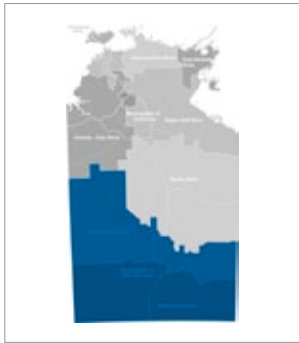
- Established five Local Boards in the Victoria Daly and six in the Roper Gulf Shires. There are now 20 established in the Big Rivers region.
- Provided support to:
 - ▶ the Jawoyn Association for the Barunga Festival
 - ▶ the McArthur River Community Benefits Trust including grant funding for Indigenous training and employment
 - ▶ the Growing Katherine Business Limited initiative, resulting in four new business ventures.
- Facilitated land release of 12 lot subdivision in Timber Creek and initiated concept plans for Borroloola and Timber Creek through the Victoria River District, Katherine and Gulf Region Economic Development Committees.
- Conducted the Building Borroloola Forum in May as part of *Working Future*.
- Identified seven AIS interpreters for NAATI Accreditation.
- Established an AIS office in Wadeye staffed with a full-time Community Liaison Officer and four part-time community based interpreters. A further 10 active interpreters are community based.
- Delivered water safety lessons with visits to students in Borroloola, Bulla Creek, Timber Creek and Katherine.
- Finalised the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans in Territory Growth Towns Lajamanu, Ngukurr, Numbulwar and Wadeye. Commenced Local Implementation Planning in Borroloola, Daguragu and Kalkarindji.

Future Priorities

- Commence SIHIP works in Borroloola, Amanbidji, Barunga, Beswick, Binjari, Bulla, Bulman, Daguragu, Eva Valley, Jilkminggan, Kalkarindji, Kybrook Farm, Minyerri, Nauiyu, Pigeon Hole, Ramingining, Rittarangu, Robinson River, Weemol and Yarralin.
- Undertake scoping of additional rebuild and refurbishment works for Nganmarriyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadeye.
- Progress compliance of the relevant corporations and association holding title over the Borroloola town camps so that consultations with Mungoorbada Aboriginal Corporation and residents of Robinson River in regard to a housing lease can recommence.
- Assess the need to establish housing staff in Ngukurr and Daguragu/Kalkarindji.
- Construct 10 GEH dwellings.
- Construction of replacement dwellings on higher ground and upgrade the causeway at Nganmarriyanga.
- Review the management agreement of Borroloola Cemetery.
- Development of Economic Profiles for Borroloola and Timber Creek.
- Hold a Plan for Growth Forum for Katherine.
- Hold a Future Forum in Ngukurr.
- Complete Local Road Naming Project in Nganmarriyanga, Peppimenarti and Nauiyu.
- Finalise the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plan in Borroloola.

REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS

Central Australia Region



Alice Springs Town

Population	27 481
Land Size	327.43 km ²

Central Desert Shire

Population	4 644
Land Size	282 089.76 km ²
Wards	Northern Tanami, Southern Tanami, Anmatjere, Akityarre
Communities	66

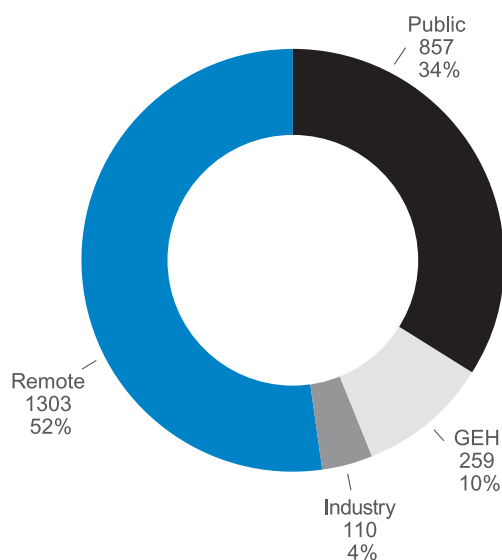
MacDonnell Shire

Population	6 999
Land Size	268 784.20 km ²
Wards	Rodinga, Ljirapinta, Luritja Pintubi, Iyarrka
Communities	172



Creating a client centred culture

Central Australia Region Housing Assets (Owned or Managed)



Territory Growth Towns: Hermannsburg, Papunya, Yuendumu.

Land Council: Central Land Council.

Economic Development Committees: West MacDonnell, Alice Springs, Anmatjere (Ti Tree).

Number of Homelands/Outstations: 154.

Indigenous languages spoken:

Alyawarre, Anmatyerre, Central Arrernte, Eastern Arrernte, Jingili, Kaititj, Mudbarra, Luritja, Ngaanyatjarra, Ngaatjatjarra, Pintupi, Pitjantjatjara, Southern Arrernte, Wambaya, Warlpiri, Warnmanpa, Warumungu, Western Arrernte, Yankunytjatjara, Wuriaki.

Highlights:

- Constructed two four bedroom dwellings through the National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing and upgraded 22 dwellings through the National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing, repairs and maintenance program.
- Created a Compliance Unit to improve support to clients and address anti-social behaviour issues.
- Created an Assets Manager position to maximise efficiency of the asset management program.
- Provided short-term accommodation at the Stuart Lodge facility, 17 308 bed nights to visitors and homeless people with average occupancy of 75.2 per cent.
- Established nine HRGs in the MacDonnell Shire, and in all 18 town camps.
- Undertook condition assessments on 79 dwellings and functionality testing on 233 dwellings in the Central Desert and MacDonnell shires. Condition assessments were also completed on 199 dwellings in 18 town camps.
- Delivered eight new dwellings, five major rebuilds and through Remote Housing NT (SIHIP) on Palmers and Ilparpa town camps. Also 78 houses were refurbished and 5 rebuilt in Central Australian communities.

- Implemented contracts for the delivery of municipal services on town camps including weekly wheelie bin collection as part of the Alice Springs Transformation Plan.
- Constructed GEH five dwellings and upgraded 47 dwellings.
- Protected drinking water at Titjikala with a water disinfection system.
- Connected Yuelamu to the Yuendumu electricity grid.
- Upgraded Wilora water storage to improve water supply reliability.
- Finalised the Road Naming Project in 22 remote communities, achieving recognition from the NT Street Naming Committee as being the most advanced region in this project.
- Completed a review of all nine Local Advisory Boards across the Central Desert shire and continued to develop and build capacity of 23 Boards now established in the Central Australia region.
- Provided support to the:
 - ▶ Alice Springs Town Council's campaign to attract skilled workers
 - ▶ Alice Springs Chamber of Commerce for the Employing Indigenous Territorians pilot program
 - ▶ Hermannsburg Spectacular.
- Launched the Alice Springs Economic Profile At a Glance publication.
- Facilitated the Anmatjere, Alice Springs and West MacDonnell Economic Development Committees.
- Conducted the Utopia Economic Development Forum in June 2009.
- Initiated planning for the Hermannsburg Future Forum with the Indigenous Economic Development Taskforce and the Ntaria Community Reference Group.
- Hosted the 4th Indigenous Economic Development Forum attracting more than 300 delegates.
- Identified 18 Aboriginal interpreters for NAATI Accreditation.
- Delivered water safety lessons with visits to students in Watiyawanu, Ali Curung and Murray Downs.
- Established Local Reference Groups in Hermannsburg and Yuendumu and commenced *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans in these communities and in Papunya.
- Held a home ownership seminar in conjunction with Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) to promote Indigenous home ownership.
- Purchased six allotments in the Ridges Estate in line with the Northern Territory Government's *Housing the Territory* strategy to provide affordable housing.

Future Priorities

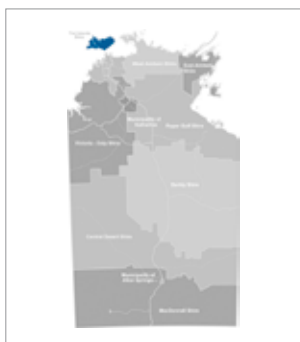
- Through the National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing, construct 75 units of accommodation at Bath Street, Goyder Street, Willshire Street and Percy Court.
- Commence construction of an 18 unit (two bedroom) seniors' village at Larapinta.
- Upgrade unit complexes at 75 and 83 Gap Road.
- Construct 24 GEH dwellings.
- Removal of naturally occurring chemicals from the drinking water in Kintore.
- Publish the Alice Springs Economic Profile.
- Establish AIS offices in Hermannsburg and Papunya.
- Finalise *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans in Hermannsburg, Yuendumu and Papunya.
- Complete the preparation and ballot application process for the sale of six affordable house and land packages at the Ridges Estate, Alice Springs.



Expanding interpreting services to remote Territory communities

REGIONAL SNAPSHOTS

Darwin Region



Darwin City

Population	73 754
Land Size	141.75 km ²

Palmerston City

Population	28 030
Land Size	56.40 km ²

Litchfield

Population	18 277
Land Size	3 072.37 km ²

Coomalie Shire

Population	1 268
Land Size	1512.14 km ²

Belyuen Shire

Population	202
Land Size	41.60 km ²

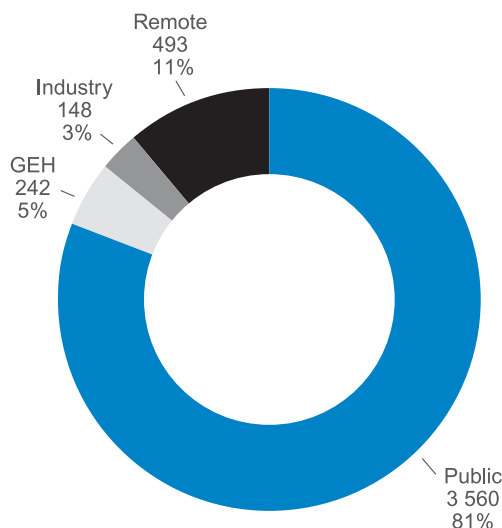
Wagait Shire

Population	326
Land Size	5.68 km ²

Tiwi Island Shire

Population	2 487
Land Size	7 500.84km ²
Wards	Milikapiti, Pirlangimpi, Nguiu, Wurankuwu
Communities	10

Darwin Region Housing Assets (Owned or Managed)



Territory Growth Town: Nguiu.

Land Councils: Northern Land Council, Tiwi Island Land Council.

Economic Development Committees: Tiwi Islands, East Arnhem.

Number of Homelands/Outstations: 18.

Indigenous languages spoken:

- Darwin - Larrakia
- Litchfield (Batchelor) - Madinarl, Mariamu
- Tiwi Islands - Tiwi.

Highlights

- Twenty-five dwellings received upgrade works under the National Partnership Agreement for Social Housing Initiative, Repairs and Maintenance Program.
- Awarded the contract for construction of a 40 unit seniors' village at Bellamack.
- Established a Priority Housing Committee resulting in the reduction of pending applications from 174 to 24 in the Darwin Region.
- Provided the Tenancy Sustainability Program (TSP) through CatholicCare to support tenancies at risk of failure. One hundred and thirty one tenancies accessed the program. CatholicCare was also allocated 10 properties under A Place to Call Home program that builds the capacity of participants to independently sustain a public housing tenancy.
- Established Housing Reference Group at Belyuen.
- Delivered 19 newly constructed dwellings through Remote Housing NT (SIHIP). Across the region 17 refurbishments and 59 rebuilds were completed.
- Provided intensive tenancy support to 70 remote households across the Darwin Region.
- Constructed seven Government Employee Housing dwellings and upgraded 14 dwellings.

- Negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE) for management of future tenancies.
- Commenced sewerage upgrade work at Palumpa and water storage upgrades to Warruwi. The power station at Warruwi was also extended including a fuel bunding upgrade.
- Provided support to Coomalie Community Government Council, Belyuen Community Government Council, Wagait Shire Council and Litchfield Council to complete Stage 1 investigations of local government boundary expansion into unincorporated areas.
- Provided Special Purpose Grants for:
 - ▶ Ablution block at Humpty Doo Village Green
 - ▶ Renovation of Belyuen womens' and child care centre
 - ▶ Repairs to Pirlangimpi library
 - ▶ Governance training for local board members
 - ▶ Elected members of the Palmerston City Council to participate in the Australian Institute of Company Directors Program.
- Provided support to the Top End YMCA to complete a feasibility study into possible sites for an activity hub in the Litchfield area.
- Completed Stage One of the Bagot Community election commitment including:
 - ▶ fencing of 36 residential houses
 - ▶ installing water meters at 56 residential houses
 - ▶ numbering 56 residential houses and a map at the Bagot Road entrance
 - ▶ fencing and shade for the basketball court
 - ▶ upgrading the basketball court ablution block
 - ▶ re-roofing the community hall
 - ▶ building an ablution block with disabled access for the community hall.
- Provided support to:
 - ▶ the Bathurst Island Housing Association to achieve occupational health and safety accreditation
 - ▶ a sawmill training program on the Tiwi Islands as an introduction to bush furniture construction.
- Facilitation of the Tiwi Islands Economic Development Committee.
- Conducted an Indigenous Business Joint Venture workshop in February.
- Identified eight Aboriginal interpreters for NAATI Accreditation.
- Delivered water safety lessons with visits to students in Middle Point, Belyuen, Woolaning and Dundee Beach.
- Completed *Working Future* Local Implementation Plan in Nguuu.
- Completed the preparation and ballot application process for the sale of 12 affordable house and land packages at Bellamack in line with the Northern Territory Government *Housing the Territory* strategy.

Future Priorities

- Construct 19 units of accommodation funded under the National Partnership Agreement on Social Housing Stage One and 66 units under Stage Two.
- Construct a 100 unit complex in Parap funded under the National Partnership Agreement for Social Housing Initiative, including 45 units for affordable housing purposes.
- Construct the 40 unit Seniors' Village at Bellamack.
- Upgrade unit complexes in Runge Street, Drysdale Street and Smith Street.
- Complete SIHIP works in Pirlangimpi, Milikapiti, Belyuen and Acacia Larrakia.
- Construct 28 Government Employee Housing dwellings.
- Commence second stage of the Bagot Community election commitment.
- Support the Coomalie Community Government Council, Belyuen Community Government Council and Litchfield Council Stage Two investigations of local government boundary expansion into unincorporated areas.
- Finalise the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plan in Nguiu.



Keeping safe in the water

OUR PERFORMANCE
Part Four



PERFORMANCE REPORTING

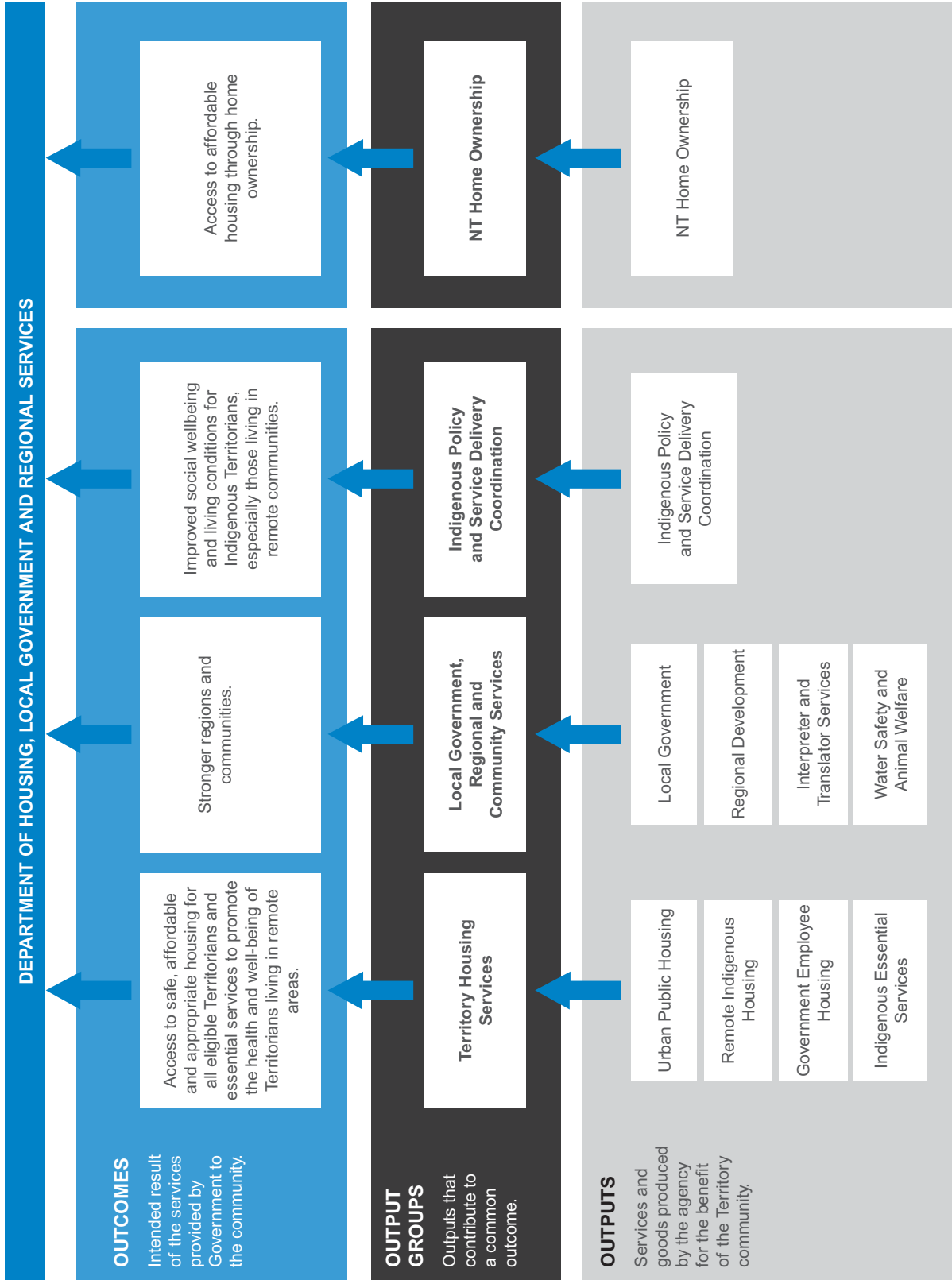
This section reports on our performance in delivering outputs to meet our outcomes. Performance against the measures published in the 2010-11 Budget Paper No. 3 is reported in the output performance tables. Where performance did not meet the estimate, an explanation is provided.

The following table shows the change to the agency's Output Groups and Outputs from 2009-10 to 2010-11, as a result of the agency taking on the portfolio areas of regional development, remote service delivery and Indigenous policy. This new structure allows us to focus on building stronger regions and creating local employment opportunities for Territorians.

Table 7: Comparison of Budget Paper No. 3 (Output Group / Output)

Department of Local Government and Housing 2009-10 Output Group / Output	Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services 2010-11 Output Group / Output
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Housing Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Public Housing Remote Public Housing Government Employee Housing (GEH) Housing Reform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Territory Housing Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Public Housing Remote Indigenous Housing Government Employee Housing Indigenous Essential Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Housing and Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) Indigenous Essential Services 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Local Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Local Government, Regional and Community Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Regional Development Interpreter and Translator Services Water Safety and Animal Welfare
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Community Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpreter and Translator Services Water Safety and Animal Welfare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination
NT Home Ownership 2009-10 Output Group / Output NT Home Ownership	NT Home Ownership 2010-11 Output Group / Output NT Home Ownership

Figure 3: Outputs, Output groups, and Outcomes.



Output Group: Territory Housing Services

Strategic Objective

Provide access to and manage public housing for Territorians in urban and remote areas, including those who are most in need, eligible government employees and clients with high and complex needs, and deliver essential services infrastructure in Indigenous and remote communities throughout the Territory.

The outcome is access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing for all eligible Territorians and essential services to promote the health and well-being of Territorians living in remote areas.

The outcome is access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing for all eligible Territorians and essential services to promote the health and well-being of Territorians living in remote areas.

OUTPUT: URBAN PUBLIC HOUSING

Strategic Objective

Provide public housing to ensure Territorians have access to safe, sustainable and affordable housing. Provide housing and manage tenancies for key employees of private sector businesses and community organisations in regional centres where no private rental market exists. In collaboration with the community housing sector, assist in delivering crisis and supported accommodation to clients with high and complex needs.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Public housing dwellings	5 288	5 229	5 090	5 066 ¹	5 268
	New households assisted with public housing	520	446	541	466 ²	618
	New households assisted through Bond Assistance Scheme	302	253	209	207 ³	174
	Industry housing dwellings	314	350	336	352 ⁴	329
	Community Housing program grants	\$0.74M	\$0.67M	\$0.70M	\$0.36M ⁵	\$0.70M
	Crisis Accommodation program grants	\$0.33M	\$0.40M	\$0.44M	\$0.47M	\$0.44M
	Grant applications processed	26	32	27	22 ⁶	27
Quality	Client satisfaction with provision of public housing assistance	66%	n/a ⁷	68%	n/a ⁷	68%
	Occupancy rate	96%	95%	96%	96%	96%
Timeliness	Response time for unforeseen maintenance:					
	• immediate (within 4 hours)	98%	98%	100%	98%	100%
	• routine (within 10 working days)	95%	94%	95%	93%	96%
	Average number of days to occupy vacant stock	65	77	45	100 ⁸	21
	New households allocated housing:					
	• in less than six months	19%	18%	25%	17%	25%
	• between six months and one year	23%	32%	25%	14% ⁹	25%
• one year and greater	58%	50%	50%	70%	50%	
Cost	Total rent collected as a percentage of total rent charged	97%	96%	99%	104% ¹⁰	99%
	Rent forgone ¹¹	3.7%	3.9%	3.5%	4%	3.4%

Explanatory Notes

1. The trend over the last three years has seen a decrease in the number of public housing dwellings, primarily due to sales to tenants. This will be reversed as the Territory Government has committed \$49 million to build 150 new homes over three years, in addition to the 141 dwellings to be completed as part of the Australian Government's \$60 million Nation Building and Jobs Plan. Changes to the sales to tenants policy will also address this trend.
2. The number of new households assisted with public housing is lower than the estimate, due to a lower than anticipated turnover of dwellings. However, the actual number of households assisted increased during 2009-10 and this is expected to continue in 2010-11 as new and redeveloped public housing stock becomes available.
3. The last three years has seen a decrease in the number of new households assisted through the Bond Assistance Scheme, which is attributed to an increase in private sector rental prices and low vacancy rates. The agency is reviewing the Scheme and investigating alternative options to assist clients into the private market.
4. The number of industry housing dwellings has increased over the past three financial years.
5. Community Housing Grants of \$0.70M were approved in 2009-10. \$0.36M funding was released by 30 June 2010, with the remainder of the approved funding to be released in the 2010-11 financial year.
6. The number of grants processed is dependent upon the number of grant applications received, which was slightly lower in 2009-10.
7. The National Social Housing Survey will be conducted from August through to October 2010 with results available in early 2011. This biennial survey looks at key aspects of service delivery and represents an opportunity to improve client services.
8. The average number of days to occupy vacant stock was higher than predicted due to an increase in the number of major upgrades carried out during the year. The capacity of contractors in some regions also contributed to longer vacancy periods.
9. The lower than estimated number of new households allocated housing within 12 months reflects both an increase in the number of priority housing applicants and an emphasis on the allocation of priority applicants. It is expected that this trend will continue in 2010-11.
10. Total rent collected as a percentage of total rent includes rent from previous years received during 2009-10.
11. Rent forgone is an indicator of vacant dwellings.

OUTPUT: REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

Strategic Objective

Provide and manage public housing to ensure Territorians in remote areas have access to safe, healthy, sustainable and affordable housing, including appropriate tenancy management and maintenance. Meet the needs of Indigenous and remote communities by providing new and upgraded housing and related infrastructure. Provide strategic planning and policy advice, including community engagement and the negotiation of township leases, to support the implementation of a new Remote Public Housing Management Framework.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Remote public housing dwellings	n/a ¹	4 249	4 255	4 370 ²	4 570 ³
	Town camp housing dwellings	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	282	370 ²	400 ³
	Refurbished and rebuilt dwellings	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	152	344	800 ³
	New dwellings	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	69 ⁴	76 ⁴	200
	Number of communities part of negotiated township or housing precinct leases	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	10	10	16
Quality	Community housing reference groups established	n/a ¹	25	72	76	87
	Communities receiving repairs and maintenance services	n/a ¹	73	98 ⁵	98 ⁵	98
	Indigenous employment target on SIHIP projects	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	20%	35% ⁶	20%
Timeliness	Repairs and maintenance grants provided to shires acquitted within timeframes	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	100%	n/a ⁷	100%

Explanatory Notes

1. New performance measure from 2008-09, reflecting the implementation of the new Remote Public Housing Framework.
2. The number of remote public housing dwellings includes the 73 remote communities, Alice Springs town camps and Tennant Creek urban living areas (town camps). 2009-10 figures for town camp housing dwellings, refurbished and rebuilt dwellings, and new dwellings are a subset of the remote public housing dwelling figure.
3. The Australian and Northern Territory Governments have reviewed the Remote Housing NT targets for 2010-11, giving consideration to factors including climatic changes and negotiating leasing arrangements. The Remote Housing NT targets for 2010-11 have been adjusted since the publication of *Budget Paper No.3* and continue to be monitored.
4. Nine of the new houses come from the Indigenous Housing Program, the remaining from SIHIP.
5. There has been an increase in the number of communities receiving repairs and maintenance services from shire councils and Indigenous housing organisations as the 2009-10 figure now includes Alice Springs town camps and Tennant Creek urban living areas. Funding for these services is provided through the Property and Tenancy Management Program.
6. Average full time equivalent over the financial year.
7. Audited financial reports to acquit 2009-10 repairs and maintenance grants are due by 15 November 2010. It is anticipated that 100 per cent of the funding will be acquitted within the required timeframe.



