

Department of LANDS, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

# Annual Report

## 2024-25



# Acknowledgements

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Planning and Environment  
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The NT Government respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Nations people of this country. We acknowledge the continuing connection to lands, waters and communities, and the evolving cultures of all our First Nations peoples. We pay our deepest respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to their leaders past, present and emerging.

## Purpose

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment 2024-25 Annual Report details the department's performance and achievements during the 2024-25 financial year.

It complies with reporting requirements under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993*, the *Financial Management Act 1995*, and the *Information Act 2002*.

The report informs readers about the department's core functions, fiscal management, performance, and key activities, highlighting notable accomplishments aligned with budget outputs.

## Enquiries

Enquiries should be made to:

Department of Lands, Planning and Environment  
P: GPO Box 1680, Darwin NT 0801  
T: 08 8999 4840  
E: [Communications.DLPE@nt.gov.au](mailto:Communications.DLPE@nt.gov.au)  
W: [dlpe.nt.gov.au](http://dlpe.nt.gov.au)

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# Letter to the Minister

The Hon. Joshua Burgoyne MLA  
Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment  
Minister for Water Resources  
Parliament House  
State Square Darwin NT 0800

Dear Minister,

I am pleased to present you with the 2024–25 Annual Report of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of section 28 of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993* and section 12 of the *Financial Management Act 1995*.

Pursuant to my responsibilities as the Accountable Officer under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993*, the *Financial Management Act 1995* and the *Information Act 2002*, I advise that to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- proper records of all transactions affecting the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment are kept, and all employees under my control observe the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 1995*, its Regulations and applicable Treasurer's Directions
- procedures in the department afford proper internal control, and these procedures are recorded in the Accounting and Property Manual, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1995*
- there is no indication of fraud, malpractice, major breach of legislation or delegation, major error in, or omission from, the accounts and records
- in accordance with section 15 of the *Financial Management Act 1995*, the internal audit capacity was adequate, and the results of all internal audit matters were reported to me
- the financial statements included in this annual report have been prepared from proper accounts and records and are in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions
- all Employment Instructions issued by the Commissioner for Public Employment have been satisfied, and
- in respect to my responsibilities under section 131 of the *Information Act 2002*, processes have been implemented to achieve compliance with the archives and records management provisions prescribed in Part 9 of the *Information Act 2002*.

Yours sincerely,



Jo Townsend  
Chief Executive Officer  
30 September 2025

# Report structure

The report is comprised of 6 sections:



## Our department

Overview of the department's structure, strategic framework, and operational context.



## Corporate governance

Overview of the department's corporate governance, framework, internal controls, information management and audit program.



## Our achievements

Overview of the department's performance against the Strategic Plan 2024–28, output performance in 2024–25, and results against Budget Paper No. 3 measures.



## Our people

Overview of the department's people, human resource management, compliance with legislative requirements and achievements.



## Our financial overview

The department's financial statements and related disclosures.



## Appendices

Additional information that is adjunct to the main report.





# OUR Department

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# Our department

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE) was established by the NT Government on 10 September 2024. The department was formed to consolidate and streamline key government functions related to land use, planning, heritage, and the environment.

Key functions integrated into DLPE:

Lands and Planning functions  
from

Department of Infrastructure,  
Planning and Logistics

---

Heritage functions  
from

Department of Territory Families,  
Housing and Communities

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Natural Resources and Environment  
functions  
from

Department of Environment, Parks  
and Water Security

excluding:

*Pastoral and Rangeland Monitoring* →  
now part of the Department of  
Agriculture and Fisheries

*Parks and Wildlife Division* →  
now part of the Department of  
Tourism and Hospitality

*Bushfires NT* → now part of the  
NT Fire and Emergency Services

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## Our responsibilities

The department plays a pivotal role in shaping the Northern Territory's future through a comprehensive, sustainable approach to land management. Its key responsibilities include:



### Integrated long-term planning

Ensuring land use aligns with infrastructure requirements to support community needs and economic growth, with a strong focus on sustainable development for future generations.



### Land release and development

Managing the release of Crown land for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes, including securing funding to prepare infrastructure that enables development while complying with environmental standards.



### Environmental stewardship

Protecting the Territory's unique ecosystems, wildlife, and natural resources to ensure that development proceeds without compromising environmental values.



### Legislation and regulation

Administering and enforcing legislation related to land use, environmental and heritage conservation, building and natural resource management, ensuring safe and sustainable development.



### Policy development and advice

Acting as the principal advisor to government on land use and environmental matters, providing guidance to balance community needs with responsible resource use.



### Support for economic growth

Facilitating sustainable economic development through forward planning, managing Crown land releases, regulating development activities, and promoting sustainable resource use.

In summary, the department's integrated planning, regulatory, and policy framework supports Territory community needs alongside long-term economic and environmental sustainability.

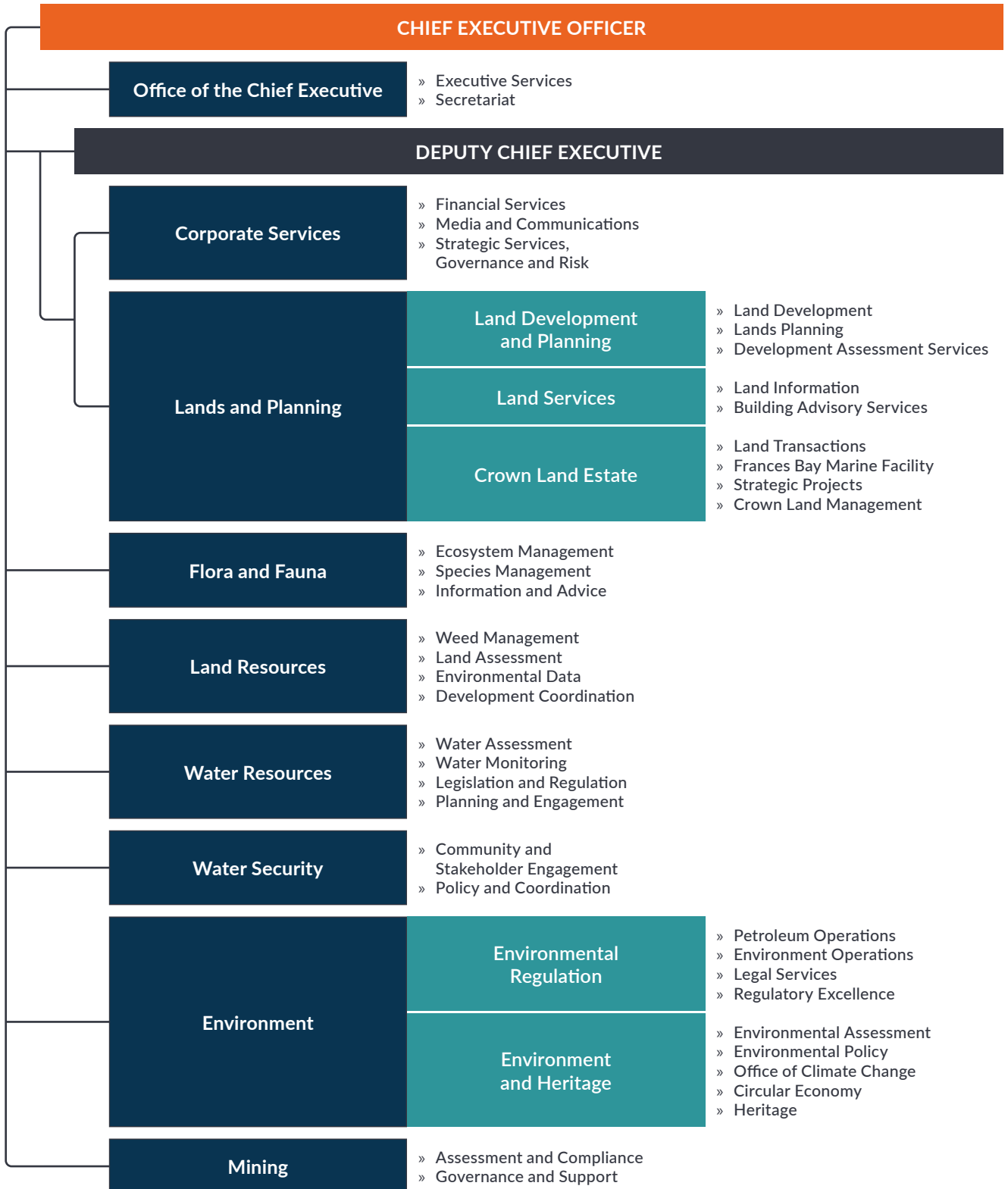
The department operates under one Minister and one Chief Executive Officer (CEO), with offices in multiple locations in the Northern Territory.

## Statutory responsibilities and legislation administered

The department is responsible for administering 49 pieces of legislation, including 34 Acts and 15 subordinate instruments. This legislative framework provides overarching direction for many of the department's functions and forms the foundation for several output groups. A regular review process ensures the legislation remains current, aligns with community expectations, and incorporates best practices within its areas of governance.

- *Building Act 1993* (except provisions relating to the regulation and licensing of occupations)
- *Crown Lands Act 1992* (except section 79)
- *Crown Lands Freehold (Conversion from Crown Leasehold) Act 1980*
- *Environmental Offences and Penalties Act 1996* and *Environmental Offences and Penalties Regulations 2011*
- *Environment Protection Act 2019* and *Environment Protection Regulations 2020*
- *Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Act 2011* and *Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Regulations 2011*
- *Heritage Act 2011* and *Heritage Regulations 2012*
- *Ichthys LNG Project Act 2008*
- *Lake Eyre Basin Intergovernmental Agreement Act 2009*
- *Lands Acquisition Act 1978* and *Lands Acquisitions Regulations 1979*
- *Lands Acquisition (Pastoral Leases) Act 1982*
- *Licensed Surveyors Act 1983* (except provisions relating to the regulation and licensing of occupations)
- *Litter Act 1972*
- *Marine Pollution Act 1999* and *Marine Pollution Regulations 2003*
- *Miscellaneous Acts Amendment (Aboriginal Community Living Areas) Act 1989*
- *National Environment Protection Council (Northern Territory) Act 1994*
- *National Trust (Northern Territory) Act 1976*
- *Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012*
- *Northern Territory Land Corporation Act 1989*
- *Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Act 2004* and *Nuclear Waste Transport, Storage and Disposal (Prohibition) Regulations 2019*
- *Pastoral Land Act 1992* (provisions about Aboriginal community living areas)
- *Petroleum Act 1984* Part V, Division 2, provisions relating to environmental regulation of exploration for and production of petroleum and all matters under parallel powers in section 117Q of the Act *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016* *Petroleum Regulations 2020* schedule 1B
- *Place Names Act 1967*
- *Planning Act 1999* and *Planning Regulations 2000*
- *Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Act 1983* (except provisions relating to the regulation and licensing of occupations)
- *Rules of the National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory) 2004*
- *Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation Act 1969*
- *Special Purposes Leases Act 1953* and *Special Purposes Leases Regulations 1955*
- *Swimming Pool Safety Act 2004* and *Swimming Pool Safety Regulations 2004*
- *Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976* (Part 4, Divisions 1 to 5)
- *Valuation of Land Act 1963*
- *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*, *Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations 1998* and *Environment Protection (National Pollutant Inventory) Objective 2004*
- *Water Act 1992* and *Water Regulations 1992*
- *Water Efficiency Labelling Standards (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2014*
- *Weeds Management Act 2001* and *Weed Management Regulations 2006*

# Our structure





## Our strategic framework

The department's Strategic Plan 2024–28 outlines the key themes and goals that will guide its actions and initiatives over the next 4 years. The plan focuses on supporting a strong economy, ensuring safe and sustainable development, quality services and fostering a contemporary, high-performing, and expert organisation.

### Our vision and purpose

Our vision is for a strong economy and healthy environment that benefits all Territorians.

Our purpose is to support the Territory's economic development and protect our natural and cultural assets through integrated planning, evidence-based advice and efficient regulation.

### Our identity



**We are knowledgeable** – collectively we have exceptional scientific, regulatory and practical experience with the Northern Territory's natural and cultural assets.



**We are resourceful** – we develop, adopt and adapt new technology, methods and approaches to improve our services for the Territory.



**We are inclusive** – our various skills, perspectives, experience and expertise builds our success.



**We are innovative** – our innovative thinking supports the economy and protects our environment.



**We are collaborative** – we share knowledge and skills with our partners, volunteers, visitors and the community, and seek to gain equally from them.



**We are transparent** – we seek to ensure that all our data, technical information and reasons for decisions are available and accessible.



**We are evidence-based** – science, expertise and experience underpins our advice, natural and cultural asset management, and our environmental protection services.

### Our goals



**Goal 1**  
A strong economy.



**Goal 2**  
Safe and sustainable development.



**Goal 3**  
Quality services.



**Goal 4**  
A contemporary, high performing and expert organisation.

### Our values

Northern Territory Public Sector (NTPS) values form the foundation of how we deliver services to Territorians, fostering collaboration and professionalism. These values guide us to achieve our highest performance and establish shared expectations for all public servants across the sector.