Building healthy homes for remote Indigenous Territorians

OUTPUT: GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE HOUSING

Strategic Objective

Provide housing and manage tenancies for eligible employees of Northern Territory Government agencies.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Dwellings in urban localities	293	287	289	293	289
	Dwellings in remote localities	881	903	903	936 ¹	929
	Private head-leasing arrangements	407	460	431	551 ²	474
Quality	Client satisfaction with services	68%	68%	80%	n/a ³	80%
	Proportion of dwellings at core amenity standard	18%	18%	30%	39% ⁴	40%
	Occupancy rate	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%

Explanatory Notes

- The number of dwellings in remote localities has increased over the past three years due to increased demand from agencies to accommodate remote staff delivering core government services. The construction program exceeded the estimate for 2009-10 and will continue to rise over the next year.
- The need for Government Employee Housing dwellings to be head-leased from the private sector has increased markedly over the past three years as a result of:
 - an increase in the number of hospital-based staff living and working in the Darwin region
 - leases of dwellings to accommodate eligible employees transferred to the agency to be managed centrally rather than by individual Northern Territory Government departments
 - the use of private head-leased dwellings in Darwin, Arnhem, Barkly and Central Australia instead of hotel accommodation due to cost and availability concerns and an increase in the number of staff assessed as eligible for employer-arranged accommodation.
- Analysis of client satisfaction from the National Social Housing Survey conducted every two years remained the same for 2007-08 and 2008-09. The next survey is due in October 2010.
- The proportion of Government Employee Housing dwellings achieving core amenity standards has remained steady over the past two years. However it increased in 2009-10 as a result of the number of dwellings completed under the current upgrade program. Further significant increases are expected as the upgrade program continues in 2010-11.

OUTPUT: INDIGENOUS ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Strategic Objective

Coordinate funding and provide strategic planning and policy advice for the delivery of electricity, water and sewerage to remote Indigenous communities through the contracted service provider, Power and Water Corporation.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Capacity to plan, advise and deliver programs	\$0.5M	\$0.87M	\$0.9M	\$0.6M ¹	\$0.9M
	Capacity to purchase services from service providers	\$63.5M	\$110.3M	\$60.8M ²	\$60.8M	\$69.6M ³
Quality	Customer satisfaction with services ⁴	82%	84%	75%	78% ⁵	75%

Explanatory Notes

- Capacity to plan, advise and deliver programs reduced due to a decrease in the number of programs being handled by Indigenous Essential Services. Expenditure is estimated to increase in 2010-11 to support *Working Future* initiatives in Territory Growth Towns.
- Capacity to purchase services decreased in 2009-10 as Indigenous Essential Services was no longer responsible for the Outstation Program and the Fixing Houses for Better Health Program was phased out. The 2009-10 estimate figures reflect this change.
- Capacity to purchase services in 2010-11 includes an additional \$7M to implement the Safe Drinking Water program in a significant number of high risk communities.
- Customer satisfaction surveys from remote Indigenous communities, where fair is rated 50 per cent, good 75 per cent and very good 100 per cent.
- The 2009-10 level of customer satisfaction exceeded the estimate although it was lower than in previous years. This was due to a change in survey methodology in which commercial customers were included for the first time.

Output Group: Local Government, Regional and Community Services

Strategic Objective

Develop strength and capacity in local government bodies, stimulate sustainable economic growth and wealth creation across the Territory, provide interpreter and translator services to alleviate language barriers in accessing government services, and promote safer communities around water and animals.

The outcome is stronger regions and communities.



Creating a working future

OUTPUT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Strategic Objective

Develop the strength and capacity of shire and municipal councils to provide legitimate representation, effective governance, improved service delivery and sustainable development.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Total value of grants distributed ¹	n/a ²	\$70.53M	\$61.2M	\$64.45M ³	\$55.1M ⁴
Quality	Grants successfully acquitted	n/a ⁵	72%	100%	47% ⁶	100%
Timeliness	Approved grants distributed to local government bodies on time	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes

- The agency managed the distribution of grants in accordance with Northern Territory Grants Commission recommendations to all Northern Territory local government councils. This funding included a range of special purpose grants to councils, which submitted successful applications, Northern Territory Operational Subsidies and Closing the Gap Grants.
- Methodology for calculating value of grants distributed was revised in 2008-09.
- There was an increase in the 2010-11 budget for Fred's Pass Reserve. The budget increased by \$450 000 to be paid out of current grants; \$1.7M funding for Closing the Gap was provided in 2009-10 and the same amount will again be provided in 2010-11.

In 2008-09 the amount of \$2M was budgeted to 2009-10 for the election commitment of Upgrading Bagot Community. \$1.2M of this will be carried forward into 2010-11. There is also funding of \$1M in 2010-11 and \$1M in 2011-12.

In 2007-08 \$1.5M was provided for the construction of a swimming pool in the Litchfield area as announced by Treasurer Delia Lawrie in April 2008. The amount of \$1.47M was carried forward into 2009-10 and \$1.44M will now be carried forward again into 2010-11.
- The reduced estimate for 2010-11 reflects the cessation of the Australian Government's matching funds for the Community Development Employment Program to Jobs Transition program of \$10 million.
- New performance measure from 2008-09 to measure grants successfully acquitted.
- The percentage of grants successfully acquitted in 2009-10 is lower than estimated as it reflects acquittals which are still outstanding from previous years. The agency is working with councils to provide alternative ways to acquit these older grants.

OUTPUT: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Objective

Working in partnership with business, industry and communities to support activities that stimulate sustainable economic growth and wealth creation in all regions of the Northern Territory.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Capacity to support entities that stimulate economic growth and job creation in regions	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	\$3.6M	\$3.6M	\$4.0 M
	Regional organisations and Indigenous businesses provided with financial assistance	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	45	49 ²	45
	Financial assistance to regional organisations and Indigenous businesses	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	\$2.2M	\$1.7M ³	\$1.41M
Quality	Stakeholder satisfaction	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	85%	80% ⁴	85%
Timeliness	Timeframes met as agreed	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	85%	85%	85%

Explanatory Notes

1. New output and performance measure from 2009-10.
2. Forty-nine regional organisations and Indigenous businesses were provided with financial assistance in 2009-10 exceeding the estimate of 45. This higher number reflects increased business interest being generated from Indigenous Territorians.
3. The actual expenditure of \$1.7M was \$0.5M below the estimate due to grants being committed but not yet drawn down by grantees.
4. Stakeholder surveys are conducted on a bi-annual basis. These surveys target key regional stakeholders who rate the responsiveness of the agency to the economic development needs of their region.

OUTPUT: INTERPRETER AND TRANSLATOR SERVICES

Strategic Objective

Provide interpreter and translator services to alleviate language barriers for Territorians with English as their second language to enable fair and equitable access to government and non-government services.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Interpreters registered with the AIS	266	326	350	382	400 ¹
	Interpreters registered with Interpreting and ITSNT	125	127	150	156	160
	Translators registered with ITSNT	57	59	69	120	120
	Bookings received by AIS	3 945	6 452	6 400	6 124 ²	7 000
	Bookings received by ITSNT interpreting	4 842	4 585	4 350	5 361 ³	4 400
	Bookings received by ITSNT translating	881	979	900	1 045 ⁴	910
	Languages and dialects covered by AIS	104	104	104	109	104
	Languages covered by ITSNT	48	49	55	56 ⁵	55
	Cross-cultural training for agencies conducted by ITSNT	n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶	20	15	30
	Professional development workshops for interpreters and translators conducted by ITSNT	n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶	20	26	25
Quality	Successful Aboriginal interpreter training completions	70%	90%	90%	90% ⁷	90%
	Successful ITSNT interpreter and translator training completions	100%	100%	100%	100% ⁸	100%
	Client satisfaction with provision of ITSNT language services	n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶	80%	80% ⁹	80%
Timeliness	Bookings attended by an Aboriginal interpreter ¹⁰	77%	93%	93%	91% ¹¹	93%
	Bookings attended by ITSNT interpreter ¹⁰	n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶	90%	90%	90%
	Translations completed by ITSNT	100%	99.8%	99.8%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes

1. Interpreters registered with the AIS exceeded the 2009-10 estimate due to an increase in Community Liaison Officers and full time equivalent Community Based Interpreters in urban and regional centres.
2. Although bookings taken by AIS were less than the 2009-10 estimate, the past two years show a significant increase across the Territory as a result of various Australian and Northern Territory Government initiatives.
3. ITSNT interpreter bookings have increased by 17 per cent in 2009-10 due to the number of humanitarian and migrant arrivals to the Northern Territory and the detention and prosecution of alleged people smugglers and illegal fishermen.
4. The number of translation requests received in 2009-10 showed a seven per cent increase from the previous year. This rising trend in translation requests is expected to continue in 2010-11. As in previous years, requests for interpreting and translating services were mainly required in the areas of health, legal, welfare, settlement and education.
5. ITSNT embarked on an intensive recruitment campaign to meet the demand for Tamil, Nepalese, Karen, Burmese and Persian languages. During the past year demand for Dari, Hazaragi and Kurdish languages also emerged due to the recent arrivals of asylum seekers from Afghanistan. In 2009-10, 49 interpreters were offered registration with the service, with seven additional languages becoming available.
6. New performance measure from 2009-10 introduced to measure client satisfaction with ITSNT language services.
7. AIS delivered various training workshops across the Territory throughout 2009-10. The Community Liaison Officers program together with an increase in AIS trainers contributed to the successful specialist training of 296 Interpreters, with 124 of those being trained in their own community. Language Assessments undertaken during 2009-10 resulted in 133 new inductees.
8. ITSNT delivered 26 professional development workshops in Darwin and Alice Springs for its registered practitioners, with excellent attendance rates and positive feedback. Overall attendance over the period was 413.
9. Client satisfaction with ITSNT services is at 80 per cent, with responses gathered through formal and informal feedback methods.
10. As a percentage of total bookings received.
11. In 2009-10 the job attendance rate of Aboriginal interpreters was 91 per cent. It is expected this will increase in 2010-11 as the Community Liaison Officers program provides more support and mentoring to interpreters.

OUTPUT: WATER SAFETY AND ANIMAL WELFARE

Strategic Objective

Promote safer communities through the Water Safety Strategy and the administration of the *Swimming Pool Safety Act* and the *Animal Welfare Act*.

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Number of enrolments in the Under 5 Water Safety Awareness Program	863	1101	1100	1100	1100
	Number of community events and briefings held to promote animal welfare	6	16 ¹	5 ²	7	5
Quality	Percentage of enrolments completing the Under 5 Water Safety Awareness Program	61%	>100%	80%	88% ³	80%
Timeliness	Animal welfare complaints responded to within three days	100%	99%	90%	95.2% ⁴	90% ⁵
	New pool fences inspected within three weeks of receipt of application	57%	70%	70%	90%	70%

Explanatory Notes

1. The 2008-09 actual figure counts ten individual activities associated with Animal Awareness Week. From 2009-10 onwards, these ten activities are counted as one event. For comparative purposes, six events were held in 2008-09 and seven events in 2009-10.
2. The five community events planned were World Animal Day, Pet Expo, RSPCA Million Paws Walk, Palmerston Festival and Animal Awareness Week. In addition to these successful events, Defence Family Fun Day and FREEPS (Free Recreation and Entertainment for Everyone in the Parks) events were attended to promote animal welfare.
3. A higher than estimated percentage of enrolments completed the Under 5 Water Safety Awareness program delivered by the NT Royal Life Saving Society.
4. In 2009-10, many animal welfare complaints were resolved with direct advice to animal owners, not requiring ongoing management.
5. In 2010-11 the Animal Welfare Unit will take on sole responsibility for livestock animal welfare complaints formerly the responsibility of the Department of Resources. This is expected to increase the number of complaints received by the agency.

Output Group: Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination

Strategic Objective

Work with Northern Territory, Commonwealth and local government agencies and Indigenous people to provide strategic policy and advice on Indigenous affairs from a whole of government perspective.

Improve the outcomes for residents of remote areas of the Northern Territory through the delivery of *Working Future*.

Coordinate whole of government monitoring and reporting on progress towards achieving nationally agreed Closing the Gap targets.

The outcome will be improved social wellbeing and living conditions for Indigenous Territorians, especially those living in remote communities.

OUTPUT: INDIGENOUS POLICY AND SERVICE DELIVERY COORDINATION

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	Capacity to provide strategic policy advice on Indigenous affairs	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	\$2.6M	\$3.3M ²	\$3.5M
Quality	Client satisfaction	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	>80%	>80% ³	>80%
Timeliness	Advice provided within required timeframes	n/a ¹	n/a ¹	>80%	>80% ⁴	>80%

Explanatory Notes

1. New output and performance measures from 2009-10.
2. Actual 2009-10 funding includes additional allocation for establishment of the Service Delivery Coordination Unit which has a particular focus on developing Territory Growth Towns, a key aspect of the *Working Future* strategy.
3. Quality has been assessed by conducting client surveys.
4. Agreed timeframes are met or exceeded in over 80 per cent of work delivered (measured through client surveys).

NT Home Ownership

Strategic Objective

Management of home ownership assistance products including loans, grants and subsidies to increase home ownership opportunities for low to middle income households.

The outcome is access to affordable housing through home ownership.

BUSINESS LINE: NT HOME OWNERSHIP

Output Performance Analysis

Performance Measures		2007-08 Actual	2008-09 Actual	2009-10 Estimate	2009-10 Actual	2010-11 Estimate
Quantity	New home ownership loans	82	101	115	145 ¹	105
	Proportion of new Indigenous households receiving home purchase assistance	3%	4%	5%	8%	5%
	Fee assistance loans granted as a percentage of new home ownership loans	100%	99%	100%	99%	99%
	Value of new home ownership loans	\$14M	\$21M	\$28M	\$36M	\$28M
	Value of new shared equity purchases	\$5M	\$5M	\$6M	\$8M	\$6M
	Loans funded to households with a gross weekly income of:					
	• \$0 to \$1 346	n/a ²	n/a ²	62%	59%	50%
	• \$1 347 to \$2 020	n/a ²	n/a ²	38%	40%	40%
	• \$2 021 to \$2 308	n/a ²	n/a ²	0%	1%	10%
	Total loan portfolio value	\$135M	\$123M	\$129M	\$128M	\$129M
Quality	Home ownership loan accounts in arrears greater than 30 days	1.5%	0.8%	1.8%	1.4% ³	1.8%
Cost	Average loan amount	\$172 650	\$205 785	\$220 000	\$241 390 ⁴	\$270 000
	Median price purchase	\$235 500	\$270 000	\$290 000	\$312 000	\$335 000

Explanatory Notes

1. The number of loans funded increased in 2009-10 due to the changes in eligibility criteria introduced in 2009-10.
2. New performance measures from 2009-10, reflecting the revised eligibility criteria for loans.
3. NT Home Ownership loan accounts in arrears continue to be low and are below market averages.
4. Average loan amounts and median purchase prices have increased commensurate with current property market conditions throughout the Northern Territory.

MAKING IT HAPPEN
Part Five



CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT FRAMEWORKS

The agency led and participated in many whole of government activities and also in national partnership agreements throughout the year. The following provides a summary and highlights of our contribution to important Territory and national frameworks during the year.

Northern Territory Government Frameworks

TERRITORY 2030

Territory 2030 is a 20 year strategic plan for the Northern Territory. It was developed by an independent Steering Committee and was launched by the Chief Minister and the two Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee, Vicki O'Halloran and Bill Moss, on 3 December 2009.

The *Territory 2030* Strategic Plan is the government's road map for the future. Developed in consultation with the Territory community, *Territory 2030* will set priorities and guide government's efforts over the next two decades.

Territory 2030 contains 128 targets linked to six key priorities: education, society, economic sustainability, health and wellbeing, the environment, and knowledge, creativity and innovation.

Table 8: Progress Against Territory 2030 Targets

Target	Actions
Society S1.1 Improve access to accommodation by 2030 every Territorian will have access to appropriate accommodation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the percentage of Territorians sleeping rough. • Reduce waiting times for public housing. • Increase the percentage of rental stock allocated for social housing. • Reduce the number of Territorians being turned away from supported accommodation services for people who are homeless or who are escaping domestic and family violence. • Average occupancy per remote dwelling to be reduced by 2018, and achieve two people per bedroom by 2030. • Complete delivery of the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) by 2013.
Progress to date	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget 2010 provided a record \$695 million for more public housing. • The Territory is currently working with national bodies to develop a comprehensive measure of homelessness under the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Homelessness. • Estimated wait times in public housing across all regions reduced from February 2010 to 30 April 2010. • Through the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP), there have been increased rebuilds and refurbishments to date. 	

Agency update

- As part of the stimulus package, 186 units of accommodation are under construction.
- Design and documentation for another 30 new units is underway, including for the Larapinta Seniors Village. These projects will be tendered later this year.
- Scopes are being prepared for the redevelopment of unit complexes and the repair and refurbishment of dwellings across the Territory is ongoing.
- In July 2010 work commenced to refurbish the YMCA, keeping an existing 63 rooms operational.
 - replacing roof areas
 - upgrading the kitchen
 - plumbing, rooms, dwellings and reception area.
- Construction is underway on 18 new dwellings in Berrimah.
- In Alice Springs, 28 new dwellings will be built for transitional accommodation.
- The Catherine Booth House site in Stuart Park is being redeveloped into a 12 room facility for managed accommodation for homeless women.
- Through SIHIP, St Vincent de Paul are building 20 dwellings in Coconut Grove for more affordable and supported housing.
- As at 30 August 2010, the number of refurbishments and rebuilds completed is 510. There have been 74 houses completed.
- Fluctuations in wait times across all regions between 30 April 2010 and 31 August 2010, but figures have remained relatively stable.

Target	Actions
<p>Society S1.2 A balanced housing market offering good value for money and affordability, ultimately becoming one of Australia's most affordable housing markets, across all market segments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase home ownership among all Territorians. • Reduce the proportion of Territory households experiencing rental stress. • Implement a Land Strategy by 2010 that includes measures for land planning and release. • Develop a scheme that provides financial relief to retirees selling their homes to move into retirement accommodation.

Progress to date

- Between 1 July 2004 and 30 June 2010, 1 314 households were provided with assistance for the purchase of their own home; over \$276 million in loans and shared equity.
- Through HOMESTART NT, assistance was provided to 145 households to purchase of their own homes.
- Purchase price caps and income limits for HOMESTART NT May 2010, making the scheme more accessible to Territorians.
- New stamp duty concession of \$8 500 was introduced in the 2010-11 Budget to help eligible senior Territorians and pensioner and carer concession card holders to buy a home.

Agency update

- Home ownership in the Territory is lower than nationally, as at 30 June 2010:
 - 56 per cent in owned homes vs 68.3 per cent nationally
 - 36.7 per cent in rented homes vs 28.4 per cent nationally.
- Increase in assistance provided for purchase of own home from 1 314 households to 1 328 in the period July 2004 to September 2010
- Increase in loans and shared equity from \$276 million to \$280 million also from July 2004 to September 2010.
- From July 2010, 26 households were provided with assistance.
- From July 2010, 14 loans were funded and a further 12 are awaiting settlement for the purchase of their own homes.

Target	Actions
<p>Society S5.2 Improve Indigenous employment rates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians by 2018, and equivalent rates of participation by 2030.
Progress to date	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, between 2006 and 2007 the size of the Indigenous labour force in the Territory increased and unemployment decreased. • In 2006, the number of Indigenous people employed was estimated at 15 300 and in 2007 at 17 800; an increase of 2 500. • Unemployment rate dropped from 15.7 per cent to 14.6 per cent. • Employment participation rate increased from 44.8 per cent to 50.5 per cent. • Budget 2010 provides additional funding for entry-level employment programs targeted at Territory Growth Towns. 	
Agency update	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As at 30 August 2010, the total number of Indigenous people employed with Alliances since commencement of SIHIP is 594. • The FTE for Indigenous employment since commencement of SIHIP is a total of 33 per cent of total Alliance workforce. This includes employees onsite, sub-contractors and administrative staff employed. • DHLGRS in consultation with DBE has developed four employment growth scenarios putting the increases required to close the employment gap in a range from 11 413 to 16 598. Scenarios take into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ predicted changes in total employment ▸ population ratios ▸ labour force participation rates in the Northern Territory workforce over the next 10 years. • DEEWR, DHLGRS, DBE and LGANT have entered into an agreement to undertake strategic workforce planning to inform the development of local shire's Indigenous workforce planning. 	

Target	Actions
<p>Society S5.9 By 2030 residents of the Territory Growth Towns will enjoy all normal facilities and services prevailing in other regional centres in Australia of a similar size.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010, develop an agreed list of expected facilities and establish a timeline and associated targets for their introduction in the Territory Growth Towns.
Progress to date	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Working Future</i> was announced in May 2009 by the Territory Government. • Commonwealth and Territory Governments are working closely with 15 remote service delivery communities to determine infrastructure priorities through the development of five-year Local Implementation Plans (LIPs). • Work is underway to develop plans for the remaining Territory Growth Towns. • The Territory Government is developing a concept for Government Business Centres (GBC) in Territory Growth Towns through the NPA on Remote Service Delivery. 	

Target	Actions
Agency update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonwealth and Territory Governments working closely with shires and communities have developed five-year LIPs for 15 remote service delivery sites. • Work on the remaining Territory Growth Towns has commenced. • The Territory Government is developing a concept for Government Business Centres (GBC) to provide a facility for government offices, business and service providers in the growth towns. • A pilot GBC is proposed to be established at Nguiu. This target has a relationship with the National Indigenous Reform Agreement, all NPAs and specifically the NPA on Remote Service Delivery.

Target	Actions
Economic Sustainability ES2.6 Develop economic infrastructure in Territory Growth Towns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2010, undertake place-based studies of the economic potential of designated towns and the key gaps. • Encourage the Australian Government to implement tax incentives to establish businesses by 2011. • By 2012, in partnership with traditional owners and the private sector, construct 10 new commercial hubs.

Progress to date

- Employment profiling of the Territory Growth Towns has commenced and is expected to be completed. Full economic profiling will be completed by December 2010.
- Commonwealth and Territory Governments have committed to include an Economic Development Strategy in the LIP for each growth town.
- Once LIPs are completed, ten sites for the proposed commercial hubs will be identified in consultation with communities.
- Additional work was conducted where industry themes emerged in multiple communities to identify potential Government support to foster industry development.

Agency update

- Employment profiling of all Territory Growth Towns complete. Full economic profiling will be completed by December 2010.
- Commonwealth and Territory governments have committed to include an Economic Development Strategy in the LIP for each growth town.
- Once LIPs are approved, 10 sites for the proposed commercial hubs will be identified in consultation with communities.
- First full economic and opportunities profile for Ngukurr launched on 20 August 2010. Other profiles expected to be completed by June 2011.
- Additional work was conducted where industry themes emerged in multiple communities to identify potential Government support to foster industry development.

Target	Actions
<p>Economic Sustainability ES5.4</p> <p>Increase Indigenous/non-Indigenous business partnerships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of Indigenous tourism hubs. • Increase the number of new Indigenous joint venture businesses. • Increase the take-up of the Indigenous Business Development Program.

Progress to date

- There are three tourism hubs, designed to provide business administration; marketing and reservations support for Indigenous tourism operators:
 - Yolngu Tourism Hub
 - Central Aboriginal Experiences
 - Aboriginal Bush Traders.
- Through *Working Future*, new commercial hubs will be established in 10 growth towns by 2012.
- The Territory Government's *Indigenous Economic Development Strategy 2009-12* aims to promote commercial partnerships and joint venture businesses.
- The Indigenous Business Development Program (IBDP) assists Indigenous businesses and organisations with grants of between \$1 000 and \$30 000.
- IBDP grants assisted around 133 Indigenous businesses and organisations with funding totalling over \$2.4 million.
- An estimated 255 Indigenous Territorians have been employed by businesses supported with IBDP investment.
- In the period 1 July 2009 to 30 April 2010, the IBDP distributed \$0.534 million to support 38 Indigenous businesses and organisations across the Territory, with 136 Indigenous Territorians being employed.
- Commitment of further \$97 000 to support another 14 businesses and organisations.
- The Territory Indigenous Business Network (NTIBN) was established in May 2010 and will be officially launched in the coming months.
- Government to work closely with the NTIBN to identify and provide support, in particular with a view to holding another joint venture partnership and business workshop during October Business Month.

Agency update

- Period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010:
 - the fund has distributed \$563 837 to support 41 Indigenous businesses and organisations
 - committed a further \$122 411 to support 13 businesses and organisations.
- IBDP grants regional break-up for the same period:
 - Darwin - \$185 422
 - Katherine and Roper Gulf - \$76 479
 - Victoria / Daly - \$58 982
 - East Arnhem - \$62 531
 - West Arnhem - \$62 080
 - Tiwi Islands - \$10 489
 - Barkly - \$40 224
 - Central Australia - \$67 628.
- Grants covered a range of ventures including waste management, tourism, commercial garden contracting, arts, mining and a home based retail outlet.

HOUSING THE TERRITORY

In March 2009, the Chief Minister launched the *Housing the Territory* strategy – the Government's comprehensive package aimed at getting the balance of housing right. It includes four focuses:

Land to Grow

A land release program across the Territory that includes a 20 year land release program and accelerated land releases for residential housing including Bellamack which will have a 40 unit seniors' village.

New Places to Buy

HOMESTART NT is a Northern Territory Government initiative that commenced on 1 June 2009 to help more Territorians buy their own home at an affordable price. With financial support from HOMESTART NT, low to middle income Territorians will have access to approximately 40% of the property market without investing more than 30% of their income.

New Places to Rent

The Wirrina Redevelopment is under way and will include 45 affordable rental units, including ten public housing units for seniors.

The Maluka Drive Development site in Palmerston is to be developed to yield more than 105 dwellings, with more than half of the dwellings to be eligible for National Rental Affordability Scheme funding.

An 'expressions of interest' process to establish a non-profit Affordable Housing Rental Company to provide affordable rental housing to low to moderate income households in the Territory has entered the second stage of selection. The successful Affordable Housing Rental Company is expected to commence operations in December 2010.

New Public Housing

The agency is working to expand the number of public houses available for Territorians and changing the way public housing is delivered to better meet the needs of our clients by undertaking a wide-ranging review of the public housing system, including the role of non-government organisations and type of housing provided.

The review is also looking at changing public housing client needs to respond to changes with household demographics in the Territory and exploring options to develop capacity within the non government sector to increase the range of housing options for Territorians. Relevant legislation, such as the *Residential Tenancies Act*, has been reviewed for relevance to its functions and ensure it incorporates best practice in the areas it administers.

Under the stimulus package the Territory will construct a total of 208 units of accommodation. Twelve dwellings in Darwin, Alice Springs and Tennant Creek have been completed.