The NTPS values are:

- commitment to service
- ethical practice
- respect
- accountability
- impartiality
- diversity.

# Our year in review

To support the NT Government's agenda to rebuild the economy by cutting red tape and improving regulatory efficiency, the department has implemented a broad range of initiatives. These include legislative amendments and enhancements to policies and processes, initially focusing on reducing approval timeframes for onshore gas, mining, and planning applications.

## Key highlights supporting economic development

Streamlined environmental assessments by removing the NT Environment Protection Authority's (NT EPA) requirement to advise on every Environment Management Plan for onshore gas activities, significantly reducing approval timeframes.

Reduced regulatory duplication by revoking the Large Emitters Policy and Gas Policy Statement; these functions are covered by NT and Commonwealth legislation.

Secured sustainable water access through Water Allocation Plans for Mataranka and Western Davenport, supporting responsible development based on sustainable use.

Reformed legislation to remove uncertainty and delays, including amendments to the *Petroleum Act 1984*, *Petroleum Regulations 2020*, *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016*, *Planning Act 1999* and related regulations, and the *Water Act 1992*.

Activated the Aboriginal Water Reserve via amendments to the *Water Act 1992*, fostering economic development opportunities for Aboriginal communities.

Clarified regulatory responsibilities by separating functions under the Code of Practice for Onshore Gas Activities, establishing clear compliance roles for the department and the Department of Mining and Energy.

Accelerated low-risk planning approvals by creating a dedicated fast-track policy position, optimising delegations and exemptions, alongside amendments to the NT Planning Scheme.

Managed 9 development agreements with private developers to facilitate ongoing residential and industrial land releases across the Northern Territory, directly supporting the housing and construction sectors and enabling the NT Government's new homeowner grant scheme.

Progressed land development planning to support the future supply of residential and industrial land in major centres and regional areas, to provide a pipeline of land supply to support population growth and economic development.

## Environmental management highlights

The department continues to monitor and protect the Territory's land, water, and biodiversity, balancing sustainable development with environmental stewardship. Key environmental management highlights include:



| Parthenium weed sniffer dog

Released an Environmental Regulation Compliance and Enforcement Plan identifying priority sites for inspection.

Launched the Don't be a Dumper campaign in Alice Springs with partners Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation and the Alice Springs Town Council, targeting illegal dumping and promoting behaviour change.

Presented on Siam weed containment at the Territory Natural Resource Management Conference, educating delegates on identification and reporting.



| Felixer™ deployment

Continued the Gamba Action Program (GAP), providing free herbicide and equipment loans to about 3,000 landholders in Darwin and Katherine (14 years running).

Deployed sniffer dogs (Springer Spaniels Dash and Connor with handler Steve Dalleywater) for the first-ever invasive weed detection mission near Katherine, finding no parthenium weed.

Deployed innovative Felixer™ feral cat grooming traps in Tjoritja/West MacDonnell National Park to protect endangered species such as the Central Rock-rat and Central Australian Rock-wallaby.

## Community engagement and partnerships

The department provided essential administrative support to the Development Consent Authority (DCA) and NT Planning Commission, facilitating public hearings across the Territory to ensure community involvement in planning decisions.

The Office of Water Security, as a key member of the NT Government Remote Water Team, jointly delivered 13 water information forums in remote communities. These forums, conducted in partnership with NT Government agencies including Health, Housing, and Power and Water, focused on water quality, security, and infrastructure investment.

In collaboration with the Northern Land Council (NLC), the Office of Water Security and Water Resources Division undertook a landmark assessment of Aboriginal cultural values related to water in the Adelaide River catchment. This initiative, the department's first of its kind, will inform the development of a water allocation plan for the region and guide ongoing water management in the catchment.



## Planning Institute of Australia Planning Congress

The annual Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Planning Congress returned to Darwin for the first time since 2009, attracting nearly 500 attendees and featuring strong participation from department staff. As a platinum sponsor, the NT Government reinforced its commitment to advancing planning. Key themes included:

<b>Fresh housing approaches</b>	Inspired by Professor Anthony Burke's call to rethink 'home,' exploring creative policy responses to social and environmental needs.
<b>Building resilience</b>	Dr Tim Muster from CSIRO presented climate-smart infrastructure frameworks for greenfield and remote settings.
<b>Creative land use</b>	Professor Ellen Dunham-Jones shared retrofitting suburbia case studies, prompting discussion on revitalising ageing suburban areas.
<b>Stronger links with Country and community</b>	Emphasis on partnerships with Traditional Owners and embedding cultural knowledge in land use planning.
<b>A national perspective</b>	Staff gained insights on how Northern Territory planning fits nationally, inspiring tailored local solutions.

## Commemorating Cyclone Tracy

Darwin today stands vastly different from the city devastated by Cyclone Tracy in 1974. This category 4 cyclone led to significant reforms in building codes and disaster management, with the department today playing a key role in administering the *Building Act 1993*.

To mark the 60th anniversary of Cyclone Tracy, the department launched an interactive map at [cyclonetracymap.com](http://cyclonetracymap.com), allowing users to:

- search familiar addresses or areas
- view aerial photos before, immediately after, and today following the cyclone's impact.

The map invites exploration and reflection on stories of survival, resilience, and recovery that have shaped Darwin's unique history.



Aerial images from [cyclonetracymap.com](http://cyclonetracymap.com) depicting a suburb of Darwin after Cyclone Tracy and what the area looks like today

# The Northern Territory has its own *water story*



| Water Use Branch – Cavenagh Street, Darwin, 1955

## Celebrating 70 Years of the Water Resources Division

Since its establishment in 1955, the Water Resources Division has played a pivotal role in shaping the Northern Territory's future. At the time, the Territory was largely an unexplored frontier, with water-related responsibilities spread across various agencies such as the Agriculture, Animal Industry, Mines branches, and the Department of Works. Recognising the need for a more coordinated approach, the Water Resources Division was formed to meet the growing demands of a developing region.

Over the past 70 years, the Division has evolved from a small operation into the Territory's leading authority on water science and management. It is now central to the investigation, development, and protection of water resources, underpinning sustainable economic growth while safeguarding natural ecosystems.

Today, the Division continues to support key statutory decision-makers – including the NT EPA and the Controller of Water Resources – demonstrating a legacy of science, innovation, resilience, and a commitment to sustainability.



| Bob Jones – Water Resources Hut – Katherine Gorge, 1960s



| Manton dam evaporation study – I. Watson, J. Lawrie, P. McNeil, 1970



| Adelaide River Depot, 1956

Photos shown are sourced from *Tales from the Field NT*, *Water Resources 1955–2008* and *History of the Northern Territory Water Resources Division*.

## Heritage Branch recognition: Wave Hill prosecution

The department acknowledged David Steinberg, Director of the Heritage Branch, for leading the successful prosecution related to the Wave Hill Walk Off heritage site – the first of its kind in the Northern Territory.

Wave Hill is nationally significant as the site where Vincent Lingiari AM and Gurindji people staged their historic 1966 protest, pivotal to the Indigenous land rights movement.

In October 2023, damage to heritage features along the Walk Off route led to a high-profile investigation, culminating in a successful court outcome during this reporting period.

This achievement underscores the department's commitment to protecting cultural heritage and Indigenous legacy, and resulted in negotiated agreements on protecting this site into the future.

## Staff engagement

Engagement with staff across the department continued with:

- CEO newsletters: Published monthly, featuring positive news stories, celebrating staff achievements, recognising significant milestones, promoting training opportunities, and sharing key updates.
- Internal Communications: Broadcasts from Corporate Services covering operational 'need to know' information, training promotions, and updates on staff visits and movements.
- Executive Leadership Team Meetings: Met monthly across the Northern Territory, including visits from Executives to connect with staff and support work priorities and programs.
- Lunch and Learn Sessions: Hosted monthly sessions focused on sharing topics relevant to our work. During the reporting period, sessions included NT Flood Management, The Territory Coordinator Legislation, and Environmental Data.







# Corporate governance

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# Corporate governance

The department is required to comply with the *Financial Management Act 1995*, *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993*, *Procurement Act 1995* and other legislation, such as the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*.

The department's corporate governance framework and the relevant statutes are promoted to employees in many ways, including through the department's induction programs.

## Governance structure

The governance structure of the department comprises a Senior Executive Group (SEG), Executive Leadership Team (ELT), an independent Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) and supporting sub-committees of ELT.

This structure provides oversight of the allocation of resources across the department, and the implementation of policies, plans and procedures that provide a foundation of good governance for department activities.

### Senior Executive Group

The SEG is the senior executive body of the department that supports the CEO to define and deliver strategic priorities, set operational direction and monitor and assess the department's governance and performance.

### Risk Management and Audit Committee

The RMAC is an independent source of assurance to the CEO on the effectiveness of the Department's risk management and audit, systems of internal control, financial and performance reporting responsibilities. The RMAC is not responsible for the executive management of these functions.

### Executive Leadership Team

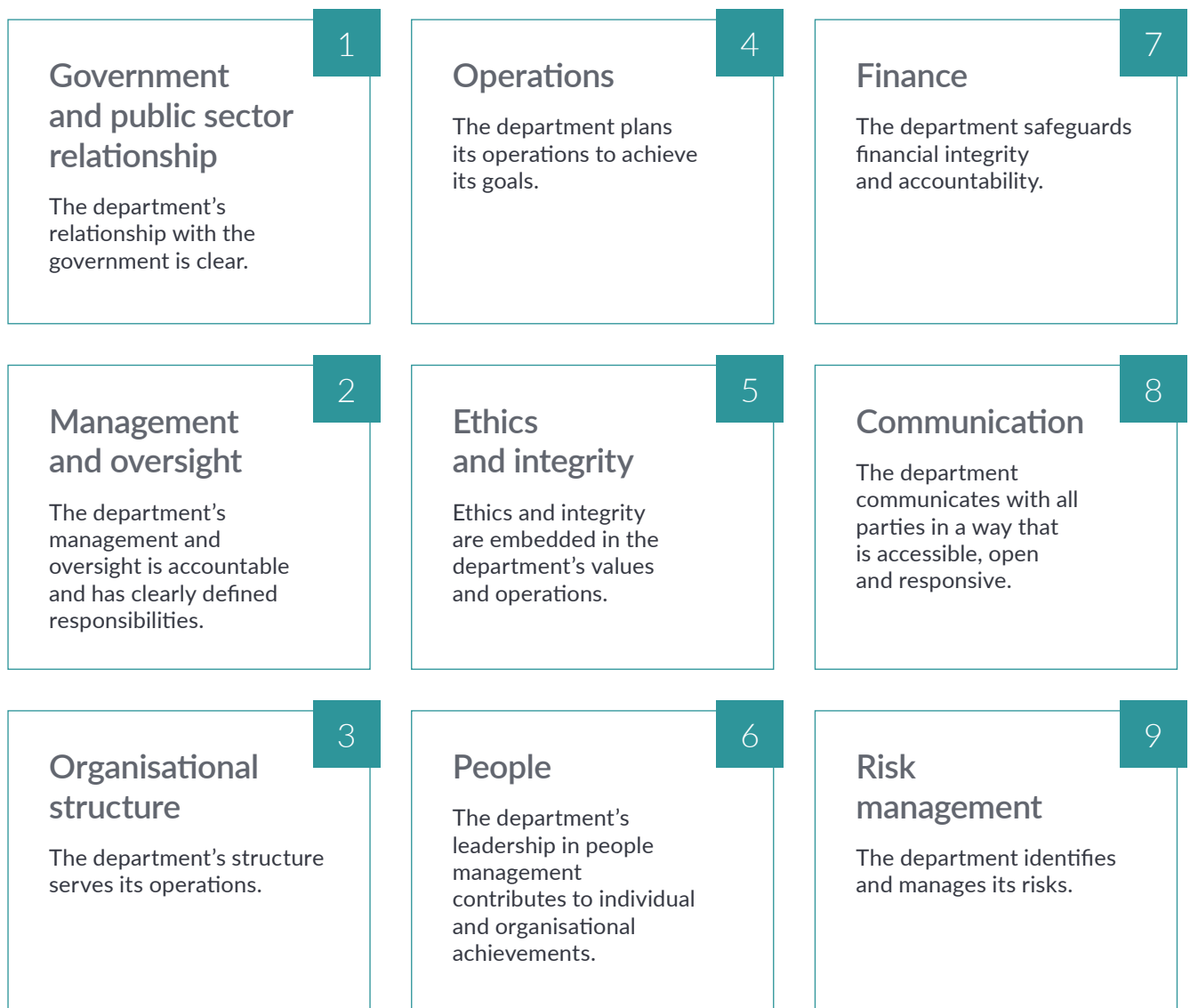
The ELT provides direct support to the CEO in the development and implementation of strategic direction, risk management, performance of the department and operational delivery. The following committees are sub-committees of the ELT:

- Information Communications Technology and Data Governance Committee (ICTC) oversees the department's technology and data components to ensure alignment with business objectives and NT Government ICT requirements.
- Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) provides a dedicated forum to discuss and guide the development of strategic policy and legislative reform initiatives that have whole-of-department impact or relevance.
- Work Health and Safety Committee (WHSC) provides direction on policies, strategies and safe systems of work that protect staff and other persons against harm from hazards and risks arising from the department's work.