As part of the \$60 million initiative under Stage 2 of the Nation Building and Jobs Plan National Partnership Agreement, \$32 million will be provided in 2010-11 to construct and refurbish a further 186 new public housing dwellings. In addition, a further 154 new dwellings announced in Budget 2010 will be constructed over the next three years in Darwin and Alice Springs. This includes the Larapinta Seniors Village.

As part of the stimulus package, there are currently 120 social housing dwellings under construction, which includes 22 units of public housing and 129 units of managed accommodation. More construction projects under the stimulus package will commence in coming months with 160 dwellings due to be completed in 2010.

Construction has commenced on the Bellamack Seniors Village and is due for completion in March 2011. In addition, three new seniors' villages will be developed at Larapinta, Johnston and Malak.

Larapinta – design phase has commenced. The projected construction contract award date is December 2010, and the project is due for completion in September 2011.

Construction is programmed for Malak and Johnston in 2011-12 and 2012–13 financial years. Design and tender documentation will be completed in the financial year prior with the anticipated construction period of nine months for both Seniors Villages.

The Alice Springs Accommodation Park will provide hostel and camping facilities for up to 150 people in Alice Springs to provide more short term accommodation for visitors.

New facilities funded primarily under the stimulus package will provide short to medium term, safe and secure accommodation packaged with client support services for clients who have limited or no experience with sustaining an urban housing tenancy.

WORKING FUTURE

The agency is the lead agency in coordinating the delivery of the Government's *Working Future* framework. *Working Future* has a number of elements, with the agency responsible for the delivery of:

- Territory Growth Towns
- Outstation and homelands policy
- Indigenous Economic Development Strategy
- Closing the Gap targets and evaluation.

The agency has responsibility for coordinating the development of a revised outstations and homelands policy, based on the headline policy announced as part of *Working Future*. During 2009-10, staff visited 129 individual outstations and homelands and consulted with the residents of 342 and with organisations providing municipal and essential services. Based on these discussions, recommendations for revising the headline policy will be presented to Government.

The agency is also responsible for reporting on progress towards achieving *Working Future*. All Australian governments including the Northern Territory have agreed to a set of targets to 'close the gap' of Indigenous disadvantage, set out in the National Indigenous Reform Agreement. The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Reform Council reports on progress towards reaching these targets annually.

Activities undertaken by the Indigenous Economic Development group included roles as the agency's Liaison Officer to the Service Delivery Coordination Unit and the Regional Operations Centre and participation in the Remote Training, Employment and Economic Development Working Group. Indigenous Economic Development Officer positions were established as part of *Working Future* and the Indigenous Economic Development Strategy 2009-2012.

GROWING THE TERRITORY

The growth of the economy of the Northern Territory is linked to the successful development of our regions.

Indigenous business development is vital for regional economies.

The agency administers an Indigenous Business Development Program which provides \$600 000 per annum in grants to kick start and grow Indigenous business throughout the Territory.

The role of the private sector will also be an important regions as many businesses seek to develop enterprises. The agency is currently investigating a number of investment attraction options.

A key driver of economic growth in the Northern Territory is export of the Territory's mineral wealth and oil and gas developments.

Our regional centres are supporting these mining efforts with royalties flowing to Traditional Owners where mining takes place on Aboriginal Land:

- Pine Creek and Tennant Creek – gold
- McArthur River – zinc, lead and silver
- Jabiru and South of Alice Springs – uranium
- Wadeye and Darwin – gas
- Nhulunbuy – bauxite
- Groote Eylandt – manganese
- Batchelor – nickel and potential phosphate from Wonarah and Aileron.

Tourism is a key industry contributing to the economic growth of regional centres.

High demand is still being experienced for the Territory's natural and cultural assets with remote Indigenous tourism businesses in East Arnhemland and in Central Australia experiencing strong growth.

The agency has established the Tennant Creek Foundation which provides a single management umbrella for Battery Hill Mining Centre and Nyinkka Nyunyu Art and Culture Centre.

The Foundation provides Indigenous employment opportunities and support for the many businesses in the region that rely on these important tourism ventures.

Advice on the economic development of regional centres is provided by nine Economic Development Committees.

The Committees are formed around communities of interest and are facilitated by the agency.

Committees exist in the Gulf, Timber Creek, Katherine, Tiwi Islands, East Arnhem, Tennant Creek, Anmatjere, West MacDonnells and Alice Springs.

BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES

Priority Area: Children and Young People

The agency continued to deliver the Under 5 Water Safety Awareness Program which provides free water safety lessons for parents and guardians and their children aged under five in urban, rural and remote areas.

The Unit inspected 669 new properties for pool or spa advice and issued 1,112 certificates of compliance, including provisional compliance certificates under the *Swimming Pool Safety Act*.

Interpreter and translating services to government departments and non-government organisations were provided through ITSNT and the AIS. The AIS established offices in the remote communities of Wadeye, Yuendumu and Maningrida.

Priority Area: Preventing Violence – Protecting Territorians

The Territory Government has a zero tolerance to antisocial behaviour and has introduced new and innovative approaches to monitoring and responding to the problem.

Territory Housing's core business is the provision of safe, secure and affordable housing to Territorians most in need. Incidents of antisocial behaviour in public housing properties at times limits Territory Housing's ability to meet this goal.

Territory Housing employs a variety of techniques to manage antisocial behaviour in public housing. Four specialist Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) officers began work in 2009 to support Territory Housing to address antisocial behaviour in its properties. The unacceptable behaviour of a minority of public housing tenants impacts on other tenants, neighbours and the community. The ASB Officers will work closely with neighbours and complainants to respond swiftly and effectively to reports of antisocial behaviour in public housing.

The officers complement other measures including Acceptable Behaviour Agreements, tenancy management and support, alcohol dry areas, increased scrutiny of probationary leases, security services contracted for public housing and working with NT Police to target known hot spots.

Initiatives addressing antisocial and low level offending behaviour are developed under the continuing Northern Territory Government Public Safety Model.

Other activities undertaken by the agency in 2009-10 included:

- attended fortnightly meetings of the Public Safety Model's Interagency Tasking and Coordination Group in Darwin, Alice Springs, Katherine and Batchelor
- referred two families of concern for consideration by the Youth Justice Strategy's Interagency Collaboration Panel
- continued to develop a program to implement recommendations of Northern Territory Police crime prevention through environmental design audits on several unit/flat complexes.
- declared the common areas of nine public housing complexes and a further 37 complexes to be alcohol restricted, in an effort to reduce the level of antisocial behaviour attributed to drinking in these areas.

Further mechanisms to effectively respond to antisocial behaviour are being considered.

GREENING THE TERRITORY

Environmental Management

The agency is mindful of its environmental responsibility and is striving to meet our obligation through commitments to whole of government initiatives and simple, energy smart practices. Our greatest success has been our performance against the Northern Territory Government's *Energy Smart Buildings Policy*. The principal objective of the policy is that Government departments will achieve a 10 per cent energy intensity reduction (a reduction in energy use per square metre of floor space by 2010-11), compared to base data collected for 2004-05.

Since this policy was introduced the agency has continually met annual targets against office accommodation where base data was recorded. At 30 June 2010 energy intensity of our office accommodation had reduced by 6.4 per cent, against the year four target of 5.5 per cent.

Reductions to date have been achieved through more efficient use of office space, resulting in improved building occupancy ratios. Agency energy use details for 2009-10 will be available early in 2011 after they have been audited and reported to Government.

That said, the agency will work hard to meet the 10 per cent reduction required by 2010-11. The agency has taken on new accommodation to meet the requirements of additional portfolio responsibilities gained in 2009-10, and the growth of service delivery areas such as housing and the Aboriginal Interpreter Service.

Agency offices across the Territory use a number of environmental and energy saving strategies which include:

- recycling printer toner cartridges
- recycling bins for office waste
- timed after-hours lighting and air conditioning
- lighting controls to turn office lights off after-hours on weekdays
- electronic distribution of documents to minimise the use of paper
- double-sided printing
- delamping
- ensuring that energy save options on copiers and printers are activated.

Vehicles

The agency is working towards the reduction target set in the Northern Territory *Greening the Fleet Strategy* that aims to reduce emissions from the Territory Government's passenger and light commercial fleet by 20 per cent by 2014 and 50 per cent by 2020.

Emissions from this agency's vehicles for the 12 month period to 30 June 2010 achieved 12 per cent reduction against an annual target of 10 per cent (Source: Agency Quarterly Report period ending 30 June 2010).

With a fleet of more than 175 vehicles, the agency is vigilant when selecting vehicles to balance operational requirements with environmental and economic considerations. A total of 88 of these vehicles (representing 50 per cent of the fleet) meet the minimum greenhouse rating, in line with Government's *Greening the Fleet Strategy*.

Climate Change / Carbon Policy

The Northern Territory Government has committed to become carbon neutral by 2018 under the *Northern Territory Climate Change Policy*. Under this target, whole of government systems to account for greenhouse gas emissions according to recognised international greenhouse accounting standards will be progressively rolled out over the next eight years for Government processes.

The agency has initiated a number of strategies to reduce its carbon emissions including:

- office amalgamations to achieve higher occupancy ratios in agency office accommodation
- strategies to reduce energy consumption
- increased recycling of office waste
- implementation of targets under the Government's *Greening the Fleet Strategy* and an annual vehicle emission reduction target of seven per cent.

Australian Government Frameworks

LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY

The agency is represented on the Local Government and Planning Joint Officers Group which supports the Local Government and Planning Ministers Council.

Membership of the Local Government and Planning Joint Officers Group comprises of local government and planning senior officials from all jurisdictions, the Australian Government, New Zealand, and the Chief Executive of the Australian Local Government Association. Face to face meetings are held approximately four times per year, with teleconferences held when required.

The agency also participates on sub-groups of the Local Government and Planning Joint Officers Group which target various issues depending on Local Government and Planning Ministers Council priorities.

The Local Government and Planning Joint Officers Group exchanges information about significant current and emerging local government and planning issues including:

- coordinating policy and strategic approaches for local government and planning issues where a national approach is necessary to deliver effective outcomes to local communities
- promoting cooperation between all levels of government and across jurisdictional boundaries in the development and implementation of public policy, strategies and programs affecting Local Government and planning
- monitoring and evaluation of policies, strategies and programs developed and implemented by the Local Government and Planning Ministers Council
- providing leadership to all areas of government, industry and the community to advance local government and planning issues
- liaising with other Ministerial Councils and other bodies on matters relevant to the activities of the Council.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Australian and Northern Territory Governments are working together with industry and communities to improve housing in remote Indigenous communities across the Northern Territory.

The National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Remote Indigenous Housing agreed by the Council of Australian Governments, was signed by all states and territories in December 2008. The NPA subsumes all other arrangements made between the Australian and Northern Territory Governments relating to the significant reform in the provision of housing for Indigenous people in 73 prescribed remote Territory communities. Under the NPA, the Northern Territory Government assumed immediate responsibility for management of all community housing in the 73 prescribed communities. The NPA also includes town camps and our agency will assume responsibility for management of town camp housing through negotiations with relevant land owners or housing associations.

The NPA recognises that housing standards need to be improved to help close the gap on Indigenous disadvantage. Closing The Gap on Indigenous Disadvantage is the Northern Territory's generational plan of action, aimed at closing the gap in outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Territorians. It contains a vision and objectives for the future socio-economic wellbeing of Indigenous Territorians and sets ambitious but achievable targets for the next five, 10 and 20 years.

The Northern Territory Government is responsible for implementing a new housing management system and will work with the Australian Government to improve living conditions so people can live in safer and healthier homes.

A key focus will be on providing jobs for Indigenous people.

Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP)

SIHIP is the largest Indigenous housing program undertaken by the Australian and Northern Territory Governments.

This joint \$672 million program will deliver 750 new houses, 230 rebuilds of existing houses and 2 500 refurbishments across 73 remote Indigenous communities and a number of community living areas (town camps) in the Northern Territory by 2013.

Two construction company consortia known as alliances have been engaged to deliver the program. The Alliances are working closely with communities and government to deliver better housing for Indigenous Australians in the NT. A target of 20 per cent has been set for Indigenous employment across the program. Alliances sub contract and use local companies wherever possible, placing a priority on the use of local Indigenous companies.

Better housing:

- helps to make families healthier
- strengthens communities
- enables economic growth through job and training opportunities.

Governments and the Alliances work closely with communities to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for each community. SIHIP is a part of Remote Housing NT, a key reform program to help close the gap of Indigenous disadvantage across the Territory.

At the 30 June 2010, SIHIP work was underway in 30 communities across the Territory with more than 250 local Indigenous people employed in the delivery of the Australian and Northern Territory Governments construction program for remote public housing. Across the Territory 259 refurbishments and rebuilds were completed and 115 are underway. Twenty-one new houses were completed and work continued on the construction of another 86.

Since SIHIP commenced, the Northern Territory Government has built 67 houses and refurbished a further 344 houses, exceeding its target for new houses by seven and the refurbishment target by 192.

Southern Region refurbishments

- Refurbishment works are underway at Ali Curung, Wilora, Nturiya, Pmara Jutunta, Tara, Imangara, Willowra and Santa Teresa.
- Work is continuing on a further 24 refurbishments while 117 refurbishments have now been completed across these communities.
- Work is scheduled to commence progressively in the remaining 21 communities over the next 18 months.

Alice Springs town camps (community living areas)

- A total of 85 new houses will be constructed in the Alice Springs town camps (community living areas) and two new houses have been completed at Larapinta Valley.
- In addition to the new houses, there will also be refurbishments to existing houses and significant improvements in infrastructure.
- Construction is underway on a further six houses across Larapinta Valley, Hidden Valley, Little Sisters, Trucking Yards and Warlpiri town camps where serviced blocks are already available.
- One rebuild has been completed and a further four rebuilds are underway at Palmers Camp and Ilparpa.
- A major clean up of the town camps and fix and make safe work on 194 houses has been completed.

Tiwi Islands

Seven new houses have been completed at Nguiu and tenants have moved in. Construction is underway on a further 14 new houses with four of these at lock up stage.

Ninety new houses will be constructed at Nguiu with 29 houses in stage one and a total of 61 houses in stage two.

Fifty-five houses have also been refurbished or rebuilt while work continues on a further 32 refurbishments and rebuilds across Nguiu, Milikapiti and Pirlangimpi.

Gunbalanya, Acacia Larrakia and Belyuen

One house has been completed and will be used as transitional accommodation while construction on the initial houses is underway at Gunbalanya with a total of 62 new houses scheduled to be built.

Twenty-four rebuilds and refurbishments have been completed while a further 16 rebuilds and refurbishments are underway at Gunbalanya, Belyuen and Acacia Larrakia.

Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island

A total of 80 new houses will be constructed with 26 completed in stage one. Four houses are complete in Umbakumba and construction is continuing on another 13 in Angurugu and Umbakumba.

A minimum of 75 houses are scheduled to be rebuilt or refurbished and 31 have been completed while a further eight are underway at Umbakumba, Angurugu and Milyakburra.

Galiwinku

Ninety new houses will be built at Galiwinku and construction on the initial 11 houses is underway.

Twelve refurbishments have been completed while a further eight are underway.

Wadeye

Seven new houses have been completed at Wadeye and tenants have moved in. Work on a further 21 new houses is underway, with a total of 105 new houses to be built at Wadeye.

Six refurbishments have been completed at Nganmarriyanga. One refurbishment has been completed at Wadeye.

Additional rebuild and refurbishment works for Nganmarriyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadeye are currently being scoped.

Tennant Creek

A total of 78 houses will be rebuilt in Tennant Creek. Twenty-four houses have been rebuilt in the Tennant Creek town camps (community living areas) while work continues on another seven houses.

Maningrida, Warruwi and Minjilang

Scoping and planning for refurbishments at Warruwi and Minjilang is underway.

A total of 109 new houses will be built at Maningrida. Construction on the initial 11 houses in Maningrida has commenced. Nine refurbishments have been completed while a further seven are underway.

Housing Reference Groups

Seventy-three Housing Reference Groups (HRGs) have now been established across the Territory, including 18 for Alice Springs and Tennant Creek town camps (community living areas).

The HRGs work with government and ensure local communities have input into decisions about housing in their community. They also provide advice to government on cultural and family-related matters that effect decisions about housing and infrastructure.

Membership consists of community representatives with different interests and is drawn from:

- traditional land owners
- special interest groups, such as people who work with youth or in aged care
- people from different cultural and family groups.

MANAGED ACCOMMODATION

The Territory and Australian Governments are delivering new supported and short-term accommodation and providing funding for dwelling refurbishment and upgrades in urban centres to Territorians most in need.

Territory Funding

Alice Springs, South Terrace has \$1.3 million in funding to commence refurbishment of an existing facility to provide hostel accommodation of 18 ground level units, manager's residence, industrial kitchen and dining room, office and training room. The target clientele are Indigenous people travelling to Alice Springs to access services.

Stimulus Package Stage 2 Funding

The Northern Territory Government's responsibility for the following programs is to provide project and contract management services in:

- Alice Springs, Apmere Mwerre Visitor Park – \$6.6 million to commence construction of a mix of units, cabins and camping areas (accommodate 150 people) to provide a managed accommodation facility for visitors to Alice Springs from outlying areas and remote communities.
- Alice Springs, Bath Street – completed planning and design for the refurbishment of an existing premises to provide 35 hostel rooms (minimum 35 beds) for visitors to Alice Springs from outlying areas and remote communities requiring renal dialysis treatment. Construction is scheduled to commence early 2010-11.
- Alice Springs, Goyder Street – \$1.43 million provided to the Salvation Army to construct eight units (minimum eight beds) for homeless men;
- Alice Springs, Percy Court – \$6.3 million to commence construction of a complex including 28 units (approximately 75 beds) of accommodation, administration building and common areas providing tenancy sustainability services and programs.
- Darwin, Crerar Road – \$5.7 million to commence construction of a managed accommodation complex including 18 units (approximately 78 beds) of accommodation, administration building and common areas providing tenancy sustainability services and programs.
- Darwin, Patterson Street – \$2 million to commence construction of eight units (approximately 26 beds) of accommodation in Malak for Indigenous women and children escaping domestic violence and seeking crisis transitional accommodation.
- Katherine, Acacia Drive – \$535 000 – social housing initiative stimulus funding for repairs and maintenance for eight (16 beds) units of accommodation for people exiting alcohol rehabilitation services.

NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY

The agency participates on a number of national committees where national housing policy issues are developed and implemented including:

- Housing Ministers Advisory Group, providing support to the Housing Ministers Council. This group comprises Chief Executives of Housing Departments from around Australia.
- Housing and Homelessness Policy Research Working Group providing support to Housing Ministers Advisory Group is responsible for progressing actions and undertaking research projects agreed to by the Housing Ministers Council and the Housing Ministers Advisory Group. Membership comprises housing agency officers from all states and territories, the Australian Government, the Australian Housing Urban Research Institute and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.
- A number of subgroups have been established under the Housing and Homelessness Policy Research Working Group to progress specific issues of reform (for example growth of the not-for-profit housing sector) and data improvements.
- Homelessness Working Group focuses specifically on delivery of the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness, along with workforce and sector development and data improvements.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HOMELESSNESS

As the lead agency for the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness, the agency plays a key role in the governance, execution, coordination and reporting of the Northern Territory's Implementation Plan.

The National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness Implementation Plan for the Northern Territory comprises a package of measures delivered by the agency and the Department of Health and Families, and the Department of Justice.

The agency leads negotiations with the Australian Government under the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness and participates in a number of working groups which deal directly with homelessness.

The NT Homelessness Working Group was established to monitor and report on the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness Implementation Plan for the Northern Territory. The Working Group met monthly and was chaired by the agency and comprised representatives of NT Shelter, Darwin City Council, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, Centrelink, the Australian Government's Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, the Department of the Chief Minister, Northern Territory Treasury, Department of Health and Families and the Department of Justice.

In 2009-10, \$2.18 million was made available for homelessness projects. The agency coordinates administration and reporting of projects and directly administers a number of projects including: The 'A Place to Call Home' initiative will provide services to clients for the provision of life skills, tenancy training and other support to assist clients to develop capacity to maintain

an independent public housing tenancy. Program participants will be housed and supported for up to 12 months in a public housing dwelling that has been head-leased to a support organisation. A total of ten properties were allocated to CatholicCare. Land was purchased to construct new public housing dwellings under the 'A Place to Call Home' initiative and over five years, 32 new dwellings will be constructed.

- The Tenancy Sustainability Program continued in Darwin, Alice Springs and Katherine and provision was made to expand the service to the Barkly Region. The Program aims to maintain and sustain tenancies through the provision of intensive case management and life skills training to public housing tenants and applicants, as well as residents of Urban Community Living Areas.
- The 'Street to Home' Initiatives under which expressions of interest were sought from the non government sector for projects. Four organisations were awarded funding: St Vincent De Paul Society; Mental Health Association of Central Australia; Salvation Army and the YMCA of the Top End Inc. The YMCA has already commenced work to repair and upgrade the Doctors Gully Hostel. This project will maintain the availability of an existing 63 rooms and provide an additional 15 rooms and a two bedroom flat and a three bedroom house.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE SERVICE DELIVERY

The Australian and Northern Territory Governments are working together with local governments, to reduce Indigenous disadvantage. In recognition that outcomes for Indigenous Australians remain below those of non-Indigenous Australians, the Council of Australian Governments agreed the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery (NPA).

This NPA is a long term, generational commitment based on delivering coordinated, targeted and accelerated development in Indigenous communities, and it changes the way governments invest in remote areas.

The NPA takes a direct approach to improving conditions for Indigenous Territorians. This includes engaging directly with the communities on delivering improvements. It also involves clear accountability for who does what, where and by when, backed up by rigorous monitoring and reporting.

This approach is being started through Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) in 29 remote Indigenous communities across Australia. The LIPs are developed through close consultation between governments and Local Reference Groups in each community. It sets out the priorities for each community and includes targets, actions, success measures and timelines for achieving those priorities. Existing community and Government plans and agreements in each community complement the Remote Service Delivery approach. All the signatories agree to work together to deliver the actions in the Plan.

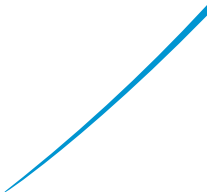
Transforming the communities into Territory Growth Towns will require a two-way commitment to change. This means:

- community members must take more personal responsibility and fully participate in the commitments of their LIP
- governments must listen to the community and provide resources and planning to improve infrastructure, services and access to services.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The agency's corporate governance arrangements are described and reported on in this section. Sound corporate governance helps an organisation to achieve its outcomes and obligations through thorough planning, decision making, risk management and accountability.



Our corporate governance framework defines the agency's strategic objectives and enables it to manage risks, maintain stakeholder relationships and utilise resources in order to meet its strategic goals and deliver core business. Additionally, it ensures sound governance practices are in place and actioned appropriately throughout the agency, in order to achieve transparent and ethical decision making and accountability at all levels. The framework is at Figure 4.

The agency's corporate governance principles are accountability, transparency, integrity, stewardship, and leadership.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The agency upholds this principle by implementing appropriate standards, controls and policies so that staff can understand expectations and take responsibility for their decisions and actions.

Corporate Governance Policy

The agency's corporate governance policy assists staff to understand expectations and responsibilities by:

- continually improving clear articulation of accountabilities, responsibilities and authority to act, associated with different staff classification levels and functional roles
- continually improving the agency's governance practices
- continually educating employees and stakeholders on their roles and responsibilities.

In line with best practice and the agency's continuous improvement approach, the corporate governance policy will be reviewed by the Risk and Audit Committee in 2010-11 to ensure it continues to meet its purpose.

Corporate Delegations

Appropriate delegations enable staff to be accountable. Delegations for finance, procurement and human resources are being comprehensively reviewed to align authorities with the agency's structure and regional service delivery model. Once formalised, they will be reviewed and updated annually.

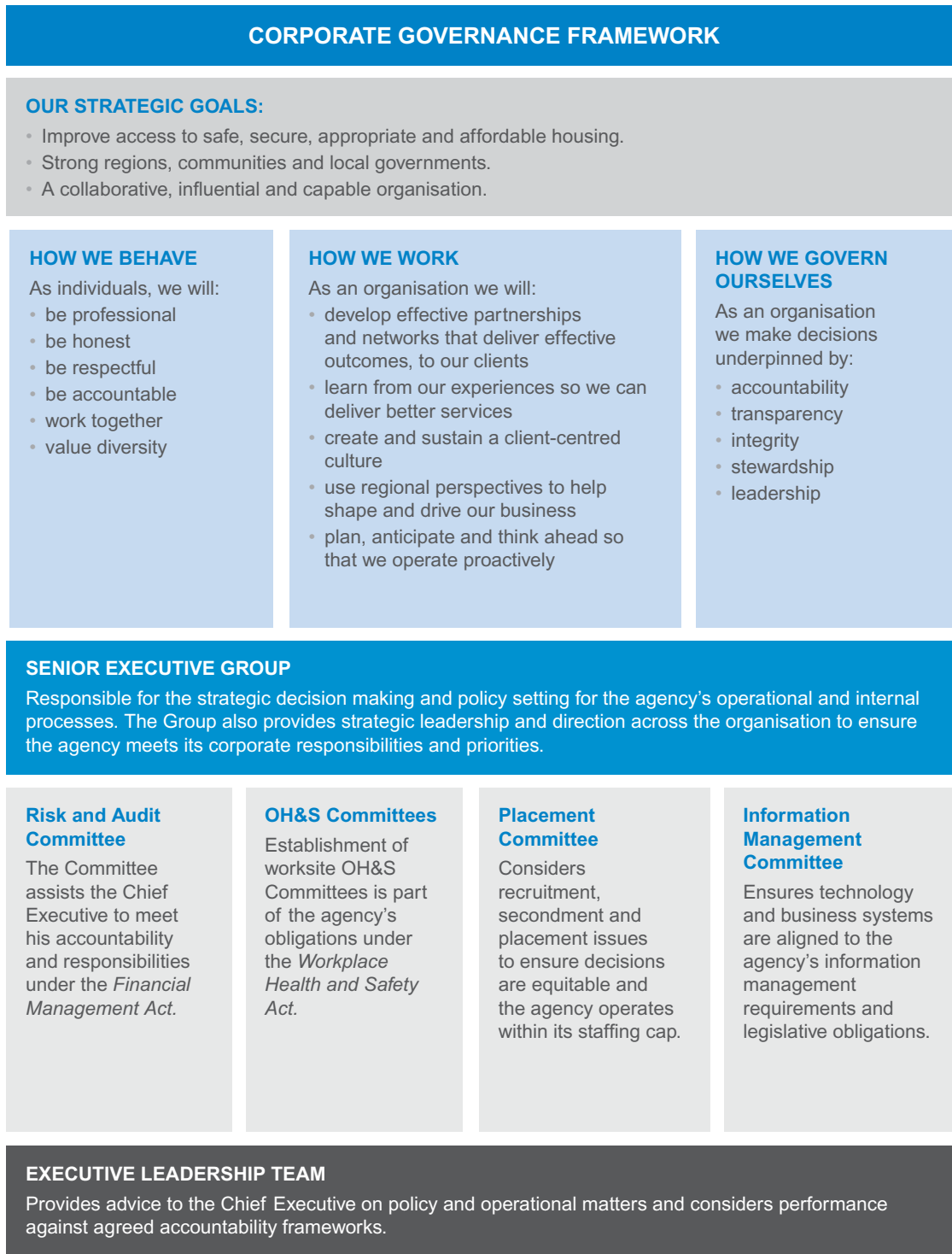
Management and Staff

The agency's Senior Executive Group is responsible for the strategic decision making and policy setting for the agency's operational and internal processes. Strategic issues are referred to the Group by the agency's Executive Leadership Team, which provides high level management across the agency.