# Governance framework

The department's Governance Framework outlines the 9 principles approach to governance and accountability:



This framework allows the department to navigate the accountability requirements of its governance structure and understand how it is addressing each governance principle.

# Internal controls

## Risk management framework

Risk management is a fundamental element of sound management practice and good corporate governance. It is a continuous process that enhances decision-making by increasing awareness of risks and their potential impacts on business activities.

The department has implemented several internal control mechanisms and policies to mitigate workplace risks, including fraud. By applying contemporary risk management practices, we maximise the effectiveness, efficiency, and reliability of our services. This proactive approach safeguards the department, its employees, resources, and the government from potential losses.

The department's Risk Management Framework comprises a set of documents and tools designed to assist in the identification and management of strategic and operational risks. It defines the departmental risk appetite at the ELT level and provides guidance on managing risks across the department.

## Fraud and corruption framework

The department's Fraud and Corruption Control Framework outlines its approach to minimising risks related to fraud and corruption, and includes the following key components:

- **Fraud and Corruption Control Policy:** defines the department's approach to managing the risk and occurrence of fraud and corruption.
- **Fraud and Corruption Control Plan and Risk Assessment documents:** details how the department will prevent, detect, and respond to allegations of fraud and improper conduct.
- **Reporting and Investigating Suspected Improper Conduct Policy:** outlines procedures for managing reports of improper conduct, including fraud and corruption.
- **Whistleblower Policy:** sets out the department's obligations to support and protect whistleblowers and establishes the available channels for reporting concerns within the department.

## Corporate delegations

Authorised employees are delegated specific responsibilities on behalf of the CEO, as prescribed under relevant legislation. These delegations were updated following the establishment of DLPE and are subject to regular review to ensure they remain current and effective.

## Conflict of interest

Conflicts of interest, whether real or perceived, can undermine confidence in the department's integrity. Employees are required to complete a Disclosure Declaration as soon as they become aware of any actual or potential conflicts and must take all reasonable steps to avoid involvement in declared conflicts.

It is mandatory for Executive Contract Officers and other members of the ELT to submit a Disclosure Declaration annually.

During the reporting period, the department disseminated multiple communications on conflicts of interest to staff. Essential OneNTG training covers public officer responsibilities, and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) Commissioner provided a presentation to the ELT on identifying and managing potential, perceived, and actual conflicts of interest.

## Code of Conduct

The NTPS Code of Conduct is an integral part of employment conditions and serves as a guide for appropriate behaviour when performing duties as a public servant. It requires all public sector officers to uphold the highest ethical standards and act in the best interests of the people of the Northern Territory – an essential foundation for maintaining public trust in the integrity of the NTPS.

All employees must complete the OneNTG Code of Conduct online training module within three months of commencing employment. This course covers the expectations for NT Government employees, ethical practices, and appropriate workplace behaviours.

## Gifts and benefits

Employees must comply with section 20 of the Code of Conduct regarding the acceptance of gifts and benefits. The Code requires employees to avoid situations where their decision-making could be perceived as influenced by external interests.

The department's Gifts and Benefits Policy elaborates on these requirements, including detailed reporting obligations related to gifts or benefits offered to employees. The primary objective of this policy is to promote behaviour that earns and maintains public trust in both the department and the NT Government.

## Accounting and Property Manual

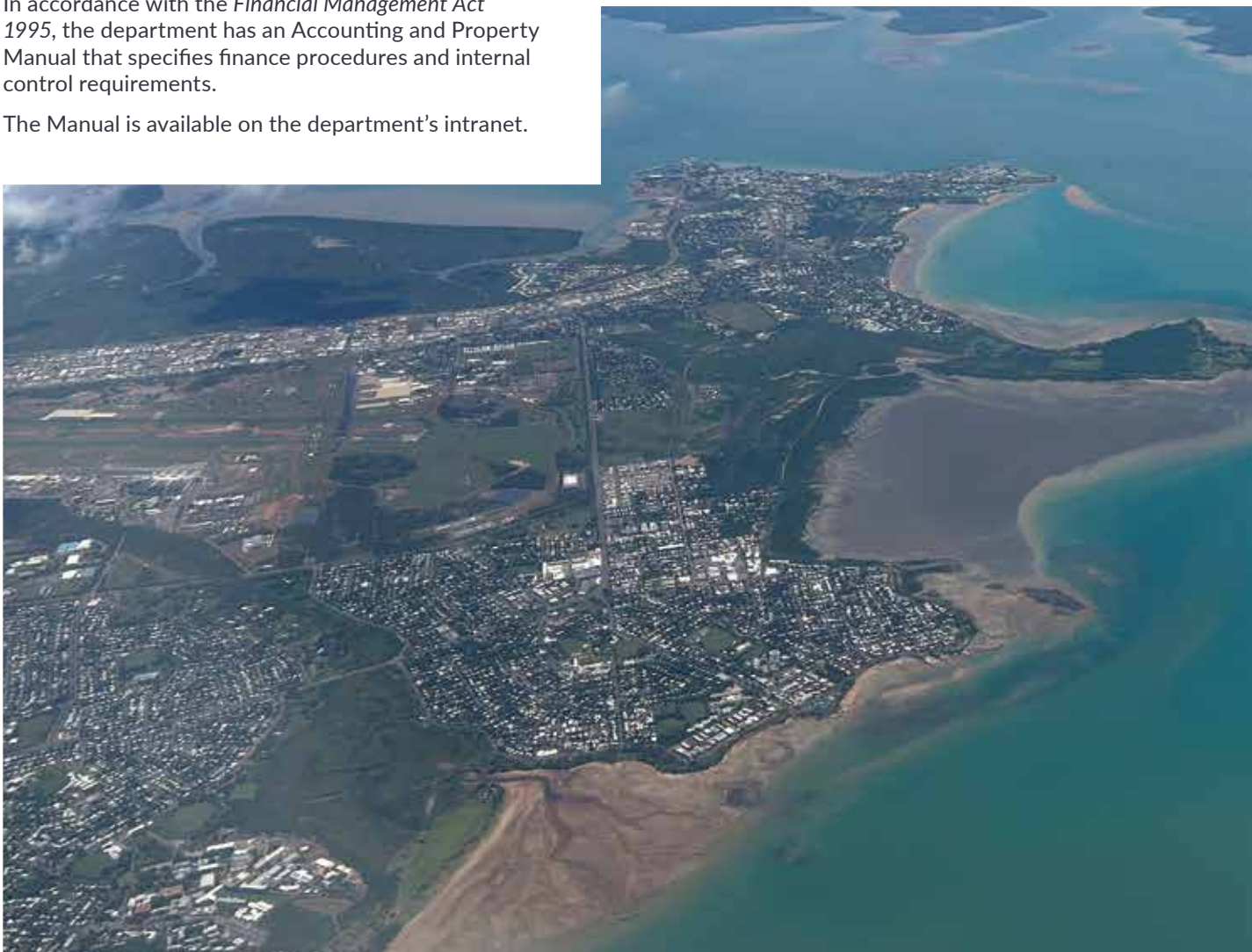
In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1995*, the department has an Accounting and Property Manual that specifies finance procedures and internal control requirements.

The Manual is available on the department's intranet.

## Policies and procedures

Policies, procedures, and templates serve as essential administrative tools designed to complement existing whole-of-government and department-wide policies and mandates, where appropriate. Departmental policies are implemented to enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness while reducing risks to staff and the department.

Frequently, the department develops policies to provide detailed guidance on how it will address specific legislative or whole-of-government policy directives. These policies require approval by the CEO, ELT, or the relevant Executive Director, depending on the scope of divisional activities and processes.





# Information management

## Information requests

The Northern Territory *Information Act 2002* provides public access to information held by a public sector organisation. A total of 73 applications to access personal or government information through the Act were processed by this department during the reporting period. This included internal reviews and complaints to the Office of the Information Commissioner. Of these applications, 43 were finalised during the reporting period.

## Ombudsman enquiries

The department received 1 enquiry from the Ombudsman during the reporting period.

# Department audit program

## Internal audits

There were 3 internal audits completed during the reporting period:

Internal audit	Objective	Status
Cabinet Information Security Measures	Assess compliance with the Cabinet Handbook, information security measures and identify remedial action as required.	Complete
Official Travel	Assess the level of compliance of official duty travel against the NT Government requirements, policies and procedures.	Complete
Value for Territory Assurance Program	Evaluate internal government compliance with the procurement framework, <i>Procurement Act 1995</i> , Regulations and governance policy and rules and, elements of the Buy Local Plan including internal government and external industry compliance, effectiveness and impact.	Complete

## External audits

There were 2 external audits completed during the reporting period:

External audit	Objective	Status
Building Security Audit	Assess the security measures in place across department buildings in Darwin.	Complete
Department End of Year Review	Assess 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.	Complete





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# Strategic priority achievements

## Strategic priority achievements

The department continues to deliver on the goals outlined in its Strategic Plan 2024–28. The plan has 4 goals:




### A strong economy

1




### Quality Services

3



### Safe and sustainable development

2



### A contemporary, high performing and expert organisation

4

## A strong economy

Released Crown land to support residential development and community groups.

Implemented new enhanced spatial data capture to support major projects and development.

Received 524 applications in accordance with the *Planning Act 1999*.

Processed 135 Crown land licences authorising 315 vessels at the Frances Bay Mooring Basin.

Implemented 15 recommendations from the 2022 Land Development Review, enhancing certainty and streamlining approval processes to accelerate the release of titled land to market.

Under the new environmental mining licensing scheme, under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*, granted 27 environmental mining licences for exploration and operations.

Supported the NT EPA in 17 environmental impact assessment decisions and advised the Minister on 2 environmental approvals.

Contributed expertise to the development and passage of the *Territory Coordinator Act 2025*.

Amended the *Water Act 1992* to simplify access to Aboriginal water reserves, supporting Indigenous economic development.

Declared the Mataranka Water Allocation Plan 2024–2034 maintaining river flows and identifying water available for agriculture near Larrimah.

Declared the Western Davenport Water Allocation Plan 2024–2034 providing certainty of water availability for agricultural development.

Completed a comprehensive Biodiversity Assessment of the Greater Weddell subregion, mapping key habitats and species for land use planning.

## Safe and sustainable development

Oversaw the management and maintenance of approximately 55,000 km<sup>2</sup> of Crown land in the NT.

Acquired strategic land parcels supporting key projects, including 2 properties for the Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage project, and over 30,000 hectares adjoining Litchfield National Park to enhance tourism and recreational opportunities that bolster the local economy and Territory lifestyle.

Managed over 670 Crown leases across the Northern Territory supporting economic development and the community use of Crown land.

Supported over 200 authorisations for recycling, waste, petroleum, water and mining activities.

Managed compliance on 700+ licences and approvals, including environment protection licences, water extraction licences, waste discharge licences, petroleum environment management plans and mining authorisations and licences.

Managed over 600 water extraction licences across the Territory.

Published annual compliance plans to improve regulatory transparency.



Launched Operation: Don't be a Dumper to reduce illegal dumping in Alice Springs through community partnerships and education.

Assessed 23 heritage applications and supported the declaration of 3 new heritage places: Sea Rights Yingapungapu, Fort Dundas/Punata, and the Historic Mission Precinct.

Collaborated with the Australian Government on the National Climate Risk Assessment.

Published status reports on water resources for several regions, including Berry Springs, Ooloo, Katherine, Ti Tree and Alice Springs, supporting informed management and planning.

Completed scientific modelling for the Adelaide River water allocation plan and mid-term reviews for Ooloo Dolostone and Ti Tree plans.

Established a Daly River Basin water advisory committee to advise on planning and management of the Daly including the Katherine and Ooloo as an interconnected system.

9 water licences were issued in the Darwin Rural Adelaide River Water Control District, under transitional arrangements for commercial activities and for existing mining activities in the Territory.

Published the Alice Springs Water Resource Assessment Report.

Produced Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem maps for multiple regions to guide sustainable water allocation.

Revised the bore interference policy to safeguard groundwater users.

Continued the 40-year Darwin Harbour Integrated Marine Monitoring and Research Program, producing annual environmental condition reports.

Completed the Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program, distributing over \$22 million to support 47 ranger groups across the Northern Territory.

## Quality services

Processed 1,550 Crown land permits.

Completed revaluation of land in accordance with the Valuation Program.

Produced Cyclone Tracy Map online to commemorate the 50th anniversary.

Managed 30 Global Navigation Satellite System and Continuously Operating Reference Stations across the Northern Territory in partnership with Geoscience Australia, through the Positioning Australia Program, enabling precise positioning for mining, agriculture, surveying, construction and emergency services.

Advanced legislative and regulatory reforms including drafting the Lands, Planning and Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

Responded promptly to nearly 1,000 heritage inquiries, with 80% resolved within 14 days.

Provided expert advice and support for heritage owners and incentive programs.

Maintained extensive water monitoring networks with over 700 sites for sustainable water resource management.