The Executive Leadership Team comprises the Executive Directors, who are responsible for managing the operations of the agency's business units and accountable to their respective Senior Executive Group member.

More information on the Senior Executive Group and Executive Leadership Team can be found in Part Two – Who We Are.

Figure 4: Corporate Governance Framework



TRANSPARENCY

Transparency ensures roles and responsibilities are clearly communicated, and clear advice and procedures are available to assist in decision making.

Corporate Plan

The agency's corporate plan is an important tool to communicate the identified strategic objectives and operational priorities for our organisation.

The corporate plan has been developed to include the agency's expanded responsibilities and to reflect the significant role of the regional offices in implementing agency programs and the housing and local government reform agendas.

The corporate plan has recently been finalised and will be communicated to all staff through information sessions led by members of the Senior Executive Group and a number of internal communication channels.

Access to Information

In accordance with the *Information Act*, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has a range of policies and procedures to enable interested people to access information held by the agency.

An informal Information Access Policy provides an avenue for individuals to access information about themselves without the need for a formal application under the Freedom of Information process. During 2009-10, the agency responded to 68 informal and 47 formal information access requests. Details of formal requests are in the following table.

Table 9: Applications to Access Information

Applications Under the <i>Information Act</i>	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Applications outstanding at start of year	4	0	1
Applications to access personal information	5	19	30
Applications to access government information	5	5	17
Accepted applications withdrawn	2	3	2
Applications transferred	0	0	1
Unaccepted applications	0	1	0
Applications completed within 30 days	9	19	44
Applications completed in more than 30 days	3	0	0
Open Applications at end of year	0	1	0

The agency has also published a list of the information held and the most expedient methods of accessing that information. The listing and the agency's information access policy are available on our website or by contacting our Information Officer.

Information Officer

Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services
GPO Box 4621
DARWIN NT 0801
Tel: 08 8999 8490
Fax: 08 8942 6806
Email: infoact.dhlgrs@nt.gov.au
www.dhlgrs.nt.gov.au/corporate/freedom_of_information

Personal Information

The agency undertakes to protect personal information it holds by collecting only the information necessary to perform its functions, holding the information for only the period of time required by business, legislative or historical reasons, and protecting such information from unauthorised disclosure or access.

All personal information is handled in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles set out in Schedule 2 of the *Information Act*.

The agency's privacy policy is available from our Information Officer or website.

One privacy breach complaint was received in 2009-10, which was resolved by the Information Commissioner in July 2010.

INTEGRITY

Impartial and ethical behaviour at all levels is important to this agency in order to deliver a professional and responsible service to the Territory community.

Corporate Ethics

The agency's values are articulated in our corporate governance framework and corporate plan. They are underpinned by the Northern Territory Public Sector's Principles and Code of Conduct, which provides guidance on a range of ethical and moral issues that staff may face. The Code of Conduct applies to all staff and is a condition of employment.

Conflict of Interest Provisions

The Northern Territory Public Sector Code of Conduct includes the principle that "employees shall disclose their private financial and other interests, where those interests may or may appear to conflict with their official duties, and take reasonable steps to prevent such conflict".

These conflicts of interest include any actual or perceived conflicts of interest relating to procurement. All staff involved in the evaluation of tenders of greater than \$200,000 are required to sign a Declaration of Interests and Confidentiality. No staff undertaking procurement assessments identified any conflicts of interest during 2009-10.

STEWARDSHIP

The agency strives to manage resources in a manner that is compliant with legislation and policy, and to achieve efficient and effective agency outcomes for the Territory community.

Agency Procurement Plan

Sound procurement practices support the agency's resource management. The agency's procurement advisor from the Department of Business and Employment advises and assists the agency on procurement management issues.

A Procurement Management Plan for the agency has been developed, which agencies are required to produce on an annual basis under the Procurement Directions. The plan was presented to the Senior Executive Group in August 2010.

Implementation of this plan will facilitate improved capability across the agency in procurement monitoring, reporting and processes.

LEADERSHIP

Strong leadership is provided through a clearly defined Senior Executive Group and reporting structure. This group provides strategic leadership and direction across the organisation to ensure the agency meets its corporate responsibilities and priorities.

Corporate Values

The values the agency expects of its staff are outlined in our corporate plan and corporate governance framework. The corporate plan has recently been finalised and will be communicated to all staff through information sessions led by members of the Senior Executive Group and a number of internal communication channels.

Strong leadership is provided through a clearly defined Senior Executive Group and reporting structure. This group provides strategic leadership and direction across the organisation to ensure the agency meets its corporate responsibilities and priorities.

MANAGING AND DEVELOPING STAFF

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

In 2009-2010 the agency participated in the Indigenous Employment Program. This was a whole of government pilot program co-ordinated by the Department of Business and Employment with the aim of reducing Indigenous unemployment with ongoing employment upon successful completion. Five trainees successfully completed a 16 week training program which incorporates accredited vocational training, complemented by work readiness development and work based learning, achieving a Certificate II in Business.

Three female Indigenous employees were sponsored by the agency to undertake the Lookrukin Program, which is an Indigenous women's leadership program offered by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment. The aim of this program is to improve Indigenous women's career opportunities in policy development. Upon successful completion participants will be awarded a Diploma of Management (Policy Development).

As part of National Youth Week, one employee from Alice Springs participated in the Live It Now - Apply First Aid program.

The agency holds an annual census day, encouraging staff to update their contact, next of kin and EEO details. The data is used to assist in workforce planning, reporting and business continuity purposes.

Celebrating Harmony Day provides an opportunity to recognise and value diversity. This year's theme was 'Express Yourself'. Staff in all regional offices were encouraged to participate in a celebratory activity.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE INITIATIVES

The agency provides opportunities for staff to effectively manage their work commitments with family, community and cultural responsibilities, interests and obligations. A range of work life balance initiatives were adopted by staff:

- flexible working hours
- purchasing of additional recreation leave
- home based work
- compressed working weeks
- part-time employment
- career breaks.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Remote Workforce Development

Employees working in remote localities face many unique challenges. Among these challenges are social and professional isolation, and access to training and development opportunities. With a focus on providing a safe work environment the following training initiatives were available to staff:

- drug and alcohol awareness
- first aid
- cross cultural awareness
- 4 x 4 wheel driving
- code of conduct responsibilities workshop
- tenancy management systems training
- intensive tenancy support.

In addition, the Central Australia regional office conducted a two day induction workshop for remote housing and town camp staff.

INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

In December 2009 the agency re-launched the Indigenous Employment Strategy in response to feedback from staff surveys and information workshops.

Each region has developed a region specific Indigenous employment action plan to focus on improving local Indigenous employment and development opportunities.

The agency continues to support Indigenous career programs such as the Indigenous cadetship support, Indigenous employment program, Indigenous apprenticeships and Indigenous work experience.



Valuing and supporting our staff

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The agency maintains a commitment to ongoing learning, development and education.

For 2009-10 learning and development initiatives focussed on:

- improving workplace communication
- recruitment and selection
- induction
- contracts and procurement
- change management
- code of conduct
- cross cultural training.

Study Assistance

Study assistance supports employees to gain or add to their tertiary qualifications. It enhances their career potential by improving work-related skills and knowledge through formal education, and builds the capability of the organisation.

Support is available for Higher Education Contribution Scheme, course fees, study leave to attend tutorials and lectures, and leave for examinations.

A total of 16 employees received study assistance and a total of \$13 750 was spent on reimbursements. Studies undertaken by employees included:

- Diploma in Project Management
- Associate Degree in Legal Studies
- Associate Degree in Indigenous Community Management and Development
- Bachelor of Applied Science Indigenous Community Management Development
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Information Technology
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Master of Regional Development
- Master of International Business
- Master of Business.

Public Sector Management Program

The agency sponsored two employees in 2009-10 to undertake the Public Sector Management Program (PSMP).

PSMP is a national management program designed specifically for public sector managers between the levels of administrative officer 6 and administrative officer 8. Participants gain a Graduate Certificate in Public Administration through Flinders University.

The program combines tertiary study with experiential learning and focuses on building practical skills incorporating the latest developments in public sector management and theory. It has been developed to offer participant centred, flexible learning opportunities to a diverse student population. It provides an integrated view of business planning, public accountability and leadership.

Graduate Development Program

The agency employed five graduates during 2009-10.

The Graduate Development Program is run over a calendar year with intake open to those who have recently completed a tertiary qualification. The program is an on-the-job training program that combines development and employment. It provides graduates with the opportunity to put theory into practice and 'quick start' their career through work experience and further learning opportunities under a managed program. The organisational outcome is the development of a pool of potential leaders.

Over the 12 month program, graduates rotate through business units undertaking projects related to the agency's core business.

Indigenous Cadetship Support Program

A total of nine cadets were engaged by the agency during 2009-10 with two resignations and one deferral. The Indigenous Cadetship Support Program is part of the Australian Government's Indigenous Economic Development Strategy aimed at increasing opportunities for Indigenous people to gain professional qualifications combined with work experience.

The agency provides work experience, professional guidance and mentoring to participants throughout their studies and on successful completion, provides on-going employment.

Apprenticeship Program

The agency engaged three apprentices in 2010 and supported their study for the Certificate III in Business Studies.

The emphasis of the agency's apprenticeship program is to provide Territorians with the opportunity to gain a qualification through structured employment and training over a 12 month period.

On successful completion, our organisation endeavours to provide future employment opportunities where possible.

Housing Operational Training

During 2009-10 the agency established the Housing Operational Training Team.

In 2009-10, training was delivered in:

- *Mandatory Reporting under the Care and Protection of Children Act:*
115 staff trained – all regions.
- *Vacate Maintenance Grading Classifications:*
20 staff trained – Darwin region.
- *A Place to Call Home:*
Five staff trained - Central Australia region; 25 staff trained - Darwin Region.
- *Public Housing Sales Program:*
31 staff trained all regions - (training ongoing)
- *Residential Tenancies Act and Debt Management:*
All staff in the Central Australia region attended internal training.
- *Priority Housing:*
As the backlog of applications in the Darwin region was addressed, refresher training was provided to all staff on procedural and reporting requirements.
- *Remote Housing Business Systems Training:*
All Regions - 50 agency and community organisation staff trained, a further 80 agency and 10 community organisation staff identified for system training. Remote business systems training has also been delivered on an as required, one to one basis.
- *Remote Housing Business Systems Training (Data Warehouse and Condition Assessment Tool):*
All Regions - 20 Asset Management Officers trained.
- *Remote Tenancy Management Training:*
Intensively supplied on a one to one basis, on request. Formal training was held in August 2010.
- *Remote Rent Framework Toolkit:*
25 staff trained – All regions.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

The agency's Personal Performance Program is identified as a component of the Performance Management System Framework. The framework addresses the need for an effective and flexible performance management system that aligns the duties, capabilities and performance of employees with our organisation's corporate plan and required business outcomes.

The agency is aligning its Performance Management System Framework with NTPS Capabilities and Leadership Framework, which is another tool to help managers identify developmental needs.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Workers Compensation

For 2009-10, workers compensation claims are as follows:

Table 10: Workers Compensation Claims

Workers Compensation Claims	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Claims at beginning of year	3	4	4
New claims	4	5	6
Claims resolved during the year	3	5	3
Open claims at year end	4	4	7
Staff currently receiving worker's compensation payments	1	0	0

Occupational Health and Safety Programs

Specific occupational health and safety (OH&S) programs such as protective clothing and vaccination programs (eg. tetanus, hepatitis, tuberculosis) for remote and community work continued in 2009-10.

A Remote Workforce OH&S Policy continued to be presented and implemented during the reporting period. All new recruits and existing employees moving into the agency's remote workforce attended a presentation of the policy as part of the remote workforce induction program. Employees travelling and working in remote communities continued to be provided with four-wheel-drive training.

An implementation plan has also been developed which will see the progressive introduction of OH&S Work Site Committees at locations where the agency has more than twenty staff. This is the next stage in setting up a formal framework to monitor OH&S activity to ensure the agency meets its obligations.

Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program is a confidential counselling service available to staff and their family members.

Employees and their family can access this service to discuss any issues which may be affecting their life. The service also provides career counselling, and training and development.

The agency spent \$49 167 on this service during 2009-10.

REPORTING AGAINST EMPLOYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Table 11: Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements

Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements	Agency Action
<p>Number 1 – Recruitment Agency to develop procedures on recruitment and selection for internal use.</p> <p>Chief Executive required to report annually on the number of employees in each designation and variations since the last report.</p>	<p>Recruitment and establishment policies are available on the staff intranet. Human Resources Consultants continue to provide advice on recruitment practices and selection processes to delegates and panels on recruitment.</p>
<p>Number 2 – Probation Chief Executive shall develop a probationary process for their Agency and convey details of the probationary process to employees within their first week of reporting for duty.</p>	<p>A Probation Policy, best practice timelines and resource toolkit are available on the staff intranet.</p> <p>Probation reports are co-ordinated and monitored through Human Resources.</p>
<p>Number 3 – Natural Justice The rules of natural justice to be observed in all dealings with employees.</p>	<p>The agency has a relevant policy available to all staff via the staff intranet.</p>
<p>Number 4 – Performance Management Chief Executive is to report annually on management training and staff development programs.</p> <p>Chief Executives shall develop and implement performance management systems for their Department.</p>	<p>The Personal Performance Program, including a comprehensive toolkit, is available to all staff via the staff intranet.</p>
<p>Number 5 – Medical Incapacity No departmental action or reporting requirements.</p>	<p>Nil report.</p>
<p>Number 6 – Inability to Discharge Duties Chief Executive to provide the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment with information on the extent to which this employment instruction has been used by the Agency.</p> <p>Chief Executive may establish procedures regarding this employment Instruction within the Department.</p>	<p>The Chief Executive has provided the Commissioner for Public Employment with the required information.</p> <p>A detailed policy describing informal and formal procedures is available to all staff via the staff intranet.</p> <p>The human resources consultancy framework assists managers and staff when exploring inability issues.</p>
<p>Number 7 – Discipline Chief Executive to provide the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment with information on the extent to which this employment instruction has been used by the Agency.</p> <p>Chief Executive Officer may establish procedures regarding discipline within their Agency.</p>	<p>The Chief Executive has provided the Commissioner for Public Employment with the required information.</p> <p>Policy and procedures are available on the staff intranet.</p>


Employment Instructions and Agency Requirements	Agency Action
<p>Number 8 – Management of Grievances Chief Executive shall establish written grievance settling procedures for the Agency that should be available to employees, and outline steps for dealing with grievances.</p>	<p>A Management of Grievances Policy is available on the staff intranet.</p> <p>Mediation was an active mechanism to resolve potential grievances during 2009-10 and continues to be used as an early intervention tool.</p>
<p>Number 9 (Incorporated in Employment Instruction 1)</p>	
<p>Number 10 – Employee Records Agencies are required to maintain appropriate employee records and implement procedures for maintaining and accessing these records.</p>	<p>The Employee Records Policy follows whole of government guidelines, covering the range of documents specified. The policy is available on the staff intranet.</p>
<p>Number 11 – Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Management Programs Chief Executive to devise and implement programs to ensure equal employment opportunities and outcomes are achieved.</p> <p>Chief Executives to report annually on programs and initiatives the Agency has developed. Report should also include details on specific action in relation to Aboriginal Employment and Career Development, and also measures to enable employees to balance work and family responsibilities.</p>	<p>The Chief Executive has provided the Commissioner for Public Employment with the required information.</p>
<p>Number 12 – Occupational Health and Safety Chief Executive to develop programs to ensure employees are consulted in the development and implementation of Occupational Health and Safety programs.</p> <p>Chief Executive to report annually on Occupational Health and Safety programs. Records must be kept on risk assessment, maintenance control and information, instruction and training provided to employees.</p>	<p>The Department of Business and Employment continued to provide assistance to the agency during the reporting period.</p> <p>The agency is currently reviewing its Occupational Health and Safety Policy and procedures.</p>
<p>Number 13 – Code of Conduct Chief Executive may issue guidelines regarding acceptance of gifts and benefits to employees. Chief Executive may issue an agency specific Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>The Code of Conduct is available on the staff intranet and has been reinforced through both the Human Resource Consultants activities and newsletters.</p> <p>Specific Code of Conduct training was conducted throughout the reporting period.</p>
<p>Number 14 – Part-Time Employment Chief Executive to provide information on the number of part-time employees by salary stream, as requested by the Commissioner for Public Employment.</p>	<p>Access to part-time employment continued to be available to any employee.</p> <p>Flexible working practices are encouraged and covered in the agency's on-line orientation program.</p>



RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Risk management processes form part of the agency's corporate governance framework. The governance framework requires processes and practices to manage, in an integrated way, all significant risks associated with the agency's operations and the achievement of its goals. The framework includes assessment and management of business risk from strategic through to operational levels, a structured approach to audit and internal controls, builds risk management into corporate and business level planning, and develops our business continuity arrangements.



A strategic risk management plan is being developed in line with the goals, strategies and outcomes from the corporate plan, and to assess strategic business risks that could impact on the agency's strategic goals. Operational risk assessments will also be carried out at divisional level to ensure divisional outputs can be optimised by managing the risks to their delivery.

The strategic risk management plan and operational risk assessment will inform the 2010-11 internal audit and review plan, which will be developed and monitored by the Risk and Audit Committee.

Risk management activities during 2009-10 include the development and implementation of the internal audit plan, a major review of the agency's corporate delegations, re-establishment of the Risk and Audit Committee to reflect the agency's broader responsibilities, and the development of a procurement management plan.

RISK AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Risk and Audit Committee assists the Chief Executive to meet his accountability and responsibilities under the *Financial Management Act* and the Treasurer's Directions. The Committee provides independent assurance and assistance to the Chief Executive and the Executive Leadership Team of the agency's risk, control and compliance framework, and its external accountabilities.

The Risk and Audit Committee was reviewed after the agency expanded in December 2009. The current and former Committee structures are detailed in the following table.

Table 12: Risk and Audit Committee structures

Department of Local Government and Housing (DLGH) Risk and Audit Committee	Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services (DHLGRS) Risk and Audit Committee
July 2009 – December 2009	Established April 2010
<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Chair – Clare Millikins, CPA • Deputy Chair – Leigh Eldridge, Manager Policy Implementation and Coordination, Department of the Chief Minister <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Martin, Executive Director, Central Australia, DLGH • Cheryl Day, Director Program Integration, Projects and Key Initiatives, DLGH • Des Harris, Director Planning and Development - Darwin, DLGH <p>Observers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Cooper, CPA, Principal Auditor, Northern Territory Auditor General • Dwayne McInnes, Chief Financial Officer, DLGH 	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Chair – John Montague, Commissioner of Superannuation, Northern Territory Superannuation Office • Deputy Chair – Mychelle Curran, Deputy Chief Executive, Territory Housing Programs and Performance, DHLGRS <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Martin, Executive Director, Central Australia, DHLGRS • Fran Kilgariff, Senior Executive Director, Local Government, Regional and Community Services, DHLGRS • Andrew Kirkman, Executive Director, Remote Housing NT, DHLGRS <p>Observer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwayne McInnes, Executive Director Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer, DHLGRS

In 2009-10 the Committee completed its work plan for 2009. The Committee also finalised its charter, which sets out its objectives, authority, membership, roles, reporting and administrative responsibilities. The charter is approved by the Chief Executive and reviewed annually.

AUDITS AND REVIEWS

During the 2009-10 year the agency was subject to a number of external audits as part of the Auditor-General's annual audit program and in accordance with the requirements of Australian Government funding agreements.

In addition, two legislative audit requirements were initiated, associated with the previous financial year (2008-09), but were completed during 2009-10.

In accordance with requirements of Australian Government funding agreements, the agency also arranged for financial statements to be audited with respect to Australian Government funded programs.

Outcomes of audits were generally satisfactory. Audit findings were taken on board by the agency and processes and procedures were reviewed in line with audit recommendations.

Several agency internal reviews and assessments were also conducted during the period aimed at improving program performance and operational systems and processes.

The following tables summarise the external audits and reviews undertaken for the agency in 2009-10.

Table 13: External Audits – Auditor-General

Audit/Review	Outcome
<p>Agency Compliance Audit 2010 To review the adequacy of the agency's internal controls and compliance with the <i>Financial Management Act</i> and other related Acts.</p>	<p>The audit identified some areas of non-compliance. The recommendations raised have largely been addressed since the audit, specifically formalisation of the Risk and Audit Committee, and development of an agency procurement plan.</p>
<p>Agency End of Financial Year Review 2009-10 To review the adequacy of selected aspects of end of financial year controls over reporting, accounting and material financial transactions and balances with the primary purpose of providing support to the audit of the Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement.</p>	<p>The audit identified some areas of non-compliance with accounting and control procedures in relation to year end financial processing.</p> <p>The agency has addressed a number of audit matters specifically relating to the Indigenous Housing program and is progressively addressing other findings in line with audit recommendations.</p>
<p>Accounts Payable Audit To satisfy the Auditor-General that the Government Accounts Payable System was used in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements.</p>	<p>The list of transactions provided by the Auditor-General was examined by agency officers, and resulted in no material errors being identified.</p>
<p>Cash Processing System (CPS) Information Technology Audit To satisfy the Auditor-General on the adequacy of the controls surrounding the agency's cash receipting system for tenancy related charges recorded through the Cash Processing System (CPS), particularly focusing on interface controls and reconciliations, user access management and change control.</p>	<p>The agency's information technology controls over the CPS were considered satisfactory.</p> <p>Opportunities for improvement were identified in security controls relating to the review of system administrator activities and the configuration of user access roles.</p>
<p>Performance Management System Audit To assess the adequacy of the agency's performance management systems as at 30 June 2009 to enable it to assess the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of its operations in relation to the stated outcome of <i>Access to safe, sustainable and affordable housing for all eligible Territorians</i>.</p>	<p>The agency's performance management system as at 30 June 2009 was not considered to be sufficiently adequate to be able to assess the stated outcome.</p> <p>A system is currently being developed in line with the new agency structure and audit recommendations.</p>
<p>Agency Grants Audit To review the grants process adopted by the agency to assess whether the agency has complied with Treasurer's Direction A6.4 'Grants and Subsidies'. The period reviewed was from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.</p>	<p>The agency has adequate policies and processes in place to ensure grants and subsidies paid are correctly identified, accounted for and acquitted.</p> <p>Some opportunities for improvement were identified. Actions are being taken to implement these recommendations, as appropriate.</p>

Audit/Review	Outcome
<p>Review of the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP) Assess the adequacy of the agency's performance management systems and examine the administrative, financial and operational aspects of the program since its commencement in 2007 to date. It highlights factors that have affected it since its commencement and work that has been done to ensure the program remains on track.</p>	<p>The audit recognised that while management control systems were still incomplete, work was well advanced towards rectifying this matter. Additionally, significant work has been undertaken on quality assurance and asset management frameworks.</p> <p>Governance and management issues identified by the audit have largely been addressed by the joint management arrangements implemented by the Australian and Northern Territory Governments.</p>
<p>NT Home Ownership Financial Statement Audit end of financial year 2008-09 To satisfy the Auditor-General that NT Home Ownership has prepared its financial statements for 2008-09 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements.</p>	<p>The Auditor-General issued an unqualified opinion on the audit of the financial statements.</p>
<p>NT Home Ownership Interim Financial Statement Audit 2009-10 To satisfy the Auditor-General that Home Ownership has prepared its interim financial statements for 2009-10 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements.</p>	<p>Auditor-General's letter received advising of three matters of non-compliance.</p> <p>Policy manuals have been updated to ensure audit issues are incorporated into policy and to improve the unit's control processes and procedures.</p>

Table 14: Audits Completed in Accordance with Legislative Requirements

Program	Purpose	Outcome
<p>Jabiru Town Development Authority Financial Statement Audit 2008-09</p>	<p>To satisfy the Auditor-General that the Jabiru Town Development Authority has prepared its financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements.</p>	<p>The financial statements were prepared in accordance with reporting requirements.</p>
<p>NT Grants Commission Financial Statement Audit 2008-09</p>	<p>To satisfy the Auditor-General that the NT Grants Commission has prepared its financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements.</p>	<p>The financial statements were prepared in accordance with reporting requirements.</p>

Table 15: Audits of Australian Government Funded Programs

Program	Audit Purpose	Findings	Status
Aboriginal Interpreter Services (AIS) general funding agreement	To audit the financial acquittal relating to the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed
AIS - Northern Territory Emergency Response	To audit the financial acquittal relating to the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed
CDEP Conversion to NTG Real Jobs/Matching IEP	To audit the financial acquittal relating to the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed
Municipal and Essential Services to Indigenous Living Area	To audit the financial acquittal relating to the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared from proper accounts and records.	Completed
Development Co-ordinators	To audit the financial acquittal relating to the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed
MUNS CDEP Converted Jobs Funding	To audit the financial acquittal for the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed
Clever Networks Program – Innovative Services Delivery Projects	To audit the financial acquittal for the year ended 30 June 2009	The acquittal was prepared in accordance with funding guidelines.	Completed

Table 16: Internal Reviews

Output	Internal Review	Progress / Outcome
Agency-wide	Review of corporate delegations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This review is in progress. The expanded functions of the agency required a major review of the corporate delegations. The review relates to delegations under the following legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>Financial Management Act</i> – <i>Public Sector Employment and Management Act</i> – <i>Procurement Act</i> – <i>Contracts Act</i> Further work will be undertaken to review delegations under other legislation administered by the agency, such as the <i>Housing Act and Local Government Act</i>.
Urban Public Housing	Internal assessment of urban public rental housing operational systems and processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WalterTurnbull was commissioned by the agency to undertake an internal assessment of urban public rental housing operational systems and processes. The report, received in May 2010 addressed training, operational policy and procedures, staffing structure and capabilities, and the agency's Tenancy Management System. The report confirmed and articulated work already commenced within the agency.