Inspected over 20% of water licence holders to ensure compliance.

Hosted 8 water advisory committee meetings and engaged more than 20 primary schools in water education programs.

Continued developing new technologies for mining large data sets to detect changes in water use, enabling prioritisation of protection and regulatory activities.

Employed Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data techniques to monitor water use and optimise bore monitoring networks.



Delivered the Gamba Action Program, supporting over 3,000 landholders with herbicide and equipment loans.

Continued the biocultural knowledge program, producing the 43rd publication, the Waanyi Plants and Animals book documenting Indigenous ecological knowledge.



Participated in a Bush Blitz Expedition on Jawoyn lands, collecting over 1,300 new plant specimens to enhance biodiversity understanding.

Delivered high-quality corporate and executive support services across the department.

## A contemporary, high-performing organisation

Continued to develop the Integrated Land Management System as the central system for land information in the Northern Territory.

Progressed reforms to support efficiency in regulatory process.

Advanced the capture and storage of spatial data infrastructure.

Integrated the new Regulatory Excellence team to develop the Northern Territory's environmental regulatory strategy.

Developed a Regulators workforce plan aligned with the AELERT framework.

Updated the Authorised Officer policy, improving clarity for the regulated community.

Facilitated a cross-jurisdictional staff exchange with South Australia, delivering data intelligence projects on asbestos management.

Presented at the AELERT-INECE 2024 Global Summit, sharing insights on environmental law enforcement.

Hosted the Northern Territory Regulators Event to coordinate regulatory priorities across multiple agencies.

Presented on onshore gas regulation, groundwater management and water policy reform at national conferences.

Completed multiple water science projects funded by the National Water Grid Fund, including:

- a \$2.4 million project investigating wet season flows for managed aquifer recharge in Katherine
- a \$0.6 million project recalibrating groundwater models for the Daly-Roper system, an important region for horticulture
- a \$0.9 million high-resolution LiDAR survey to enhance water resource modelling.

Drilled deep water bores and conducted isotope sampling to better understand resources in the Western Davenport area.

Launched a program enhancing data architecture, quality, and automation for public data sharing.



| Buffel grass spraying

Produced high-resolution buffel grass maps for Alice Springs and nearby national parks, aiding invasive species management.

Led the update of the Corporate Governance Framework to support the establishment of a new department, including the design and implementation of a governance structure comprising the SEG, ELT, and supporting subcommittees. This structure provides oversight of resource allocation and ensures the effective implementation of policies, plans, and procedures that uphold strong governance practices.

# Snapshot



Spatial biodiversity records for the Territory



Planned water extraction licence inspections complete



Biodiversity information requests met within agreed timeframes



Annual public water resource reports produced for declared plan areas



Compliance inspections undertaken under the *Weeds Management Act 2001*



Water information forums delivered in remote communities



Water extraction licences assessed within 80 business days

# Achievements by output group: Natural Resources

Objective: The Territory's natural resources are sustainably developed, threats to the Territory's environmental assets are mitigated, and native flora and fauna are conserved.

## Flora and Fauna

Scientific assessment and monitoring of the Territory's native flora and fauna, and delivery of policy advice and support relating to the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife.

## Water Resources

Scientific assessment and monitoring of the Territory's water resources, and delivery of policy, advice and regulation to support the sustainable use of water.

## Land Resources

Scientific assessment and monitoring of the Territory's land, and delivery of extension services, policy advice and regulation to support the sustainable use of the land resource.

## Water Security

Deliver water security initiatives across policy, projects, programs, public engagement and investment decisions.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) (As per <i>Budget Paper 3, 2024-25</i> )	2024-25 Budget	2024-25 Estimate	2024-25 Actual
Spatial biodiversity records for the Territory (millions)	4.65	4.65	4.65
Biodiversity information requests met within agreed timeframes	=> 85%	=> 85%	77
Compliance inspections undertaken under the <i>Weeds Management Act 2001</i>	86%	90%	88%
Water extraction licences assessed within 80 business days	70%	93%	89%
Planned water extraction licence inspections completed	100%	100%	100%
Annual public water resource reports produced for declared plan areas	80%	83%	86%
Water information forums delivered in remote communities	10	10	13

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Flora and Fauna

Implemented the Commonwealth-funded MacDonnell Ranges Priority Places project in collaboration with the Central Land Council (CLC) and Parks and Wildlife. The project delivered significant on-ground threat abatement actions to protect threatened plant and animal species through strategic fire management, buffel grass removal, feral herbivore control, and feral cat management. The project also provided land management training to Traditional Owners and park rangers.

Completed the Commonwealth-funded project “Feral cat control to secure the future of the critically endangered Central Rock-rat.” This project successfully protected the Central Rock-rat across its known distribution by reducing predation from feral cats. The project fostered strong partnerships with Parks and Wildlife, Bushfires NT, the CLC, and Anangu Luritjuku Rangers, contributing to the development of improved feral cat management plans through engagement with Traditional Owners and land managers.

Finalised a multi-year Biodiversity Assessment of the Greater Weddell Subregion, a development-prone area in the Greater Darwin region. The project documented regional flora and fauna and mapped significant habitats and locations for biodiversity and threatened species. The published report and baseline data provide a critical resource for land use planning and environmental impact assessment.

Participated in a Bush Blitz Expedition by the NT Herbarium on Jawoyn lands northeast of Katherine, in collaboration with Traditional Owners, the Jawoyn Association, Warddeken Rangers, Parks and Wildlife, Parks Australia, and educators. The expedition surveyed biodiversity in a poorly known but ecologically significant area of the Northern Territory, collecting over 1,300 new plant specimens that will improve knowledge of species distributions and ecology in the southwest Arnhem Plateau.

Continued delivery of the Darwin Harbour Integrated Marine Monitoring and Research Program, a 40-year initiative under the Ichthys Project Voluntary Offsets Agreement between the NT Government and INPEX. The program provided detailed, evidence-based assessments of environmental change in Darwin Harbour through annual monitoring of mangroves, sediment chemistry, and anthropogenic pressures. Complementary water quality monitoring was conducted under a separate NT Government-funded initiative.

Produced high-resolution buffel grass maps for Alice Springs, Tjoritja, and Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Parks using remote sensing data and advanced analytical techniques. This proof-of-concept work, funded by the Commonwealth/NT Risk Reduction Program, demonstrated a strong correlation between predicted and observed ground cover of buffel grass, supporting improved management of priority areas at risk from biodiversity loss and wildfire.

Continued the biocultural knowledge program in partnership with Traditional Owners and language holders to document and publish traditional ecological knowledge. The Waanyi Plants and Animals book, the program’s 43rd publication, details biocultural knowledge from the Gulf of Carpentaria region, including Waanyi names and uses for 151 plant and 257 animal species, and traditional knowledge of tools, implements, and seasonal patterns.