Output	Internal Review	Progress / Outcome
Urban Public Housing	Territory Housing Appeals Mechanism (THAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The THAM was reviewed to look at how it could be more effective and efficient. Consultation was undertaken internally, as well with the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner and the Ombudsman. A two-tier appeals process was approved by the Minister for Public and Affordable Housing in June 2010 and has been implemented. This process replaces the previous three-tier process, and provides a simpler and more efficient process that is consistent with other jurisdictions.
Remote Indigenous Housing	Review of the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program (SIHIP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of SIHIP was commissioned by the Northern Territory and Australian Governments to analyse program performance. Recommendations arising from the audit have largely been addressed. Work is continuing on the property and tenancy management framework to underpin the investment through SIHIP and achieve sustainable housing and employment outcomes for Indigenous people.
Water Safety and Animal Welfare	Review of the <i>Animal Welfare Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of the <i>Animal Welfare Act</i> was undertaken to consider possible amendments and expansion of some of its areas. The review recommendations are under consideration by the agency.
Local Government	Review of the October 2008 local government elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review commenced in early 2009 of the inaugural local government elections, following local government reform. Ways to improve future local government elections were identified in the key areas of legislation, policy and electoral processes; roles, responsibilities and coordination; public awareness and communications; and candidates. A draft report was developed from the review feedback, and released for comment to review participants. A final report is being developed and the review is continuing in 2010-11.
Local Government	Review of elected member allowances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This involved consideration of the structure and process for deciding elected member allowances. The review commenced in 2009-10 by inviting comment from all local government councils in the Northern Territory, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and council residents and ratepayers. Options are now being developed and the review is continuing in 2010-11.
Local Government	Review of the local government voting system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The planning stage of the review was initiated in 2009-10, with public consultation commencing in 2010-11. The review will determine whether or not changes need to be made to the local government voting system.

INSURANCE

In accordance with Treasurer’s Directions, the agency and government business division are required to report on their mitigation strategies and processes in place to reduce the likelihood or severity of their insurable risks.

The agency mostly self-insures. The agency self-insures with regard to indemnities and there were no self-insurance claims for 2009-10.

Commercial public liability was procured for the agency’s construction and asset management program at a cost of \$61 352. In 2009-10 there were no public liability claims.

Table 17: Insurable Risk and Mitigation Strategies

Insurable Risk Category	Mitigation Strategies
Workers Compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of OH&S committees has commenced in worksites with more than 20 staff. • An Employee Assistance Program is available to all staff and has been proactively communicated across the agency. • Work-life balance strategies have been implemented.
Property and Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction under the agency’s Capital Works Program is governed by Northern Territory Government Construction Contracts, ensuring contractors and service providers have appropriate levels of insurance in place. • A Repairs and Maintenance (R&M) Program is in place for the agency’s property and asset management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – R&M requests are classified as immediate, urgent or routine, based on potential or actual health, safety and security risks. Immediate works are attended to within four hours. – A process for tenants to report R&M is in place and a call centre maintained. – All immediate works and a percentage of urgent and routine works are inspected, following completion, to ensure they have been completed satisfactorily. – Works to utility services are signed off by appropriate licensed tradespersons and certificates of compliance are issued where applicable.
Public Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial public liability was procured for the agency’s construction and asset management program. • New tenants are required to sign a lease/tenancy agreement on allocation of a property, which states the responsibilities of the tenant and the agency. • New tenants are provided with ingoing property condition report and an information pack on reporting repairs and maintenance. • Tenancy inspections are conducted as per individual lease/tenancy agreement terms and conditions, to ensure the property is maintained.
Indemnities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive risk assessments conducted, with appropriate risk management and mitigation strategies in place for the duration of the agency’s indemnities. • The <i>Financial Management Act</i> and Treasurer’s Directions are applied with respect to indemnities.

GOVERNING LEGISLATION

The agency is responsible for administering 27 pieces of legislation, with 15 Acts and 12 pieces of subordinate legislation, on behalf of the Minister for Public and Affordable Housing and the Minister for Local Government.

The legislation provides an overriding direction for the many functions the agency performs and is the foundation to a number of its outputs. The agency also has statutory responsibility for certain statutory authorities and bodies as listed at Appendix 1 – Statutory Authorities and Bodies Administered.

The 15 Acts administered by the agency are listed below.

- *Animal Welfare Act*
- *Cemeteries Act*
- *Crown Lands Act (Section 79)*
- *Darwin Rates Act*
- *Housing Act*
- *Jabiru Town Development Act*
- *Local Government Act*
- *Local Government Grants Commission Act*
- *Local Government (Katherine Rates) Act*
- *Nudity Act*
- *Places of Public Entertainment Act*
- *Pounds Act*
- *Status of Darwin Act*
- *Status of Palmerston Act*
- *Swimming Pool Safety Act*



Increasing the capability of translator and interpreting services

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

The agency maintains a consistent marketing approach that aligns with the directions set by the Northern Territory Government. Quality control checks are undertaken for all publications and communication materials, including electronic (internet site), intended for external audiences.

2009-10 ACHIEVEMENTS

- The agency issued 71 media releases to local, national and international media in relation to the agency's activities. This figure incorporates both proactive and reactive releases to media inquiries, and does not include general requests for interviews by media with agency staff.
- Developed communication materials to promote the 10th anniversary of the Aboriginal Interpreter Service and the invaluable service provided to the Territory.
- Developed communication materials to support the review of the Local Government voting system.
- *Housing the Territory* multimedia campaign focusing on HOMESTART NT, affordable housing options for Territorians and land release opportunities.
- Public Housing Garden Competition – an annual event held in August to acknowledge public housing tenants who take pride in planting and maintaining their gardens.
- Senior Tenants' Christmas cakes and cards, an annual event where our senior tenants are presented with seasonal items.
- Developed a suite of communication materials to support regional staff and tenants with the new rent framework and remote housing system including audio books, storyboards, fact sheets, posters and radio and television messages. The audio books and radio messages were produced in 15 Indigenous languages.
- Developed fact sheets for Alice Springs town camps.
- Developed Remote Housing NT storyboards.
- Developed communication materials to support the introduction of the new public housing rental framework for remote Indigenous communities.
- Developed the Hermannsburg and Alice Springs Community Profiles to provide an economic profile of the communities.
- Managed the Water Safety *Don't Play in Pipes and Drains* annual campaign to discourage children from playing in pipes and drains during the wet season.
- Developed Budget 2010 *Working Future* fact sheets for the Territory Growth Towns.
- Developed community profiles for the Territory Growth Towns.
- The 2010 Show Circuit, a Territory wide event with a *Working Future* display theme that will see 20 Indigenous communities transformed over time into Territory Growth Towns.

FUTURE PRIORITIES

- Restructure the agency's Internet to be service focussed so that we can be even more responsive to our clients' needs.
- Update Aboriginal Interpreter Service suite of materials and web content.
- Develop a talking language DVD promoting the value of using Aboriginal interpreters.
- Develop a DVD to promote the Northern Territory Government's *Working Future* initiative to communities and Indigenous Territorians living in remote areas.
- Announcement of the *Working Future* Local Implementation Plans and the associated communication materials needed to convey messages and information.
- Launch the Alice Springs Economic Profile.
- Develop television commercials on refurbishments and rebuilds in Maningrida.
- Produce the 'Looking After Your Home' booklet as an audio book in language.
- Production of rent audio books and associated materials in language.
- Ongoing lead agency for communication activities associated with *Housing the Territory* and *A Working Future*.
- Ongoing communications support to *Territory 2030*, *A Safe Territory* and *Growing the Territory* policy areas as appropriate.
- Ongoing lead agency for Indigenous communications for the Northern Territory Government.

Developed a suite of communication materials (in Indigenous languages) to support regional staff and tenants with the introduction of the remote public housing system.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The work of the agency, in collaboration with its stakeholders, impacts on the residents of the Northern Territory. As such, it is critical that the agency builds on its strong supportive relationships to achieve best results and jointly maximise effort.

The agency engages the community through:

- structured stakeholder/community consultation on government initiatives and service changes;
- regular contact through information / consultative forums;
- participation of the stakeholder group in decision making as it relates to service delivery; and
- development of a customer charter and structured communication plans.

Consultation undertaken by this agency is detailed below by Output Group.

TERRITORY HOUSING SERVICES

- **Housing Reference Groups** (HRGs) have been established in communities across the Territory. HRG meetings are regularly attended by agency staff who provide secretariat support, advice on agency policies, and offer training and capacity building for HRG members.

The HRGs work with government and ensure local communities have input into decisions about housing in their community. They also provide advice to government on cultural and family-related matters that affect decisions about housing and infrastructure.

Consultations were held with the Nauiyu Nambiyu Land Trust in relation to the formation of a HRG and land tenure issues. Participants of these consultations included the Chief Executive Officer of the Nauiyu Nambiyu Land Trust, members of the executive, the Government Business Manager and agency staff.

- **Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program** (SIHIP) community meetings continued to be held in communities and town camps and urban living areas where SIHIP works will be delivered to keep the community informed and seek advice on design, location and cultural issues. The community consultations also covered the implementation of the new remote tenancy and property management arrangements.

Community meetings were held with Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation to discuss SIHIP and tenancy management in the community living areas in Tennant Creek.

The Borroloola Steering Committee was established to negotiate SIHIP funding for the four Borroloola town camps. This Committee comprises representatives from each camp, along with representatives from the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and Northern Land Council.

The Wadeye SIHIP Stakeholder's Group convened regular meetings with key community stakeholders to report on the progress of SIHIP and to identify and resolve issues related to the Program. Participants include Victoria Daly Shire Council, Thamarrurr Development Corporation, Wadeye Police, the Government Business Manager, New Future Alliance and agency staff.

- Community consultation was undertaken in relation to the **Urban Housing Tenancy Sustainability Program** with non-government organisations.
- Regular neighbourhood consultations were conducted with regard to **antisocial behaviour** issues with a focus on identified complexes.

- In March 2010 the agency consulted a range of internal and external stakeholders, including the Northern Territory Ombudsman and the Northern Territory Anti-Discrimination Commission to review the **Territory Housing Appeals Mechanism**. The recommendation to implement a simpler two tiered appeal model (from the existing three tiered mechanism) in line with other states and the Australia Capital Territory was approved by the Minister in June 2010.
- The new **Remote Rent Framework**, approved in May 2010, includes a differential rent model based on housing amenity and the requirement for tenants to enter into new tenancy agreements under the Northern Territory *Residential Tenancies Act*. In 2010-11 the framework will be fully implemented with repaired, refurbished, rebuilt and new houses delivered under SIHIP being transitioned to new rent levels as works are completed and tenants sign up to new tenancy agreements.

A suite of communication materials were developed to provide key information to Indigenous Territorians in remote communities and to support regional staff and tenants with the new rent framework including audio books, storyboards, fact sheets, posters, radio (produced in simple English and 15 Indigenous languages) and television messages.

- The audio books produced in 15 Indigenous languages and simple English, provided an interpretation of the Tenancy Rules Information Sheet which forms part of the tenancy agreement under the *Residential Tenancies Act*. The audio books assist tenancy officers explain to tenants their rights and responsibilities, as well as the agency's rights and responsibilities as a landlord.
- In February 2010 the agency advertised nationally for Expressions of Interest to establish an **Affordable Housing Rental Company** in the Northern Territory. A number of quality responses was received and assessed. The short-listed respondents will be invited to submit proposals and it is expected that a contract to establish the Affordable Housing Rental Company will be in place by the end of December 2010.
- The **Housing Support Working Group** was established by the agency and the Department of Health and Families to engage with local community housing and support providers to provide high level advice on issues relating to housing and related support in the Northern Territory and encourage and support cross program collaboration in relation to housing and related support services.
- The non-government sector is represented on the working group by the YWCA, Larrakia Nation, YMCA, Council of the Ageing, NT Shelter, St Vincent de Paul, Anglicare, and Aboriginal Hostels Ltd. The Housing Support Working Group provides advice to the Minister for Families and Children and the Minister for Public and Affordable Housing.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **Local Advisory Boards** met in all regions and were regularly attended by agency staff. Local Advisory Boards facilitate community involvement in local government issues, and provide the community with an opportunity to express their opinions and contribute to the development of local and regional policies.
- The **Palumpa Causeway Working Party** established by the agency met with community representatives approximately every six weeks to progress construction of the upgraded causeway. Representatives from the Mutchirr Corporation, traditional owners, Victoria Daly Shire, Australian Government and agency staff also participated.
- The agency met approximately every two months with **Bagot Community** Incorporated and community members regarding the implementation of the Northern Territory Government's election commitment to upgrade services and infrastructure in Bagot to a similar standard as any other suburb in Darwin.

- The agency provided support to Coomalie Community Government Council, Belyuen Community Government Council, Wagait Shire Council and Litchfield Council to complete Stage 1 investigations of **local government boundary expansion into unincorporated areas**.
- A **review of elected member allowances** was undertaken to determine the structure and process for deciding elected member allowances. The review commenced during 2009-10 by inviting comment from all local government councils in the Northern Territory, the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, council residents and ratepayers.
- A discussion paper on the topic was provided to the local government sector, and was available publicly on our agency's website. Advertising was undertaken in regional newspapers to publicise the review. Options are now being developed and the review will be continued in the 2010-11 year.
- The fourth **Indigenous Economic Development Forum** was held in Alice Springs in October 2009. The Forum was well attended by municipal and shire councils, land councils and other key stakeholders. Consultation with communities on Indigenous Economic Development issues are facilitated through community reference groups.
- **ITSNT** continued ongoing consultations with migrant and refugee communities, government and non-government service providers, interpreters and translators to address emerging language needs and the skills shortage in the interpreting and translating profession.

INDIGENOUS POLICY AND SERVICE DELIVERY COORDINATION

- As part of the **community road naming project**, community consultations were held across the Territory.
- Staff consulted with **homelands/outstations** residents and service providers about the *Working Future* policy, talking with residents of over 340 homelands/outstations. Consultation comprised explaining the Northern Territory Government's homelands/outstations headline policy released as part of *Working Future*, and collected feedback from residents and service providers about the policy and the service delivery. The results of the consultations will be used as the basis for refining the headline policy and for reviewing the allocation of municipal and essential services funding. In looking at refinements to the policy, the agency recognises the strong cultural connection between residents and their traditional owners, and will need to consider the feedback about the state of housing and roads.
- The agency facilitated consultations on the Remote Service Delivery Sites and Territory Growth Towns, a key element of the **Working Future** strategy.
- **Local Implementations Plans (LIPs)** are being developed as part of the National partnership Agreement on Remote Service Delivery through close consultation between three tiers of governments and each of the Remote Service Delivery Sites communities through Local Reference Groups. LIPs will set out the priorities for each community and include targets, actions, success measures and timelines for achieving those priorities. Existing community and Government plans and agreements in each community complement the Remote Service Delivery approach. All the signatories agree to work together to deliver the actions in the Plan.

Transforming the communities into Territory Growth Towns will require a two-way commitment to change. This means that community members must take more personal responsibility and fully participate in the commitments of their LIP. Governments must also listen to the community and provide resources and planning to improve infrastructure, services and access to services.



EXTERNAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

NATIONAL BODIES

- 
- Animal Ethics Committee – State Regulators Working Group
 - Animal Welfare Code Liaison Group
 - Animal Welfare Council
 - Australia and New Zealand Companion Animal Working Group
 - Australian Standards Committee (as 1926 Swimming Pool Safety)
 - Board of the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters
 - Child Protection Income Management Working Group
 - Council of Australian Governments – Indigenous Reform Working Group
 - Criminal Court User Group (Magistrates Court)
 - Homelessness and Housing Policy Research Working Group
 - Housing and Homelessness Advisory Group
 - Housing and Homelessness Information Management Group
 - Housing Ministers' Advisory Committee
 - Joint Working Group on Indigenous Settlements
 - Local Government and Planning Joint Officers' Group
 - Ministerial Council Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
 - National Local Government Finance Managers' Forum
 - National Water Safety Advisory Council
 - Not for Profit Housing Sector Development Sub Group
 - Overarching Agreement on Indigenous Affairs Steering Committee and subcommittees
 - Refugee Support Network
 - Risk Assessment, Measurement and Mitigation Sub-committee (of the National Emergency and Disaster Committee)
 - Schedule 2.2 of the Overarching Agreement on Indigenous Affairs – Steering Committee
 - Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
 - Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Working Group
 - Working Group on Indigenous Reform

TERRITORY BODIES

- Alcohol Reference Group
- Alice Springs Counter Disaster Welfare Committee
- Alice Springs Economic Development Committee
- Alice Springs Transformation Plan – Joint Steering Committee
- Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
- Anmatjere Economic Development Committee
- Borroloola Interagency Meeting
- Borroloola Steering Committee

- Borroloola Women's Council
- Building a Better Future for Young Territorians
- Closing the Gap Coordination Group
- Community Safety Working Group
- Counter Disaster Welfare Group (Darwin)
- Early Childhood Steering Committee
- East Arnhem Counter Disaster Committee
- East Arnhem Economic Development Committee
- East Arnhem Regional Coordination Committee
- East Arnhem Regional Harmony Group
- Garma Steering Committee
- Government Employee Housing Interdepartmental Reference Group
- Growth Towns Infrastructure Delivery Committee
- Gulf Economic Development Committee
- Housing Payments Deductions Scheme Working Party
- Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council
- Indigenous Consultative Council - Department of Justice
- Indigenous Economic Development Taskforce
- Industry Reference Group
- Interagency Collaboration Panel
- Interagency Tasking and Coordination Group
- Jabiru Town Development Authority
- Katherine Economic Development Committee
- Katherine Regional Coordination Committee
- Katherine Regional Counter Disaster Planning Committee
- Local Government Accounting Advisory Committee
- Local Government (Administration and Legislation) Advisory Committee
- Nhulunbuy Cemetery Committee
- Nhulunbuy Town Board
- Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) National Park Board
- North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency Board
- Northern Territory Council of Social Services Network
- Northern Territory Criminal Court Users' Group
- Northern Territory Grants Commission
- Northern Territory Settlement Planning Committee (NT Housing Sub-Committee)
- Northern Territory Water Safety Advisory Council
- NT Government Chief Information Committee
- NT Government Chief Information Officers' Forum

- NT Regional Advisory Committee for the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters
- Palumpa Inter Agency Forum
- Police Steering Committee
- Pools in Remote Areas Steering Group
- Rio Tinto Alcan Task Force
- Social Responsibility Sub-Committee of Chief Executives
- Statistical Liaison Committee
- Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program – Joint Steering Committee
- Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program – Strategic Alliance Leadership Committee
- Tennant Creek Advisory Board
- Tennant Creek Economic Development Committee
- Tennant Creek Foundation
- Tiwi Islands Economic Development Committee
- Victoria River Economic Development Committee
- Wadeye Inter Agency Forum
- West MacDonnell Economic Development Committee



Developing opportunities for Indigenous businesses

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Part Six



THE DEPARTMENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT OVERVIEW

For the year ended 30 June 2010

The financial statements and accompanying notes to the accounts for the department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services (the department) have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting and provide information on income and expenses, assets and liabilities, movements in equity and cash flows for the year. The department's financial statements exclude transactions relating to the government business division NT Home Ownership, which is reported separately.

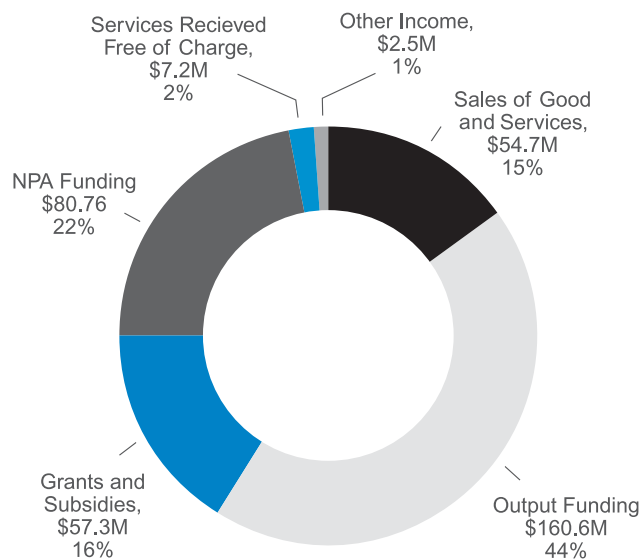
Comparative financial figures have not been provided as the department is considered to be a new agency under the provisions of the *Financial Management Act*. During the 2009-10 year, the department was restructured as a result of a redistribution of government portfolios announced in the administrative arrangement orders of 4 December 2009. In the main, the current Department continues to deliver the Outputs of the former Department of Local Government and Housing, with the addition of the Regional Development and Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination programs. These programs were transferred from the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources and the Department of the Chief Minister. The capital projects function was transferred to the Department of Construction and Infrastructure.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME SUMMARY

Income

Total income for the Department in 2009-10 was \$363.1 million, with Output revenue of \$160.7 million being the single largest source of income. The second largest source was funding from the Australian Government totalling \$138 million under National Partnership Agreements (\$80.77 million) and grants received directly by the Department (\$57.2 million). During the year, revenue from sales of goods and services (\$54.66 million), notional revenue for services received free of charge from the Department of Business and Employment was \$7.2 million, and other income totalled \$2.53 million. Chart A depicts actual income by source.

Chart A: Revenue by Source

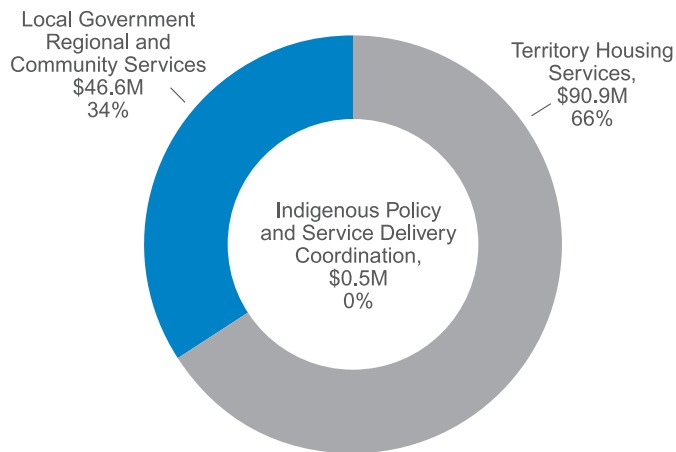


As noted above, revenue from the Australian Government is a significant revenue source for the department and is received in two categories: funds under National Partnership Agreements (\$80.77 million) and grants directly by the Department (\$57.2 million). Funding received under the National Partnership Agreements mainly relates to remote Indigenous housing and community and social housing programs.

Grants to the department include financial assistance grants for local government, Aboriginal Interpreter Service funding, assessment of governance and community engagement for priority communities, Community Development Employment Program funding related to municipal and essential services, Indigenous employment programs, and regional development grants.

Chart B depicts Australian Government funding by output group, highlighting that the largest component of Australian Government funding to the department is directed to the remote Indigenous housing National Partnership Agreement.

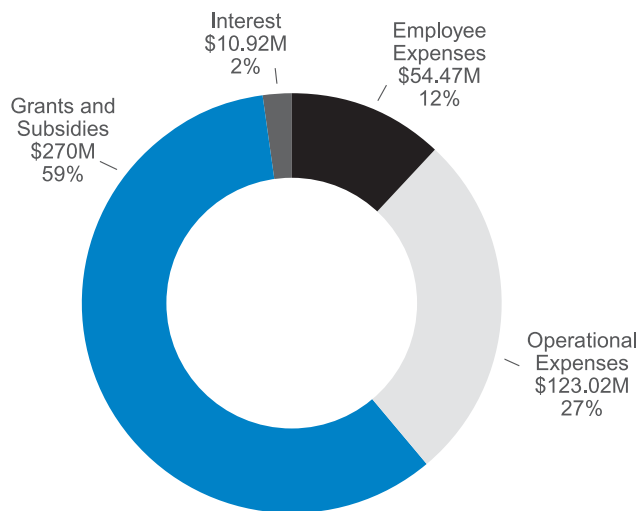
Chart B: Australian Government Funding by Output Group



EXPENSES

Total expenditure for the department in 2009-10 was \$459.84 million. Chart C depicts expenditure by the four expense categories. The largest expense was grants largely related to the Territory Housing Services Output Group. The department's grants and subsidies expenses include community service obligation (CSO) payments to NT Home Ownership totalling \$1.2 million.

Expenditure by Type



Statement of Financial Position Summary

The department's assets as at 30 June 2010 total \$1872.8 million and include current assets of \$47 million, predominantly cash, and non-current assets of \$1825.8 million, predominantly Land and Buildings. Land and Buildings assets are primarily public housing dwellings and government employee housing dwellings and are situated in both urban and remote areas across the Northern Territory. A revaluation of these assets is undertaken each financial year to ensure values reported in the financial statements are as accurate as possible.

The department's liabilities as at 30 June 2010 total \$109 million. This balance comprises \$23.8 million in current liabilities, predominantly relating to creditors, provision for employee entitlements and deposits held, and non-current liabilities of \$85.2 million, predominantly relating to Advances.

CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

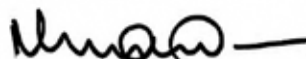
We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2010 and the financial position on that date.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



KEN DAVIES
Chief Executive
30 September 2010



DWAYNE MCINNES
Chief Financial Officer
30 September 2010

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

As at 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000
INCOME		
<i>Grants and Subsidies Revenue</i>		
Current		51 330
Capital		5 930
Appropriation		
Output		160 664
Commonwealth		80 769
Sales of Goods and Services		54 655
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	4	7 244
Gain on Disposal of Assets	5	1 821
Other Income		716
TOTAL INCOME	3	363 129
EXPENSES		
Employee Expenses		53 468
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>		
Purchases of Goods and Services	6	37 205
Repairs and Maintenance		21 851
Property Management		30 260
Depreciation and Amortisation	9	25 595
Other Administrative Expenses		8 111
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>		
Current		183 078
Capital		88 118
Community Service Obligations		1 239
Interest Expenses		10 919
TOTAL EXPENSES	3	459 844
NET (DEFICIT)		(96 715)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	14	84 581
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		84 581
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		(12 134)

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and Deposits	7	41 255
Receivables	8	3 968
Advances		1 000
Prepayments		826
Total Current Assets		47 049
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	1 825 788
Total Non-Current Assets		1 825 788
TOTAL ASSETS		1 872 837
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Deposits Held	20	3 267
Payables	10	10 264
Borrowings and Advances	11	928
Provisions	12	5 661
Unearned Revenue	13	1 849
Total Current Liabilities		21 969
Non-Current Liabilities		
Deposits Held	20	1 833
Borrowings and Advances	11	83 281
Provisions	12	1 914
Total Non-Current Liabilities		87 028
TOTAL LIABILITIES		108 997
NET ASSETS		1 763 840
EQUITY		
Capital		310 105
Land and Buildings Revaluation/Realisation Reserves	14	1 496 691
Accumulated Funds		(42 956)
TOTAL EQUITY		1 763 840

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30 June 2010

	NOTE	Equity at 1 July \$'000	Comprehensive result \$'000	Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners \$'000	Equity at 30 June \$'000
2009-10					
Accumulated Funds		53 759	(96 715)		(42 956)
		53 759	(96 715)		(42 956)
Land and Buildings Revaluation Reserves	14	1 412 110	84 581		1 496 691
Capital - Transactions with Owners		101 633			101 633
Equity Injections					
Capital Appropriation				57 455	57 455
Equity Transfers In				2 376	2 376
Other Equity Injections				5 481	5 481
Specific Purpose Payments				142 459	142 459
National Partnership Payments				1 304	1 304
Equity Withdrawals					
Capital Withdrawal				(603)	(603)
		101 633		208 472	310 105
Total Equity at End of Financial Year		1 567 502	(12 134)	208 472	1 763 840

This Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Receipts		
<i>Grants and Subsidies Received</i>		
Current		51 330
Capital		5 930
Appropriation		
Output		160 664
Commonwealth		80 769
Receipts From Sales of Goods And Services		74 018
Total Operating Receipts		372 711
Operating Payments		
Payments to Employees		(51 816)
Payments for Goods and Services		(96 792)
<i>Grants and Subsidies Paid</i>		
Current		(183 078)
Capital		(88 118)
Community Service Obligations		(1 239)
Interest Paid		(10 919)
Total Operating Payments		(431 962)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Operating Activities	15	(59 251)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Investing Receipts		
Proceeds from Asset Sales	5	19 116
Total Investing Receipts		19 116
Investing Payments		
Purchases of Assets		(248 052)
Total Investing Payments		(248 052)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Investing Activities		(228 936)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Financing Receipts		
Proceeds of Borrowings		928
Deposits Received		
<i>Equity Injections</i>		
Capital Appropriation		57 455
Commonwealth Appropriation		143 763
Other Equity Injections		5 481
Total Financing Receipts		207 627
Financing Payments		
Repayment of Borrowings		(1 744)
Equity Withdrawals		(603)
Total Financing Payments		(2 347)
Net Cash From/(Used In) Financing Activities		205 280
Net (Decrease) in Cash Held		(82 907)
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		124 162
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	7	41 255

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2010

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1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING

The primary role of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is to deliver social housing programs and related infrastructure across the Territory, and to build stronger regions and communities through sustainable economic development and effective local government.

The department provides a range of services to support and strengthen communities throughout the Northern Territory including public housing, government employee housing, supported accommodation, interpreter and translator services, regional and Indigenous development, coordination of remote service delivery, water safety and animal welfare.

The department has three output groups for budgeting and reporting purposes:

- Territory Housing Services
- Local Government, Regional and Community Services
- Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination

2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer's Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of agency financial statements is to include:

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) a Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- (iii) a Statement of Financial Position;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) Applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra agency transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and, do not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets. These accounting policies have been consistently applied and, except where there is a change in accounting policy, are consistent with those of the previous year.

The form of the agency financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current annual reporting period have been evaluated. The Standards and Interpretations and their impacts are:

AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (September 2007), AASB 2007-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101, AASB 2007-10 Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101

This Standard has been revised and introduces a number of terminology changes as well as changes to the structure of the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Changes in Equity. Other Comprehensive Income is now disclosed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Changes in Equity discloses owner changes in equity separately from non-owner changes in equity.

AASB 2009-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Improving Disclosures about Financial Instruments

The Standard amends AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* to require enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements. It establishes a three-level hierarchy for making fair value measurements, requiring those financial instruments measured at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position to be categorised into levels.

b) New Standards and Interpretations Not Yet Adopted

The entity did not early adopt any new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that are available for early adoption at 30 June 2010. These new standards amendments to standards and interpretations are not likely to have any material impact on the entity in the period of initial adoption.

c) Agency and Territory Items

The financial statements of the Department Housing, Local Government and Regional Services include income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity over which the Department has control (agency items). Certain items, while managed by the Department, are controlled and recorded by the Territory rather than the Department (Territory items). Territory items are recognised and recorded in the Central Holding Authority as discussed below.

Central Holding Authority

The Central Holding Authority is the 'parent body' that represents the Government's ownership interest in Government controlled entities.

The Central Holding Authority also records all Territory items, such as income, expenses, assets and liabilities controlled by the Government and managed by Agencies on behalf of the Government. The main Territory item is Territory income, which includes taxation and royalty revenue, Commonwealth general purpose funding (such as GST revenue), fines, and statutory fees and charges.

The Central Holding Authority also holds certain Territory assets not assigned to Agencies as well as certain Territory liabilities that are not practical or effective to assign to individual Agencies such as unfunded superannuation and long service leave.

The Central Holding Authority recognises and records all Territory items, and as such, these items are not included in the Departments financial statements.

d) Comparatives

Due to the magnitude of changes to the administrative arrangements of the former Department of Local Government and Housing during the financial year, no comparatives have been included in the financial statements as the new department is in effect a agency. Changes to the department included;

- Regional and Indigenous Economic Development Branch transferred from the Department of Regional Development, Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources.
- Office of Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Co-ordination Unit – including the Regional Operations Centre Functions from the Department of Chief Minister.
- Capital Projects branch transferred out to the Department of Construction and Infrastructure.

e) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

f) Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes to accounting policies adopted in 2009-10 as a result of management decisions.

g) Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. Notes that include significant judgements and estimates are:

- Employee Benefits – Note 2(u) and Note 12: Non-current liabilities in respect of employee benefits are measured as the present value of estimated future cash outflows based on the appropriate Government bond rate, estimates of future salary and wage levels and employee periods of service.
- Contingent Liabilities – Note 18: The present value of material quantifiable contingent liabilities are calculated using a discount rate based on the published 10-year Government bond rate.
- Doubtful Debts – Note 2(o), 8: Receivables and 16: Financial Instruments
- Depreciation and Amortisation – Note 2(k), Note 9: Property, Plant and Equipment

h) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

i) Income Recognition

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of goods and services tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the agency obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Appropriation

Output Appropriation is the operating payment to each agency from the Central Holding Authority for the outputs they provide and is calculated as the net cost of agency outputs after taking into account funding from agency income. It does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation.

Commonwealth appropriation follows from the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations, resulting in Specific Purpose Payments and National Partnership Payments being made by the Commonwealth Treasury to state Treasuries, in a manner similar to arrangements for GST payments. These payments are received by Treasury on behalf of the Central Holding Authority and then on-passed to the relevant Agencies as Commonwealth Appropriation.

Revenue in respect of Appropriations is recognised in the period in which the agency gains control of the funds.

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when:

- the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have transferred to the buyer;
- the agency retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- the amount of revenue can be reliably measured;
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the agency; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Rendering of Services

Revenue from rendering services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The revenue is recognised when:

- the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

Interest Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Goods and Services Received Free of Charge

Goods and services received free of charge are recognised as revenue when a fair value can be reliably determined and the resource would have been purchased if it had not been donated. Use of the resource is recognised as an expense.

Disposal of Assets

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal. Refer also to note 5.

Contributions of Assets

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by Government, as gains when the agency obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

j) Repairs and Maintenance Expense

Funding is received for repairs and maintenance works associated with agency assets as part of Output Revenue. Costs associated with repairs and maintenance works on agency assets that do not meet the capitalisation criteria are expensed as incurred.

k) Depreciation and Amortisation Expense

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

Amortisation applies in relation to intangible non-current assets with limited useful lives and is calculated and accounted for in a similar manner to depreciation.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

2010	
Buildings -	
Urban Buildings	50 Years
Remote Area Buildings	40 Years
Leased Building Upgrades	Remaining Period of Lease
Plant and Equipment	5 Years

Assets are depreciated or amortised from the date of acquisition or, in respect of internally constructed assets, from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use. Where an asset is revalued due to capital construction or upgrade, or due to market movements, the useful life is reassessed and the annual depreciation adjusted to reflect the new value of the asset.

l) Interest Expense

Interest expenses are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

m) Cash and Deposits

For the purposes of the Statement of Financial Position and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash. Cash at bank includes monies held in the Accountable Officer's Trust Account (AOTA) that are ultimately payable to the beneficial owner – refer also to note 20.

n) Inventories

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services held no inventories in the financial year ending 30 June 2010.

o) Receivables

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the agency estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analyses of the age of the receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an aging schedule under credit risk in Note 16 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 30 days and other receivables within 60 days.

Rental and Other Charges

The collectability of debts is assessed at year end for current rental, current maintenance and other debtors. An allowance for doubtful debts is made when there is objective evidence that a rental receivable is impaired. It is not considered practical to provide a specific allowance. The amount of the allowance as such has been measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the future cash flows expected to be received within the next 12 months from each category of rental debtor. Debts are written off during the year to the allowance account where tenants become deceased or collectability is similarly assessed as not viable.

p) Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$5,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

The construction cost of property, plant and equipment includes the cost of materials and direct labour, and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Complex Assets

Major items of plant and equipment comprising a number of components that have different useful lives, are accounted for as separate assets. The components may be replaced during the useful life of the complex asset.

Subsequent Additional Costs

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the agency in future years. Where these costs represent separate components of a complex asset, they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their expected useful lives.

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment including repairs and maintenance that do not meet the criteria for capitalisation are expensed as incurred.

Construction (Work in Progress)

As part of the Financial Management Framework, the Department of Construction and Infrastructure is responsible for managing general government capital work projects on a Whole of Government basis. Appropriation relating to some office accommodation works for Department's capital works is provided directly to the Department of Construction and Infrastructure and the cost of construction work in progress is recognised as an asset of that Department. Once completed, capital works assets are transferred to the agency.

Capitalising Works in Progress – The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is responsible for managing government capital and minor works projects for current and new housing stock. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is provided appropriation directly for the cost of work in progress for existing and new housing. This includes urban and remote Indigenous housing programs.

All new works projects where costs over \$5,000 can be measured reliably against an asset are capitalised.

Rental Dwellings

Acquisitions

Constructed rental dwellings, upgrading costs and minor capital works carried out on existing rental dwellings are recorded at their expended completed contract price, including tendering costs, contract management and supervision fees and all fees and charges relating to construction as property assets. Rental dwelling contracts not completed at 30 June 2010 are stated as Works in Progress. Capital Works are capitalised when incurred.

Demolitions / Gifts

Obsolete rental dwellings demolished and dwellings, which are gifted or reverted under land rights legislation, are written off in the financial year of occurrence. The write-offs represent the written-down historical cost component of such dwellings. Appropriate adjustments are made against the asset revaluation reserve where previous revaluations have occurred.

Sales – Rental Dwellings

Dwellings to be sold are valued immediately prior to the sale. The entity's policy is to record the difference between the sale price and the asset-carrying amount as a gain or loss on sale.

q) Revaluations and Impairment

Revaluation of Assets

Subsequent to initial recognition, assets belonging to the following classes of non-current assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date:

- Land
- Buildings

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms length transaction. Land and buildings held by the department, not classified for rental use have not been re-valued by the Department during the year ended 30 June 2010.

Plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less depreciation, which is deemed to equate to fair value.

Revaluations

- Urban Rental Properties

An independent valuation of urban rental properties was completed at 30 June 2010 by the Australian Valuation Office, the results of which are reflected in these financial statements.

The basis for the valuation of urban rental properties is that of 'fair value', being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The entity has adopted the policy of revaluing its urban rental properties – which consist of land, houses, flat complexes and interest in bodies corporate, every year to ensure that the carrying amount does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date.

Where the carrying amount of any urban rental property was determined to be greater than its recoverable amount, the carrying amount of that dwelling has been written down to its recoverable amount. Details of the related carrying amount written down and any recoverable amount write-downs have been disclosed in the financial statements.

Existing urban rental properties that have incurred major renovations or upgrading costs are re-valued as soon as possible after the contracts have been completed for these works. Useful lives of all urban rental dwellings have been reassessed at the time of valuation.

- Remote Rental Dwellings

The Australian Valuation Office completed an independent valuation of remote rental dwellings at 30 June 2010, the results of which are reflected in these financial statements. The entity has adopted the policy of revaluing its remote area rental dwellings at 30 June each year.

Remote rental dwellings are measured on the basis of 'fair value', using the replacement cost methodology.

The useful lives of all remote rental dwellings are also reassessed at the time of valuation.

Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Rental Properties

The entity has adopted the policy of revaluing its rental property assets annually, to ensure that assets are carried at amounts that are not in excess of their recoverable amounts.

Where indications of impairment exist, the entity determines the asset's recoverable amount as the asset's depreciated replacement cost for remote area assets and fair value less costs to sell for urban area assets.

Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss in the Statement of Comprehensive Income unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the Asset Revaluation Reserve for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

When a prior impairment loss is required to be reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the Asset Revaluation Reserve. Note 14 provide additional information in relation to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

Non-current physical and intangible agency assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the agency determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. Where the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the Asset Revaluation Surplus for that class of asset to the extent that an available balance exists in the Asset Revaluation Surplus.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment reversal results in an increase in the Asset Revaluation Surplus. Note 14 provides additional information in relation to the Asset Revaluation Surplus.

r) Assets Held for Sale

The entity applies the strict held for sale criteria before an asset is classified as held for sale including:

- the asset is available for immediate sale;
- the sale is highly probable;
- management is committed to the sale;
- the asset has been actively marketed; and
- the sale is expected to be completed within one year.

Where an asset has been identified as 'held for sale' these assets are measured at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Assets held for sale are not depreciated, and are disclosed separately on the face of the Statement of Financial Position.

The strict held for sale criteria and the fact that a majority of the entity's assets are held for service delivery purposes are expected to result in very few held for sale assets. There are no assets held for sale in the current year.

s) Leased Assets

Leases under which the agency assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases.

Finance Leases

Finance leases are capitalised. A leased asset and a lease liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments are recognised at the inception of the lease.

Lease payments are allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense.

Operating Leases

Operating lease payments made at regular intervals throughout the term are expensed when the payments are due, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property. Lease incentives under an operating lease of a building or office space is recognised as an integral part of the consideration for the use of the leased asset. Lease incentives are to be recognised as a deduction of the lease expenses over the term of the lease.

t) Payables

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the agency. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

u) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after twelve months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the Government long term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits.

As part of the Financial Management Framework, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government Agencies, including the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in agency financial statements.

v) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or
- non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The agency makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and as such are not recognised in agency financial statements.

w) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

The agency may receive contributions from Government where the Government is acting as owner of the agency. Conversely, the agency may make distributions to Government. In accordance with the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by, and distributions to, Government.

These designated contributions and distributions are treated by the agency as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity provides additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, Government.

x) Commitments

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, including lease commitments are shown at note 17 and are consistent with the requirements contained in AASB 101, AASB 116 and AASB 117.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

y) Borrowings

Government loans are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs.

After initial recognition, borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

z) Nature and Purpose of Reserves

Reserves of the entity are categories of retained equity or proprietorship of the going concern. Transfers into and out of these reserves are disclosed in order to show the impact which transactions affecting assets during the year have on retained equity. The entity operates the following reserve accounts:

- Asset revaluation reserve: includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets. Impairment adjustments and transfers of asset carrying values for sale or disposal of assets may also be recognised in the asset revaluation reserve.
- Asset realisation reserve: tracks transactions relating to transfer of asset carrying values for sale or disposal of assets.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME BY OUTPUT GROUP

	NOTE	Territory Housing Services	Local Government, Regional and Community Services	Indigenous Policy and Service Delivery Coordination	Total
		2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000
INCOME					
<i>Grants and Subsidies Revenue</i>					
Current		5 263	45 530	537	51 330
Capital		5 770	160		5 930
<i>Appropriation</i>					
Output		113 889	44 067	2 708	160 664
Commonwealth		79 869	900		80 769
Sales of Goods and Services		52 221	2 434		54 655
Goods and Services Received Free of Charge	4	5 664	1 537	43	7 244
Gain on Disposal of Assets	5	1 821			1 821
Other Income		348	359	9	716
TOTAL INCOME		264 845	94 987	3 297	363 129
EXPENSES					
Employee Expenses		35 932	15 158	2 378	53 468
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>					
Purchases of Goods and Services	6	23 969	12 242	994	37 205
Repairs and Maintenance		21 841	10		21 851
Property Management		29 770	431	59	30 260
Depreciation and Amortisation	10, 11	25 526	64	5	25 595
Other Administrative Expenses		6 536	1 532	43	8 111
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>					
Current		108 233	74 845		183 078
Capital		83 773	4 343	2	88 118
Community Service Obligations		1 239			1 239
Interest Expenses	18	10 919			10 919
TOTAL EXPENSES		347 738	108 625	3 481	459 844
NET SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)		(82 893)	(13 638)	(184)	(96 715)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
Asset Revaluation / Realisation Reserve		84 581			84 581
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		84 581			84 581
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		1 688	(13 638)	(184)	(12 134)

This Statement of Comprehensive Income by Output Group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

2010
\$'000**4. GOODS AND SERVICES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE**

Corporate and Information Services	7 244
	7 244

5. GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Net proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	19 116
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	(17 295)
Gain on the disposal of non-current assets	1 821

6. PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES

The net (deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:

Goods and Services Expenses:

Consultants	14 950
Advertising	70
Marketing and Promotion	709
Document Production	87
Legal Expenses	975
Recruitment	183
Training and Study	553
Official Duty Fares	1 841
Travelling Allowance	792
Other Operating Expenses	17 045
	37 205

7. CASH AND DEPOSITS

Cash on Hand	11
Cash at Bank	41 244
	41 255

8. RECEIVABLES**Current**

Accounts Receivable	12 193
Less: Allowance for Impairment Losses	(8 793)
	3 400
Advances Receivable	1 000
	1 000
GST Receivables	568
	568
Total Receivables	4 968

2010
\$'000

9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Land	
At Fair Value	12 666
Buildings	
At Fair Value	1 577 921
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(42 952)
	<u>1 534 969</u>
Construction (Work in Progress)	
At Capitalised Cost	277 294
Plant and Equipment	
At Fair Value	2 565
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1 714)
	<u>851</u>
Computer Hardware	
At Capitalised Cost	45
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(37)
	<u>8</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>1 825 788</u>

2010 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2009-10 is set out below:

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Construction (Work in Progress) \$'000	Plant and Equipment \$'000	Computer Hardware \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2009	6 760	1 492 769	33 467	660	16	1 533 672
Additions	1 565		246 446	42		248 052
Disposals		(17 294)				(17 294)
Depreciation		(3 660)		(410)	(8)	(4 078)
(Disposals) from Administrative Restructuring				(10)		(10)
Additions/(Disposals) from Asset Transfers	1 632	2 800	(2 619)	569		2 383
Revaluation Increments	2 709	60 354				63 063
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2010	12 666	1 534 969	277 294	851	8	1 825 788

2010
\$'000**10. PAYABLES**

Accounts Payable	1 443
Accrued Expenses	8 792
Interest Payable	29
Total Payables	10 264

11. BORROWINGS AND ADVANCES**Current**

Loans and Advances	928
--------------------	-----

Non-Current

Loans and Advances	83 281
--------------------	--------

Total Borrowings and Advances	84 209
--------------------------------------	---------------

12. PROVISIONS**Current***Employee Benefits*

Recreation Leave	4 044
Leave Loading	577
Recreation Leave Fares	85

Other Current Provisions

Fringe Benefits Tax	117
Payroll Tax	439
Superannuation Contributions	399
	5 661

Non-Current*Employee Benefits*

Recreation Leave	1 914
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Total Provisions	7 575
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The agency employed 645 employees as at 30 June 2010.

2010
\$'000

13. OTHER LIABILITIES

Current

Deposits Held	3 267
Unearned Revenue – Rent Charged / Paid in Advance	1 849
	<hr/>
	5 116

Non-Current

Deposits Held – Rental Security Bond Deposits	1 833
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14. RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Surplus

(i) Land and Buildings

The asset revaluation surplus includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current Land and Buildings. Impairment adjustments may also be recognised in the Land and Buildings Revaluation Surplus.

(ii) Movements in the Land and Buildings Revaluation Surplus

Balance as at 1 July	1 412 110
Increment - Land	2 709
Increment - Buildings	60 354
Transfer Accumulated Depreciation to Reserve	21 518
	<hr/>
	84 581

Balance as at 30 June	1 496 691
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2010
\$'000**15. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT****Reconciliation of Cash**

The total of agency Cash and Deposits of \$41,254,976 recorded in the Statement of Financial Position is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

Reconciliation of Net Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash From Operating Activities

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(96 715)
<i>Non-Cash Items:</i>	
Depreciation and Amortisation	25 595
(Gain) on Disposal of Assets	(1 821)
Repairs and Maintenance Expense – Non-Cash	3
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</i>	
Decrease in Receivables	6 559
Decrease in Prepayments	43
(Increase) in Other Assets	(14)
Increase in Payables	5 700
Increase in Provision for Employee Benefits	1 283
Increase in Other Provisions	105
Increase in Other Liabilities	11
Net Cash From Operating Activities	(59 251)

Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Finance Lease Transactions

During the financial year the agency acquired no plant and equipment or computer equipment and software by means of finance leases.

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services include cash and deposits, receivables, payables. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

(a) *Categorisation of Financial Instruments*

The carrying amounts of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below.

	2010 \$'000
Financial Assets	
Cash and deposits	41 255
Loans and receivables	4 967
Advances	826
Financial Liabilities	
Deposits Held	6 949
Payables	10 264
Advances and Provisions`	7 575
Borrowings	84 209

(b) *Credit Risk*

The agency has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default) with government agencies. In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government and individuals, the agency has adopted a policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The agencies exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each non-government debtor. In monitoring debtor credit risk, debtors are grouped according to their aging profile and existence of previous financial difficulties. The entity requires bond deposits from customers in respect of rental dwellings.

The agency has established an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of incurred losses in respect of debtor receivables and loan receivables. The main components of this allowance are a specific loss component that relates to individual exposures, and / or collective loss component established for groups of similar assets.

The collective loss allowance is determined based on percentages derived from historical data of payment statistics.

Based on historic default rates, the agency believes that no impairment allowance is necessary in respect of receivables from government agencies rental and sundry debts less than 2 months old, ceased rental and sundry debts less than one month old, and bond assistance debts less than one month old.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the agency's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and ageing analysis of receivables is presented below.

	Ageing of Receivables \$'000	Ageing of Impaired Receivables \$'000	Net Receivables \$'000
2009-10			
Not Overdue	2 719		2 719
Overdue for less than 30 Days	298	9	289
Overdue for 30 to 60 Days	43	9	34
Overdue for more than 60 Days	9 133	8 775	358
Total	12 193	8 793	3 400

Reconciliation of the Allowance for Impairment Losses

Opening	7 875
Written off during the year	(24)
Recovered during the year	77
Increase in allowance recognised in profit or loss	865
Total	8 793

(c) *Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk that the agency will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The agency's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail the agency's remaining contractual maturity for its financial assets and liabilities. It should be noted that these values are undiscounted, and consequently totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

2010

	Variable Interest	Fixed Interest Rate			Non Interest Bearing	Total	Weighted Average
		Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years			
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Assets							
Cash and deposits					41 255	41 255	
Receivables					3 967	3 967	
Advances					826	826	
Investment, loans and placements					1 000	1 000	
Total Financial Assets:					47 048	47 048	
Liabilities							
Deposits Held					6 949	6 949	
Payables					10 264	10 264	
Provisions					7 575	7 575	
Borrowings				84 209		84 209	12.90%
Total Financial Liabilities:				84 209	24 788	108 997	

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk.

(i) Interest Rate Risk

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has limited exposure to interest rate risk as agency financial assets and financial liabilities, with the exception of Treasury Loans are non-interest bearing. Finance lease arrangements are established on a fixed interest rate and as such do not expose the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services to interest rate risk. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services exposure to interest rate risk on financial assets and financial liabilities is set out in the following tables.

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

Market Sensitivity Analysis

Changes in the variable rates of 100 basis points (1 per cent) at reporting date would have the following effect on the agency's profit or loss and equity

	Profit or Loss and Equity	
	100 basis points increase \$'000	100 basis points decrease \$'000
30 June 2010		
Financial assets – cash at bank	413	(413)
Financial assets – receivable loans	10	(10)
Financial liabilities – borrowings	(842)	842
Net Sensitivity:	(419)	419

(ii) Price Risk

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is not exposed to price risk as Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services does not hold units in unit trusts.

(iii) Currency Risk

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is not exposed to currency risk as Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(e) Net Fair Value

The fair value of financial instruments is estimated using various methods. These methods are classified into the following levels:

Level 1 – fair value is calculated using quoted prices in active markets. Instruments whose carrying amount is deemed to be equal to its fair value qualify for this level of classification.

Level 2 – to be used for those instruments that cannot be classified as either Level 1 or Level 3.

Level 3 – fair value is estimated using inputs other than quoted market data, for example, net present value.

2010	Total Carrying Amount \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 1 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 2 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 3 \$'000	Net Fair Value Total \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and Deposits	41 255	41 255			41 255
Receivables	4 967	4 967			4 967
Advances and Investments	826	826			826
Total Financial Assets:	47 048	47 048			47 048
Financial Liabilities					
Deposits Held	6 949	6 494			6 949
Payables	10 264	10 264			10 264
Provisions	7 575	7 575			7 575
Borrowings and Advances	84 209	0	129 187		129 187
Total Financial Liabilities:	108 997	24 333	129 187		153 975

2010
\$'000**17. COMMITMENTS****(i) Capital Expenditure Commitments**

Capital expenditure commitments primarily relation to the construction of urban and remote housing and essential services. Capital expenditure commitments contracted for at balance date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	154 770
Later than one year and not later than five years	141 692
Later than five years	
	296 462

(ii) Other Expenditure Commitments

Other non-cancellable expenditure commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	45 620
Later than one year and not later than five years	48 492
Later than five years	
	94 112

(iii) Operating Lease Commitments

The agency leases property under non-cancellable operating leases expiring from 1 to 14 years. Leases generally provide the agency with a right of renewal at which time all lease terms are renegotiated. The agency also leases items of plant and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases. Future operating lease commitments not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year	5 361
Later than one year and not later than five years	5 349
Later than five years	5 856
	16 566

(iv) Finance Lease Commitments

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has no finance lease commitments as at 30 June 2010.

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS**(a) Contingent liabilities**

The entity has one category of Contingent Liabilities of Materiality, as follows:

Appeals Board Members Indemnification

Territory Housing Appeals Board members in Alice Springs and Darwin are indemnified against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands, liabilities, losses, expenses (legal or otherwise) and payments whatsoever arising out of or in respect of an act or thing done or omitted to be done by Members in the their capacity as Member of the Board. To date there have been no claims.

(a) **Contingent assets**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2010 or 30 June 2009.

19. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No events have arisen between the end of the financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure in these financial statements.

20. ACCOUNTABLE OFFICER'S TRUST ACCOUNT

In accordance with section 7 of the *Financial Management Act*, an Accountable Officer's Trust Account has been established for the receipt of money to be held in trust. A summary of activity is shown below:

Nature of Trust Money	Opening Balance 1 July 2009	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance 30 June 2010
Jabiru Town Development Authority	3 259	107	(169)	3 197
Unclaimed money	64		(1)	63
Tenants Security Bond Deposits	1 770	133	(70)	1 833
Contractors Retention	7			7
	5 100	240	(240)	5 100

21. WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS

	2010 \$'000	agency No. of Trans.
Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i>		
Represented by:		
<u>Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates</u>		
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an agency written off	11	20
Losses or deficiencies of money written off	2	5
Total written off, waived and postponed by Delegates	13	25
<u>Amounts written off, postponed and waived by the Treasurer</u>		
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory or an agency written off	12	1
Losses or deficiencies of money written off		
Total written off, postponed and waived by the Treasurer	12	1
Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers Authorised Under Other Legislation		
	25	26

22. SCHEDULE OF TERRITORY ITEMS

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services has no Territory items for the year ending 30 June 2010.



Auditor-General
Independent Auditor's Report
to the Minister for Public and Affordable Housing
NT Home Ownership
Year Ended 30 June 2010

I have audited the accompanying financial report of NT Home Ownership, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2010, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

The Responsibility of the Chief Executive for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations). This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Chief Executive, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Auditor's Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of NT Home Ownership as of 30 June 2010, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations).

E. McGuinness

Auditor-General for the Northern Territory
Darwin, Northern Territory

15 October 2010

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OVERVIEW

For the year ended 30 June 2010

A Northern Territory Government home purchase assistance scheme, HOMESTART NT, was launched on 1 July 2008 to assist more Territory families fulfil their dream of owning their own home.

HOMESTART NT is the trading name for the NT Home Ownership government business division established on 1 July 2008.

The HOMESTART NT scheme is directly targeted at the affordable housing market so that low and middle income earners can access around 40 per cent of the housing market in their regions, using no more than 30 per cent of their gross income.

The HOMESTART NT scheme replaced HomeNorth Xtra, however key elements of the old scheme such as the shared equity loan, fee assistance loan (to help with costs like stamp duty, fees and white goods) and low 2 per cent deposit continue with HOMESTART NT.

The Government's shared equity value remains at \$75 000 or 30 per cent of the property value, whichever is the lesser amount.

HOMESTART NT builds on the success of the former HomeNorth Xtra program, with both programs helping more than 1300 Territory households own their own home, using over \$276 million in Government funds.

The purchase price limits are based around the 40th percentile house price (where the median price is the 50th percentile) and is reviewed at least annually to ensure the scheme keeps pace with the Northern Territory housing market.

During 2009-10 the entity achieved a \$6 million comprehensive result.

As at 30 June 2010, NT Home Ownership held a housing loan portfolio of \$128 million constituting 1692 loans to Territorians.

NT Home Ownership holds an interest in 699 shared equity investment properties to the value of \$50.1 million.

During 2009-10, 145 new home ownership loans were funded using over \$43.9 million in Government funds, with an average new loan amount of \$241 390, and a median purchase price of \$312 000.

21 clients were public housing tenants who transferred from the social housing welfare system into home ownership.

NT Home Ownership continues to assist younger Territorians, with 57 per cent below the age of 35.

90 per cent of clients purchased shared equity properties with the Government, a component of the scheme which makes home ownership more achievable and affordable.

CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services and NT Home Ownership, have been prepared from proper accounts and records in accordance with the prescribed format, the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial performance and cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2010 and the financial position on that date.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances that would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



KEN DAVIES
Chief Executive
30 September 2010



DWAYNE MCINNES
Chief Financial Officer
30 September 2010

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
INCOME			
Sales of Goods and Services	6	30	22
Interest Revenue	5	7 684	9 822
Gain on Disposal of Investments	4	1 518	1 459
Other Income	6	1 241	784
Revaluation of Investments Increase / (Decrease)	8	4 054	6 406
TOTAL INCOME	3	14 527	18 493
EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses		(209)	(145)
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>			
Purchases of Goods and Services	7	(2 365)	(2 289)
Other Administrative Expenses		(9)	(2)
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>			
Current	7	(62)	(33)
Interest Expenses		(7 761)	(8 474)
TOTAL EXPENSES	3	10 406	10 943
NET SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX		4 121	7 550
Income Tax Expense	9	(20)	(2 265)
Income Tax adjustment 2008-09	9	1 921	
NET SURPLUS NET (DEFICIT) INCOME TAX		6 022	5 285
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		6 022	5 285

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Deposits	10	15 152	21 938
Receivables	11	80	15
Advances	11	1 925	2 335
Prepayments	12		2 654
Total Current Assets		17 157	26 942
Non-Current Assets			
Advances	11	126 045	121 087
Property, Plant and Equipment	13	562	
Shared Equity investments	14	50 076	48 629
Total Non-Current Assets		176 683	169 716
TOTAL ASSETS		193 840	196 658
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	15	514	524
Borrowings and Advances	16	6 475	6 180
Provisions	17	63	4 930
Other Liabilities	18	15	15
Total Current Liabilities		7 067	11 649
Non-Current Liabilities			
Borrowings and Advances	16	153 143	159 619
Provisions	17	2	2
Total Non-Current Liabilities		153 145	159 621
TOTAL LIABILITIES		160 212	171 270
NET ASSETS		33 628	25 388
EQUITY			
Capital		22 745	22 745
Accumulated Funds		10 883	2 643
TOTAL EQUITY		33 628	25 388

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30 June 2010

	Equity at 1 July \$'000	Comprehensive result \$'000	Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners \$'000	Equity at 30 June \$'000
2009-10				
Accumulated Funds	2 643	6 022		8 665
Changes in Accounting Policy				
2008-09 Dividend Adjustment			2 642	2 642
2008-09 Dividends Paid			(401)	(401)
2008-09 Dividend Payable			(23)	(23)
	2 643	6 022	2 218	10 883
Capital - Transactions with Owners	22 745			22 745
Equity Injections				
Equity Transfers In				
Other Equity Injections				
Equity Withdrawals				
Equity Transfers Out				
	22 745			22 745
Total Equity at End of Financial Year	25 388	6 022	2 218	33 628
2008-09				
Accumulated Funds		5 285		5 285
Changes in Accounting Policy				
Dividends Paid			(2 642)	
		5 285	(2 642)	2 643
Capital - Transactions with Owners			22 745	22 745
			22 745	22 745
Total Equity at End of Financial Year		5 285	20 103	25 388

This Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the year ended 30 June 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Operating Receipts</i>			
Receipts From Sales of Goods And Services		1 421	807
Interest Received		7 633	9 822
Total Operating Receipts		9 054	10 629
<i>Operating Payments</i>			
Payments to Employees		(212)	(118)
Payments for Goods and Services		(2 542)	(1 793)
Income Tax Paid		(344)	
Grants and Subsidies Paid			
Current		(62)	(33)
Interest Paid		(7 761)	(8 453)
Total Operating Payments		(10 921)	(10 397)
Net Cash (Used In) / From Operating Activities	19	(1 867)	232
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Investing Receipts</i>			
Proceeds from Asset Sales			
Repayment of Advances		30 757	32 887
Sales of Investments	4	11 500	11 540
Total Investing Receipts		42 257	44 427
<i>Investing Payments</i>			
Purchases of Assets	13	(562)	
Advances and Investing Payments		(40 033)	(28 754)
Total Investing Payments		(40 595)	(28 754)
Net Cash From Investing Activities		1 662	15 673
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Financing Receipts</i>			
Proceeds of Borrowings			(26 180)
Deposits Received			15
Equity Injections			
Other Equity Injections			31 915
Total Financing Receipts			5 750
<i>Financing Payments</i>			
Repayment of Borrowings		(6 180)	283
Dividends Paid		(401)	
Total Financing Payments		(6 581)	283
Net Cash (Used In) / From Financing Activities		(6 581)	6 033
Net (Decrease) / Increase in Cash Held		(6 786)	21 938
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		21 938	
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	10	15 152	21 938

The Cash Flow Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2010

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1. OBJECTIVES AND FUNDING

NT Home Ownership provides “HOMESTART NT” as a Northern Territory Government initiative that is helping more Territorians to buy their own home. HOMESTART NT is administered by TIO on behalf of the Territory Government, NT Home Ownership, is a distinct legal entity operated as a Government Business Division of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services.

With financial support from Homestart NT, eligible Territorians earning low to middle incomes can buy their own home using less than 30% of their income. There is a range of loan types and help with costs like stamp duty, fees and whitegoods.

2. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act* and related Treasurer’s Directions. The *Financial Management Act* requires the NT Home Ownership “the entity” to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of the entity’s financial statements is to include:

- (i) a Certification of the Financial Statements;
- (ii) a Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- (iii) a Statement of Financial Position;
- (iv) a Statement of Changes in Equity;
- (v) a Cash Flow Statement; and
- (vi) applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which recognises the effect of financial transactions and events when they occur, rather than when cash is paid out or received. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, all intra entity transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Except where stated, the financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention and, except where stated, do not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets.

The form of the entity’s financial statements is also consistent with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards. The effects of all relevant new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are effective for the current annual reporting period have been evaluated. The Standards and Interpretations and their impacts are:

AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (September 2007), AASB 2007-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101, AASB 2007-10 Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101

This Standard has been revised and introduces a number of terminology changes as well as changes to the structure of the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Changes in Equity. Other Comprehensive Income is now disclosed in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Changes in Equity discloses owner changes in equity separately from non-owner changes in equity.

AASB 2009-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Improving Disclosures about Financial Instruments

The Standard amends AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* to require enhanced disclosures about fair value measurements. It establishes a three-level hierarchy for making fair value measurements, requiring those financial instruments measured at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position to be categorised into levels.

AASB 8 Operating Segments, AASB 2007-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 8

AASB 8 replaces AASB 114 *Segment Reporting* and introduces a new 'management approach' to segment reporting. Unlike AASB 114, AASB 8 only applies to entities which have on issue any debt or equity securities (or are in the process of issuing such instruments) on the public market. The standards do not impact the financial statements.

b) New Standards and Interpretations Not Yet Adopted

The entity did not early adopt any new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that are available for early adoption at 30 June 2010. These new standards amendments to standards and interpretations are not likely to have any material impact on the entity in the period of initial adoption.

c) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information for the 2008-09 financial year has been reclassified to provide consistency with current year disclosures.

d) Presentation and Rounding of Amounts

Amounts in the financial statements and notes to the financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, with amounts of \$500 or less being rounded down to zero.

e) Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies are consistent with those of the previous year except for AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*.

f) Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial report requires the making of judgements and estimates that affect the recognised amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements and estimates that have significant effects on the financial statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. Notes that include significant judgements and estimates are:

- Employee Benefits – Note 2(u) and Note 17: Non-current liabilities in respect of employee benefits are measured as the present value of estimated future cash outflows based on the appropriate Government bond rate, estimates of future salary and wage levels and employee periods of service.
- Contingent Liabilities – Note 22: The present value of material quantifiable contingent liabilities are calculated using a discount rate based on the published 10-year Government bond rate.
- Doubtful Debts – Note 2(m), 11: Receivables and 21: Financial Instruments
- Depreciation and Amortisation – Note 2(n), Note 13: Property, Plant and Equipment

g) Goods and Services Tax

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Cash Flow Statement on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows. Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable or payable unless otherwise specified.

h) Income Recognition

Income encompasses both revenue and gains.

Income is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received, exclusive of the amount of goods and services tax (GST). Exchanges of goods or services of the same nature and value without any cash consideration being exchanged are not recognised as income.

Grants and Other Contributions

Grants, donations, gifts and other non-reciprocal contributions are recognised as revenue when the entity obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control is normally obtained upon receipt.

Contributions are recognised at their fair value. Contributions of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would be purchased if not donated.

Rendering of Services

Revenue from rendering services is recognised upon the rendering of services to customers. Revenue is recognised when:

- the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

Interest Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Disposal of Assets - Investments

A gain or loss on disposal of assets is included as a gain or loss on the date control of the asset passes to the buyer, usually when an unconditional contract of sale is signed. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

Community Service Obligation Funding

Community service obligation funding is received from the Northern Territory (NT) Government where the entity is required to carry out activities on a non-commercial basis. Revenue in respect of this funding is recognised in the period in which the entity gains control of the funds or when the goods or services have been delivered by the entity to agreed specifications and have been certified according to agreed performance measures.

Contributions of Assets

Contributions of assets and contributions to assist in the acquisition of assets, being non-reciprocal transfers, are recognised, unless otherwise determined by Government, as gains when the entity obtains control of the asset or contribution. Contributions are recognised at the fair value received or receivable.

i) Interest Expense

Interest expenses include interest and finance lease charges. Interest expenses are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

j) Taxation

The entity is required to pay income tax on its accounting surplus, at the company tax rate of 30 per cent in accordance with the requirements of the Treasurer's Directions and the NT Tax Equivalents Regime.

k) Cash and Deposits

For the purposes of the Statement of Financial Position and the Cash Flow Statement, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash.

l) Financial Instruments***Non-derivative***

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables.

Non-derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value plus, for instruments not at fair value through profit or loss, any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition non-derivative financial instruments are measured as described below.

A financial instrument is recognised if the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are recognised at trade date (less impairment). Financial assets are derecognised if the entity transfers the financial asset to

another party without retaining control or substantially all risks and rewards of the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised if the entity's obligations specified in the contract expire or are discharged or cancelled.

Derivative

The entity does not have any derivative financial instruments.

m) Receivables

Receivables include accounts receivable and other receivables and are recognised at fair value less any allowance for impairment losses.

The allowance for impairment losses represents the amount of receivables the entity estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful. Analysis of the age of receivables that are past due as at the reporting date are disclosed in an aging schedule under credit risk in Note 20 Financial Instruments. Reconciliation of changes in the allowance accounts is also presented.

Accounts receivable are generally settled within 30 days and other receivables within 60 days.

Home Loans

The collectability of debts is assessed at year-end for home loan debtors. The entity will recognise an allowance for doubtful loans when objective evidence exists that all or part of a loan is impaired and unlikely to be collected. Loans are written off during the year to the allowance account where loans are assessed as not viable.

n) Depreciation and Amortisation Expense

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated or amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

As at 30 June 2010 the entity did not hold any depreciable Property Plant or Equipment Assets.

o) Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions

All items of property, plant and equipment with a cost, or other value, equal to or greater than \$5,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$5,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

As at 30 June 2010 NT Home Ownership held Land Assets acquired during the current financial year.

p) Revaluations and Impairment

Revaluation of Assets

Subsequent to initial recognition, assets are revalued with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of these assets does not differ materially from their fair value at reporting date.

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms length transaction.

Non-Current Investment – Minority Interest Holding Revaluations

These are properties held under HOMESTART NT and properties purchased and/or constructed from/by external parties under HOMESTART NT.

Minority Interest Holdings are measured on the fair value basis, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged by knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The entity has adopted the policy of revaluing its Minority Interest Holdings every year with any changes in fair value recognised as a gain or loss in the Operating Statement.

An independent valuation was completed at 30 June 2010 by the Australian Valuation Office, the results of which are reflected in these financial statements.

Impairment of Assets

An asset is said to be impaired when the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

The entity's non-current physical and intangible the assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of impairment exists, the entity determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell.

Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Impairment of Financial Assets

Financial assets are reviewed at each Statement of Financial Position date to determine whether there is objective evidence of impairment. A financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred if there is objective evidence of impairment, resulting from one or more loss events that occurred after initial recognition that indicates that it is probable that the entity will be unable to collect all amounts due. The carrying amount of a financial asset identified as impaired is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount.

q) Assets Held for Sale

Assets held for sale consist of those assets which management has determined are available for immediate sale in their present condition, and their sale is highly probably within the next twelve months.

These assets are measured at the lower of the asset's carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. These assets are not depreciated. Non-current assets held for sale have been recognised on the face of the financial statements as current assets.

r) Leased Assets

Leases under which the entity assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases.

Finance Leases

Finance leases are capitalised. A leased asset and a lease liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments are recognised at the inception of the lease.

Lease payments are allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense. The entity has no finance leases.

Operating Leases

Operating lease payments made at regular intervals throughout the term are expensed when the payments are due, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property. Lease incentives under an operating lease of a building or office space is recognised as an integral part of the consideration for the use of the leased asset. Lease incentives are to be recognised as a deduction of the lease expenses over the term of the lease.

s) Payables

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the entity. Accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

t) Borrowings

Government loans are initially recognised at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. After initial recognition, borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

u) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for employee benefits accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. These benefits include wages and salaries and recreation leave. Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries and recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within twelve months of reporting date are classified as current liabilities and are measured at amounts expected to be paid. Non-current employee benefit liabilities that fall due after twelve months of the reporting date are measured at present value, calculated using the Government long term bond rate.

No provision is made for sick leave, which is non-vesting, as the anticipated pattern of future sick leave to be taken is less than the entitlement accruing in each reporting period.

Employee benefit expenses are recognised on a net basis in respect of the following categories:

- wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits, recreation leave, sick leave and other leave entitlements; and
- other types of employee benefits.

As part of the *Financial Management Framework*, the Central Holding Authority assumes the long service leave liabilities of Government Agencies, including NT Home Ownership and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in the entity's financial statements.

v) Superannuation

Employees' superannuation entitlements are provided through the:

- NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme (NTGPASS);
- Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS); or

- Non-government employee nominated schemes for those employees commencing on or after 10 August 1999.

The entity makes superannuation contributions on behalf of its employees to the Central Holding Authority or non-government employee nominated schemes. Superannuation liabilities related to government superannuation schemes are held by the Central Holding Authority and as such are not recognised in the entity's financial statements.

w) Dividends

The entity provides for a dividend payable at the rate of 50 per cent of net surplus after tax in accordance with the Northern Territory Government's dividend policy. As advised by Treasury, a dividend is payable by NT Home Ownership for 2009-10.

x) Economic Dependence

The entity established by the *Financial Management Act (1995)* is subject to the direction of the Minister for Public and Affordable Housing. The entity is partially funded by Northern Territory Treasury in recognition that it carries out activities on a non-commercial basis. Such partial funding is termed 'community service obligation' and is reflected as such in the Operating Statement. These financial statements are prepared on a "going concern" basis in the expectation that such comprehensive funding will continue.

y) Nature and Purpose of Reserves

NT Home Ownership currently does not hold any reserves.

z) Administration Fees

Administration fees are paid by the entity throughout the year to Territory Insurance Office for services provided in respect of home loans.

aa) Contributions by and Distributions to Government

The entity may receive contributions from Government where the Government is acting as owner of the entity. Conversely, the entity may make distributions to Government. In accordance with the *Financial Management Act* and Treasurer's Directions, certain types of contributions and distributions, including those relating to administrative restructures, have been designated as contributions by, and distributions to, Government. These designated contributions and distributions are treated by the entity as adjustments to equity.

The Statement of Changes in Equity provides additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, Government.

ab) Commitments

Disclosures in relation to capital and other commitments, and are consistent with the requirements contained in AASB 101, and AASB 116.

Commitments are those contracted as at 30 June where the amount of the future commitment can be reliably measured.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME BY BUSINESS LINE

	Note	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
INCOME			
Sales of Goods and Services		30	22
Interest Revenue		7 684	9 822
Gain on Disposal of Investments	4	1 518	1 459
Other Income		1 241	784
Revaluation of Investments Increase / (decrease)		4 054	6 406
TOTAL INCOME		14 527	18 493
EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses		(209)	(145)
<i>Administrative Expenses</i>			
Purchases of Goods and Services	7	(2 365)	(2 290)
Other Administrative Expenses		(9)	
<i>Grants and Subsidies Expenses</i>			
Current		(62)	(34)
Interest Expenses		(7 761)	(8 474)
TOTAL EXPENSES		(10 406)	(10 943)
NET SURPLUS BEFORE INCOME TAX		4 121	7 550
Income Tax Expense	9	(20)	(2 265)
Income Tax Adjustment 2008-09		1 921	
NET SURPLUS NET OF INCOME TAX		6 022	5 285
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
COMPREHENSIVE RESULT		6 022	5 285

This Statement of Comprehensive Income by Business Line is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
4. GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF INVESTMENTS		
Net proceeds from the sale of investments	11 500	11 540
Less: Carrying value of investments disposed	(9 982)	(10 081)
Gain on the disposal of investments	1 518	1 459
5. INTEREST REVENUE		
Interest on Home Loans	7 203	8 429
Interest on Cash Balances	481	1 393
Total Interest Received	7 684	9 822

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
6. SALES AND OTHER REVENUE		
Sales on Goods and Services	30	22
Community Service Obligations	1 239	781
Sundry Income	2	3
Total Sales and Other Revenue Received	1 271	806
7. PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES		
The net surplus has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:		
Employee Expenses:	209	145
Grant and Subsidy Expenses:		
Home Purchase Assistance	62	33
Agent Service Agreements with NTG		
Other Administrative Fees (Department of Business and Employment)	9	
Goods and Services Expenses:		
Consultants	23	29
Administration Fees (Territory Insurance Office)	2 049	2 055
Valuation Fees	116	103
Marketing and Promotion	54	20
Document Production	3	10
Legal Expenses	38	5
Audit Fees	39	25
Official Duty Fares	5	4
Travelling Allowance	4	1
Write Offs / Provision Doubtful Loans	7	11
Other Operational Expenditure	27	26
	2 365	2 289
8. GAIN ON REVALUATION OF INVESTMENTS		
Revaluation of Investments	50 076	48 629
Less: Book Values Prior to Revaluation	(46 022)	(42 223)
Gain on the revaluation of non-current Investments	4 054	6 406
9. INCOME TAX EXPENSE AND TAX EQUIVALENT REGIME		
Income Tax Payable:		
Surplus Before Income Tax	4 121	7 550
Less Revaluation of Investments	(4 054)	
Taxable Income	67	7 550
Income Tax Expense @ 30%	20	2 265
Adjustment relating to prior year's tax*	(1 921)	-

*In 2008-09 Income Tax Expense was based on total income including revaluations resulting in total tax payable of \$2,265 being recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. However, Revaluation of investments totalling \$6,406 should have been excluded from tax liability calculations. An adjustment was therefore required to the 2009-10 opening balance of the Provision for income Tax amount of \$1,921. From 2009-10, revaluation of Investments is excluded in tax calculations.

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
10. CASH AND DEPOSITS		
Cash on Hand	416	710
Cash at Bank	14 736	21 228
Total Cash and Deposits	15 152	21 938
11. RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Loans to Home Purchasers	1 925	2 335
(Net Allowance for Impairment Losses)		
Interest Receivables	52	
GST Receivables	28	15
	80	15
Non-Current		
Loans to Home Purchasers	126 222	121 256
Less Impairment	(177)	(170)
	126 045	121 087
Total Receivables	128 050	123 437
12. OTHER ASSETS		
Other Assets / Prepayments		2 654
Total Other Assets		2 654

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
13. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Land		
At Fair Value	562	
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	562	

Property, Plant and Equipment Valuations

The valuations as at 30 June 2010 are at fair value at the time of acquisition.

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

The entity's property, plant and equipment assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2010. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

2010 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2009-10 is set out below:

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2009			
Additions	562		562
Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2010	562		562

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Total \$'000
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2009 Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliations

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2008-09 is set out below:

Carrying Amount as at 1 July 2008

Additions

Carrying Amount as at 30 June 2009

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
14. SHARED EQUITY INVESTMENTS		
Minority Interest Holding at Independent Valuation	49 979	48 583
Minority Interest Holding Construction Works at Progress at Cost	97	46
Total Shared Equity Investments	50 076	48 629
Shared Equity Investments		
Opening Balance	48 629	47 220
Additions	7 374	5,086
Disposals	(9 981)	(10 081)
Net Revaluation Increments Less Decrements	4 054	6 404
Total Shared Equity Investments	50 076	48 629
15. PAYABLES		
Accounts Payable	298	460
Accrued Expenses	196	43
Interest Payables	20	21
Total Payables	514	524
16. BORROWINGS AND ADVANCES		
Current		
Loans and Advances	6 475	6 180
Non-Current		
Loans and Advances	153 143	159 619
Total Borrowings and Advances	159 618	165 799
17. PROVISIONS		
Current		
<i>Employee Benefits</i>		
Recreation Leave	15	13
Leave Loading	2	1
	17	14
<i>Other Current Provisions</i>		
Dividend Provision	23	2 642
Income Tax Provision	20	2 265
*Payroll Tax Provision		1
Provision for Employer Superannuation	2	1
Fringe Benefits Tax Provision	1	6
	46	4 915
*Due to payroll expenditure levels – entity has been de-registered for Payroll Tax during 2009-2010		
Non-Current		
<i>Employee Benefits</i>		
Recreation Leave	2	2
Total Provisions	65	4 931
The entity employed 2 full time employees as at 30 June 2010		

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
18. OTHER LIABILITIES		
Current		
Other Liabilities Unclaimed Loan Receipts	15	15
Total Unclaimed Loan Receipts	15	15

19. NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Reconciliation of Cash

The total of the entity's Cash and Deposits of \$15,152 recorded in the Statement of Financial Position is consistent with that recorded as 'cash' in the Cash Flow Statement.

Reconciliation of Net Surplus/(Deficit) to Net Cash From Operating Activities

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	6 022	5 284
<i>Non-Cash Items:</i>		
Asset Write-Offs/Write-Downs		11
(Gain) on Disposal of Assets	(1 518)	(1 459)
(Gain) on Revaluation of Assets	(4 054)	(6 404)
<i>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</i>		
(Increase) in Receivables	(55)	(15)
(Decrease) in Payables	(11)	524
Increase in Provision for Employee Benefits		18
(Decrease) in Other Provisions	(2 251)	2 273
Net Cash From Operating Activities	(1 867)	232

Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Finance Lease Transactions

During the financial year the entity did not acquire plant and equipment or computer equipment and software by means of a finance lease.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial instruments held by NT Home Ownership include cash and deposits, receivables, payables. NT Home Ownership has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below. The fair values of the financial assets and liabilities apart from borrowings, approximate the carrying values.

(a) *Categorisation of Financial Instruments*

The carrying amounts of the NT Home Ownership financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below.

	2010	2009
	\$000	\$000
Financial Assets		
Cash and deposits	15 152	21 938
Receivable Loans	128 147	123 592
Receivables Other	80	15
Financial Liabilities		
Payables	514	524
Borrowings	159 619	165 798
Other	61	4 930
Employee Benefits	19	16

(b) *Credit Risk*

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss and/or increased costs due to the failure of a counterparty to meet its financial obligations. The entity's exposure to credit risk arises from funds advanced to loan counterparties and the possibility that a counterparty will not adhere to the terms of the contract with the entity when settlement becomes due.

The entity has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default) with government agencies. In respect of any dealings with organisations external to Government, the entity's has adopted a policy of only dealing with credit worthy organisations and obtaining sufficient collateral or other security where appropriate, as a means of mitigating the risk of financial loss from defaults.

The entity's exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each non-government debtor. In monitoring debtor credit risk, debtors are grouped according to their aging profile and existence of previous financial difficulties. Loans are provided to home purchasers subject to the retention of title clauses, so that in the event of non-payment, the entity may have a secured claim.

The entity has established an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of incurred losses in respect of loan receivables. The main components of this allowance are a specific loss component that relates to individual exposures, and/or collective loss component established for groups of similar assets.

The collective loss allowance is determined based on percentages derived from historical data of payment statistics.

The entity believes that no impairment allowance is necessary in respect of receivables.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the entity’s maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

Receivables

Receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. A reconciliation and aging analysis of receivables is presented below.

	Aging of Receivables \$000	Aging of Impaired Receivables \$000	Net Receivables \$000
2009-10			
Not Overdue	80	0	80
Total	80	0	80
2008-09			
Not Overdue	15	0	15
Total	15	0	15

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The entity’s approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.

The following tables detail the entity’s remaining contractual maturity for its financial assets and liabilities. It should be noted that these values are undiscounted, and consequently totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

2010 Maturity analysis for financial assets and liabilities

	Variable Interest	Fixed Interest Rate			Non Interest Bearing	Total	Weighted Average
		Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years			
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
Assets							
Cash and deposits	15 152					15 152	3.42
Receivables					80	80	N/A
Investments and loans	128 147					128 147	6.56
Total Financial Assets:	143 299				80	143 379	
Liabilities							
Deposits Held					15	15	N/A
Payables					514	514	N/A
Borrowings		6 476		153 143		159 619	4.76
Other					46	46	N/A
Employee Benefits					19	19	N/A
Total Financial Liabilities:		6 476		153 143	594	160 213	

2009 Maturity analysis for financial assets and liabilities

	Variable Interest	Fixed Interest Rate			Non Interest Bearing	Total	Weighted Average
		Less than a Year	1 to 5 Years	More than 5 Years			
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000			
Assets							
Cash and deposits	21 938					21 938	4.08
Receivables					15	15	N/A
Investments and loans	123 592					123 592	4.86
Total Financial Assets:	145 530				15	145 545	
Liabilities							
Deposits Held					15	15	N/A
Payables					524	524	N/A
Borrowings		6 180		159 618		165 798	4.76
Other					4 915	4 915	N/A
Employee Benefits					17	17	N/A
Total Financial Liabilities:		6 180		159 618	5 471	171 269	

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(d) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. It comprises interest rate risk, price risk and currency risk. The market risk has been assessed to be minimal.

1) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk of financial loss and or increased costs due to adverse movements in the values of financial assets and liabilities as a result of changes in interest rates. The entity’s exposure to interest rate risk and the average interest rate for classes of financial assets and financial liabilities is set above. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balance at the end of the year.

The entity’s operating account earns quarterly interest at a variable interest rate (Northern Territory) Treasury Corporation’s weighted average cash return less 50 basis points.)

Market Sensitivity Analysis

Assuming the financial assets and liabilities at 30 June 2010 were to remain until maturity or settlement without any action by the entity to alter the resulting interest rate risk exposure, an immediate and sustained increase of 1 per cent in market interest rates across all maturities would have the following impact on the entity’s profit or loss and equity

	100 basis points increase \$'000	Profit or Loss and Equity 100 basis points decrease \$'000
30 June 2010		
Financial assets – cash at bank	152	(152)
Financial assets – receivable loans	1 281	(1 281)
Financial liabilities – borrowings	(1 596)	1 596
Net Sensitivity:	(163)	163
30 June 2009		
Financial assets – cash at bank	219	(219)
Financial assets – receivable loans	1 236	(1 236)
Financial liabilities – borrowings	(1 658)	1 658
Net Sensitivity:	(203)	203

2) Price Risk

NT Home Ownership is not exposed to price risk as NT Home Ownership does not hold units in unit trusts.

3) Currency Risk

NT Home Ownership is not exposed to currency risk as NT Home Ownership does not hold borrowings denominated in foreign currencies or transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

(e) Net Fair Value

The fair value of financial instruments is estimated using various methods. These methods are classified into the following levels:

Level 1 – fair value is calculated using quoted prices in active markets. Instruments whose carrying amount is deemed to be equal to its fair value qualify for this level of classification.

Level 2 – to be used for those instruments that cannot be classified as either Level 1 or Level 3.

Level 3 – fair value is estimated using inputs other than quoted market data, for example, net present value.

The carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities recorded in the financial statements represents their respective net fair values with the exception of borrowings from Northern Territory Treasury Corporation.

2010	Total Carrying Amount \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 1 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 2 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 3 \$'000	Net Fair Value Total \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and Deposits	15 152	15 152			15 152
Receivables	80	80			80
Advances and Investments	128 147	128 147			128 147
Total Financial Assets:	143 379	143 379			143 379
Financial Liabilities					
Deposits Held	15	15			15
Payables	514	514			514
Borrowings and Advances	159 619		137 217		137 217
Other	46	46			46
Employee Benefits	19	19			19
Total Financial Liabilities:	160 213	594	137 217		137 811

20. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

2009	Total Carrying Amount \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 1 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 2 \$'000	Net Fair Value Level 3 \$'000	Net Fair Value Total \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash and Deposits	21 938	21 938			21 938
Receivables	15	15			15
Advances and Investments	123 592	123 592			123 592
Total Financial Assets:	145 545	145 545			145 545
Financial Liabilities					
Deposits Held	15	15			15
Payables	524	524			524
Borrowings and Advances	165 798		137 980		137 980
Other	4 915	4 915			4 915
Employee Benefits	17	17			17
Total Financial Liabilities:	171 269	5 471	137 980		143 451
				2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000

21. COMMITMENTS

(i) Capital Expenditure Commitments

Capital expenditure commitments primarily relate to the provision of HomeStart loans. Capital expenditure commitments contracted for at balance date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

Within one year:

Loan commitments for Dwellings Under Construction	1 099	120
Loan commitments where approval for the facility has been given but drawdowns on the facilities have not commenced	1 671	5 771
Total Commitments	2 770	5 891

22. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

a) Contingent liabilities

The entity has no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2010

b) Contingent assets

The entity has no contingent assets as at 30 June 2010

23. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No events have arisen between the end of financial year and the date of this report that require adjustment to, or disclosure in these financial statements

24. WRITE-OFFS, POSTPONEMENTS AND WAIVERS

	2010 \$'000	No. of Trans.	2009 \$'000	No. of Trans.
Write-offs, Postponements and Waivers Under the <i>Financial Management Act</i>			11	1
Represented by:				
<u>Amounts written off, waived and postponed by Delegates</u>				
Total written off, waived and postponed by Delegates				
<u>Amounts written off, postponed and waived by the Treasurer</u>			11	1
Irrecoverable amounts payable to the Territory the entity's written off (Home Loans)				
Total written off, postponed and waived by the Treasurer			11	1

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
25. COMMUNITY SERVICE OBLIGATIONS		
Interest Subsidy – Low Interest Rates		
The entity offers low interest rate loans for low to moderate income Territorians through HOMESTART NT. The aim of HOMESTART NT is to increase the level of home ownership in the Territory and reduce the demand on public housing.		
Community Service Obligation Funding Received	1 131	648
Net cost of delivering service	1 131	648
CSO Surplus/(Deficit)	0	0
Assist Interest Subsidy Scheme		
The Interest Assist Subsidy Scheme assists Territorians purchasing homes with private finance through assistance payments made directly to private lenders. The Interest Assist Subsidy Scheme is an incentive for home ownership for low to moderate income earners.		
Community Service Obligation Funding Received		25
Net cost of delivering service	62	33
CSO Surplus/(Deficit)	(62)	(8)
Stamp Duty Differential		
The stamp duty differential is a grant paid to public housing tenants purchasing their public housing properties through private finance.		
Community Service Obligation Funding Received	60	60
Net cost of delivering service		
CSO Surplus/(Deficit)	60	60
Fringe Benefits Tax		
The entity pays Fringe Benefits Tax on all low interest loans previously offered to Northern Territory Government public sector employees as an incentive to attract long term residency in the Northern Territory. Although the scheme is no longer available, the tax liability remains for the life of existing loans. Fringe Benefits Tax is due on the difference between market loan interest rates and the interest rate of existing loans.		
Community Service Obligation Funding Received	48	48
Net cost of delivering service	1	6
CSO Surplus/(Deficit)	47	42

APPENDICES
Part Seven



APPENDIX ONE – STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND BODIES ADMINISTERED

ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee is a statutory body established pursuant to section 69 of the *Animal Welfare Act*.

The committee is responsible for:

- advising the Minister on animal welfare legislation and other matters relevant to animal welfare
- investigating and reporting on matters relevant to animal welfare referred to it by the Minister
- participating in the development of codes of practice and the review of adopted codes of practice
- providing advice to bodies, organisations or the general community on programs for the improvement of community awareness about animal welfare.

The committee met three times during the 2009-10 financial year.

As at 30 June 2010, members of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee were:

Dr Stephen Cutter	Chairperson
Ms Gillian Priddy	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NT) Inc (RSPCA)
Dr Lara Bettink	Australian Veterinary Association Ltd
Ms Meryl Gowing	Director, Animal Welfare, DHLGRS
*	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
Ms Susanne Fitzpatrick	Senior Veterinary Officer, Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines
Mr Luke Bowen	Executive Director, Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association Incorporated
Professor Robert Wasson	Professor of Higher Education and Research, Charles Darwin University
Mr Scott Anderson	Member of the Pet Industry Association of Australia
Ms Julia Hardaker	Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities
Ms Robyn Delaney	Biodiversity Conservation Division, Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport

*As at 30 June 2010, LGANT member was in the process of being appointed.

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY AUTHORITY

The Swimming Pool Safety Authority was established pursuant to Section 38 of the *Swimming Pool Safety Act*. The purpose of the Act is to establish safety standards for certain swimming pools, and to require the enclosure of those swimming pools by barriers that restrict access by children to the swimming pool and for related purposes.

Ms Fran Kilgariff, Senior Executive Director, Local Government Regional and Community Services of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Development, is the appointed Swimming Pool Safety Authority.

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY REVIEW COMMITTEE

As at 30 June 2010, Ms Fran Kilgariff, Senior Executive Director, Local Government, Regional and Community Services, of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services, was the appointed Swimming Pool Safety Authority.

The Swimming Pool Safety Review Committee is an appointed committee established pursuant to section 48 of the *Swimming Pool Safety Act* to review decisions made by the Swimming Pool Safety Authority under the Act. As at 30 June 2010, Ms Lynn Finlay was the Registrar of the Swimming Pool Safety Review Committee.

The committee met once during 2009-10.

As at 30 June 2010, members of the Swimming Pool Review Committee were:

Mr Robert Beadman	Chairperson, retired public servant
Ms Annette (Floss) Roberts	Royal Life Saving Society Australia (Northern Territory Branch)
Mr Ryan O'Hanlon	Real Estate Institute of the NT Inc

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATION) ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Local Government (Administration and Legislation) Advisory Committee is established under the *Local Government Act* Regulations to provide advice to the Minister for Local Government and the agency on legislative, administrative and operational questions relevant to local government in the Northern Territory.

The committee met once during 2009-10.

As at 30 June 2010, members of the Local Government (Administration and Legislation) Advisory Committee were:

Mr Tony Tapsell	Chairperson – Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
Ms Sandra Cannon	Chief Executive Officer, Victoria Daly Shire Council
Mr Frank Crawley	General Manager Corporate Services, Darwin City Council
Ms Lee Williams	Director Legislation, DHLGRS
Mr Royden Robertson	Chief Executive Officer, Central Desert Shire
Mr Derrick Tranter	Governance Manager, Litchfield Council
Mr Ray Wooldridge	Council Member, Victoria Daly Shire Council
Mr John Tobin	Manager, Local Government Business Support DHLGRS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Local Government Accounting Advisory Committee has been established to provide advice to the Minister on:

- contemporary financial management and accounting practices relevant and appropriate to local government
- appropriate legislative changes necessary to improve standards of local government financial management and accounting.

The committee held its inaugural meeting in August 2009 and met five times in 2009-10

As at 30 June 2010, members of the LGAAC were:

Ms Julie Crisp	Chairperson - Account Director, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Darwin
Mr Frank Crawley	General Manager Corporate Services, Darwin City Council
Mr David Gomez	Principal, Merit Partners, Darwin
Mr Mark Griffioen	Chief Executive Officer, West Arnhem Shire Council
Ms Julie Bryce	Chief Financial Officer, Nhulunbuy Corporation Limited
Mr Greg Arnott	Director Corporate and Community Services, Victoria Daly Shire Council
Mr David Alexander	Director Business Strategy and Performance, DHLGRS
Mr Neil Murray	Manager Grants and Business Services, DHLGRS
Ms Chris Kendrick	Director Finance, Alice Springs Town Council, Alice Springs

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Local Government Disciplinary Committee is established pursuant to section 80 of the *Local Government Act*. Section 80 (1) of the Act provides that the Minister may establish one or more disciplinary committees. Section 80 (2) further provides that the disciplinary committee consists of:

- a legal practitioner nominated by the Attorney-General
- a nominee of the Minister
- a nominee of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT).

The committee met once during 2009-10.

As at 30 June 2010, members of the Local Government Disciplinary Committee were:

Mr Richard Bruxner	Legal practitioner nominated by the Attorney-General
Mr Bill Stuchbery	Nominee of Minister for Local Government
Mr Robert McLeod	Mayor City of Palmerston

NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION

The Northern Territory Grants Commission is an appointed Board of Commissioners under the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*, which has responsibility to make recommendations to the Minister concerning the distribution of financial assistance to local governing bodies from the money provided to the Territory under the Commonwealth *Local Government Financial Assistance Act*.

The Commission produces its own annual report as required by the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*.

The Commission conducted two public hearings in Katherine and Alice Springs and community visits to three shire councils and their related service delivery centres during 2009-10.

As at 30 June 2010, members of the Northern Territory Grants Commission were:

Mr Robert Beadman	(Chairperson) appointed by the Minister, retired public servant
Ms Trish Angus	Delegate for the Chief Executive of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services
Mr Damien Ryan	Municipal Council representative
Mr Steve Hennessy	Shire Council representative
Ms Natasha Griggs	Municipal Council alternative
Ms Margaret Vigants	Shire Council alternative

TERRITORY HOUSING APPEALS BOARD

The Territory Housing Appeals Mechanism was originally implemented in 2005 as a three-tiered appeals process enabling client access to an open and transparent process to review decisions made by the department. The appeals mechanism was amended on 31 May 2010, when the Minister approved a two-tiered appeals process.

The first tier provides an independent review of decisions in each regional housing office and the second tier provides for a review by the Territory Housing Appeals Board, consisting of members entirely independent of the department.

This new two-tiered mechanism is designed to ensure a continued, strong focus on good decision making, to improve the level of accountability, fairness and transparency when a client is unhappy with a decision made by the department and brings the Territory into line with other jurisdictions nationally.

At the end of the reporting period there were 12 Territory Housing Appeals Board members appointed by the Minister. The Board Members are located in Darwin and Alice Springs and have a diverse range of expertise in social housing, community services, health, law, psychology and social welfare.

The Territory Housing Appeals Board convened 31 times in 2009-10.

As of 30 June 2010, the Territory Housing Appeals Board Members were:

Ms Vicki O'Halloran	Chairperson of Board CEO of Somerville Committee Services
Ms Janet Taylor	Deputy Chair
Ms Joanne Pulsford	Deputy Chair
Mr Graham Kemp	Deputy Chair
Ms Shirley Baker	Member
Ms Vanessa Lethlean	Community Representative Member
Mr Robert Small	Public Housing Tenant Representative
Mr Ian Ross	Public Housing Tenant Representative
Ms Lea Aitken	Member
Mr Brad Mclver	Member
Ms Judith Dikstein	Member
Ms Marianne Conaty	Member

APPENDIX TWO – GRANT PROGRAMS

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services provides grant funding assistance to eligible organisations and community groups through a number of funding programs.

The agency administers the following housing grants, local government grants and regional development grants programs.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

Property and Tenancy Management Grant Program

Property and Tenancy Management Program funding is offered to Shire Councils and Outstation Resource Centres to deliver tenancy management and repairs and maintenance services to communities identified under the Northern Territory National Emergency Response (NTNER).

The overall aim of the programs is to standardise property and tenancy management services through a public housing-like management model.

Housing Management and Maintenance Program

Housing Management and Maintenance Program funding is offered to assist Shire Councils, housing organisations and Outstation Resource Centres with the provision of housing management administration and repairs and maintenance services for community housing dwellings in town camps and minor outstation communities not identified under the NTNER.

Community Housing Grant Program

The Community Housing Program is an application-based program, which offers financial assistance to eligible community-based organisations providing longer-term accommodation for people who have special housing needs.

Capital funding is available for the purchase, upgrade or renovation of housing to accommodate people with special needs. Funding is also available for project proposals and infrastructure development relating to accommodation for special needs groups.

Community housing groups may include people with disabilities, the elderly, youth, Indigenous people and people exiting supported accommodation assistance programs.

Crisis Accommodation Grant Program

The Crisis Accommodation Program is an application-based program through which assistance is offered to eligible community organisations providing accommodation and support services for people who are in crisis and/or homeless.

Capital funding is available for the purchase, upgrade or renovation of accommodation for this client group.

Municipal and Essential Services Grant Program

Municipal and Essential Service funding is offered to shires and resource centres that deliver municipal and essential services to eligible Indigenous Living Areas, as recognised by the Northern Territory and Australian governments.

Eligible items under this program include:

- Operational funding for maintenance of power, water and sewerage services / infrastructure, rubbish collection, internal road maintenance, dog health programs, dust control and landscaping activities
- Costs associated with the management and administration of municipal and essential services delivery.

Capital Infrastructure Grant Program

Funding is available under this submission-based program to assist eligible organisations with the purchase of capital items and to undertake capital works to improve service delivery to homelands/outstations.

Eligible activities funded under this program include:

- Costs associated with major capital repairs and for items such as aerodromes, barge landings, heavy plant equipment and internal roads within homelands/outstations, where they are not the responsibility of another government provider
- Urgent major repairs and replacement for items required to assist in preventing disruptions to essential services provision to homelands/outstations.

CDEP Converted Jobs Grant Program

The Converted Jobs Program funding is offered to Shire Councils and resource centres that deliver municipal and essential services to Indigenous Living Areas.

Funding assists organisations to convert previous CDEP jobs into real and sustainable positions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Reserves and Other Organisations

This program provides funding to assist with the ongoing activities of reserves and other organisations.

Closing the Gap – Local Representative Boards/Infrastructure Maintenance Capital Grants

Closing the Gap grants support local government representative boards and provide for infrastructure development. Funding under this program is based on applications from Shire Councils that have majority Indigenous populations.

Matching Funds – Indigenous Employment Program

The Matching Funds scheme provides additional funding to Shire Councils to support more Indigenous employment opportunities, provided the council is committed to matching the value of funding from the program. For every dollar a council spends on Indigenous wages, on costs and training by the council from its NT Operational, Sport and Recreation and Library Grants, it will receive a dollar from the Matching Funds Scheme.

Needs Based Special Purpose Grants

The Needs Based Special Purpose Grants are available to Shire Councils as per needs based requirements. Needs Based Special Purpose funding is at the Minister's discretion for specific purposes related to the needs of individual local government bodies.

The focus of needs based funding has been in the areas of:

- training
- key staff housing
- road plant/equipment
- social infrastructure/recreation facilities
- management consultancies.

Northern Territory Operational Subsidy

The Northern Territory Operational Subsidy provides funding to Shire Councils to assist with the provision of local government services. Funding under this program is the main support offered to the new Local Government Shires, and is not available to Municipal Councils.

Australian Government Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs)

Each year, the Commonwealth makes financial assistance available to the Northern Territory Government for allocation to local governing bodies under the provisions of its *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (FAA). Funding is distributed through the following programs in accordance with the recommendations of the Northern Territory Grants Commission:

- general purpose
- road funding.

To be eligible for a financial assistance grant, an organisation must be either a council gazetted under the *Local Government Act* or a declared local governing body pursuant to section 4(2) of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* and section 19 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Regional Economic Development Fund

The purpose of the Regional Economic Development Fund is to assist with the development of business and industry capability in all regions of the Northern Territory. The Fund stimulates and supports regional economic development through locally based initiatives.

Indigenous Business Development Program

The Indigenous Business Development Program:

- assists Indigenous people to enter or expand commercial business arrangements that will achieve employment and/or wealth creation opportunities and will help close the economic gap between non Indigenous and Indigenous Territorians
- provides for a flexible funding program that meets Indigenous business needs and is based on sound commercial practice.

Tennant Creek Foundation

The objectives of the Tennant Creek Foundation are to:

- manage the business operations of the Battery Hill Mining Centre and the Nyinkka Nyunyu Art & Culture Centre
- encourage learning and understanding in relation to the Barkly region and its history, culture and language
- provide for economic development in and around Tennant Creek
- provide employment opportunities for Indigenous people
- secure funding necessary for the activities of the Foundation.



Caring for our animals

APPENDIX THREE – ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
AIS	Aboriginal Interpreter Services
AOTA	Accountable Officer's Trust Account
ARDS	Aboriginal Resource and Development Services
ASB	Anti Social Behaviour
ASTP	Alice Springs Transformation Plan
ATO	Australian Tax Office
BIITE	Batchelor Institute for Indigenous Tertiary Education
CAT	Condition Assessment Tool
CDEP	Community Development Employment Program
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CIO	Chief Information Officer
CSO	Community Service Obligation
CSS	Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme
CPA	Certified Practising Accountant
DHLGRS	Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services
DLGH	Department of Local Government and Housing
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
FREEPS	Free Recreation and Entertainment for Everyone in the Parks
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GBD	Government Business Division
GEH	Government Employee Housing
GST	Goods and Services Tax
HRG	Housing Reference Group
IAAC	Indigenous Affairs Advisory Council
IBA	Indigenous Business Australia
ITSNT	Interpreting and Translating Services NT
LGANT	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
LIP	Local Implementation Plan
NAATI	National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters
NPA	National Partnership Agreement

NRAS	National Rental Affordability Scheme
NT	Northern Territory
NTGPASS	Northern Territory Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme
NTPS	Northern Territory Public Sector
OATSIH	Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
OIP	Office of Indigenous Policy
PPP	Personal Performance Program
PSMP	Public Sector Management Program
R&M	Repairs and Maintenance
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SDCU	Service Delivery Coordination Unit
SIHIP	Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program
THAM	Territory Housing Appeals Mechanism
TIO	Territory Insurance Office
TMS	Tenancy Management System
TSP	Tenancy Sustainability Program

APPENDIX FOUR – TABLES AND FIGURES

Tables

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