Completed the Aboriginal Ranger Grants Program. Over 8 years, the program awarded 101 capital grants totalling \$10.29 million and supported 80 projects worth \$12.06 million, benefiting 47 ranger groups and Aboriginal land management organisations across the Northern Territory. The program strategically addressed critical funding gaps, enhanced operational capacity and safety, and broadened the scope and capability of ranger activities.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Land Resources

Processed 5 unzoned land clearing applications under the *Planning Act 1999* (including 2 variations), enabling 967.54 hectares of land for sustainable development across the Northern Territory.

Since the introduction of the NT Planning Scheme (2003), a cumulative 73,766 hectares of native vegetation has been approved for clearing on unzoned land.

Provided expert advice on 308 development proposals, addressing regulatory matters under legislation administered across government.

Investigated 15 alleged unpermitted clearing incidents on unzoned land under the *Planning Act 1999*.

Finalised soil and vegetation mapping across the Groote Archipelago in collaboration with the Anindilyakwa Land Council.

Progressed mapping projects in key regions including:

- Coomalie and Litchfield Local Government Municipalities
- Pine Creek to Adelaide River region
- Lambells Lagoon area
- Keep River/Spirit Hills Conservation area.

Initiated a new land resource investigation at Owen Springs, south of Alice Springs.

Under a \$2.29 million Federal Funding Agreement, progressed several key projects:

- joint work with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and industry to develop land type-based pastoral carrying capacities in the Victoria River District
- conducted soil testing and land type-based trial site development for pastoral capacity in the Alice Springs region
- employed and began training the first of three graduate land resource scientists.

Published in partnership with CSIRO:

- Soils and Land Suitability for the Victoria Catchment, NT
- Soils and Land Suitability for Southern Gulf Catchments.

Hosted a joint meeting of the National Committee on Soil and Terrain and National Committee for Land Use and Management in Alice Springs.

Established the Buffel Weed Advisory Committee following the declaration of Buffel grass as a weed under the *Weeds Management Act 2001*. The Committee produced the Buffel Grass Management Strategy: Central Australia 2024–2030 and a draft Weed Management Plan is under development for public consultation.

Established a dedicated buffel management team in Alice Springs to support policy development, research, and on-ground community-led control.

Held 2 meetings of the Gamba Weed Advisory Committee producing the 2024 revision of the Gamba Grass Annual Report.

Completed the Gamba Army Program (GAP), delivering control efforts across public and community lands.

Supported over 3,000 landholders through the GAP, and 969 properties were inspected as part of a targeted compliance program in the Top End Emergency Response Area.

Supported, via permit inspections and in-kind support, the Northern Land Council (NLC) hosted Gamba Eradication and Biodiversity Conservation Project in the Gamba A Zone.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES



| Siam weed

Produced the final report for the federally funded Containment of Siam Weed project and developed a new statutory Weed Management Plan for Siam Weed 2025–2035, outlining legal requirements and control strategies.

Finalised emergency response plans for Siam weed, parthenium, limnocharis, and rubber vine.



| Steve Dalleywater (handler)  
with Connor and Dash

Supported eradication verification of parthenium weed in the Katherine region through the innovative use of sniffer dogs (Dash and Connor).

Completed the 2021 NT Terrestrial Vegetation Extent Analysis Baseline Report, using semi-automated remote sensing to establish a monitoring baseline for woody vegetation change across the Northern Territory.

Reviewed and updated the Darwin Harbour Mangrove Monitoring Program methodology (2016–2023), identifying between 0.6% and 5.5% more mangroves across monitored areas.

Delivered the 2024–25 Darwin Harbour Mangrove Monitoring Program, incorporating fieldwork, drone imagery, and long-term monitoring. The Annual Monitoring Report was published under the INPEX-funded Integrated Marine Monitoring and Research Program.

Added 27 new mapping layers to the NR Maps web mapping application and delivered 12 stakeholder training courses.

Completed the NR Maps functional review and developed a prototype with enhancements to support geospatial data visualisation and user experience.

Processed 162 geospatial data requests for internal and external customers.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Water Resources

Amended the *Water Act 1992* to simplify and streamline access to Aboriginal water reserves, supporting Aboriginal economic development opportunities.

Declared the first Mataranka Water Allocation Plan 2024–2034 for the Tindall Limestone Aquifer, ensuring dry season flows in the Roper River while promoting sustainable development around the Larrimah agriculture precinct.

Declared the Western Davenport Water Allocation Plan 2024–2034, providing long-term certainty and increased water availability in a region identified for agricultural expansion.

Extended the Katherine Water Allocation Plan by 18 months to ensure regulatory certainty while developing a new 10-year plan aligned with basin-wide management across the Daly River Basin.

Completed mid-term reviews of the Ooloo Dolostone (2019–2029) and Ti Tree water allocation plans, confirming continued effectiveness and alignment with objectives.

Published water resource status reports for Berry Springs, Ooloo, Katherine, Ti Tree, and Alice Springs, covering current conditions, allocation frameworks and management activities.

Completed significant scientific work and modelling to inform development of the Adelaide River Surface Water Allocation Plan, critical for Darwin's future water security.

Published the Alice Springs Water Resource Assessment Report, providing the scientific foundation for a future water allocation plan.

Continued scientific investigative work, including drilling bores over 300 metres deep in the Western Davenport region and isotope sampling, to improve aquifer understanding and groundwater age profiling.

Completed Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem mapping for Alice Springs, Berry Springs, Adelaide River, and Katherine, supporting environmentally sustainable water allocations.

Revised the Bore Interference Policy using current data to manage impacts on existing groundwater users and ensure new extractions are sustainable.

Maintained and improved the water monitoring network, comprising over 150 surface water and 550 groundwater sites, to support sustainable water management and public access to real-time data.

Inspected over 20% of the Northern Territory's 600 licensed water users to ensure compliance with licence conditions.

Continued transitioning commercial and mining water use from exemptions to licensed management under the *Water Act 1992*.

Published public water management statements, outlining how water is managed in the Northern Territory, including boundaries, sustainable yields, modelling techniques, and stakeholder engagement.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES

Delivered 8 Water Advisory Committee meetings, maintaining a collaborative platform for community input into water management.

Engaged with over 20 primary schools in the Darwin area to deliver educational programs focused on water resources and sustainability.

Continued development of data mining technologies to identify changes in water use across large datasets, enabling more targeted protection and regulatory action.

Implemented AI tools to rationalise and optimise the groundwater bore monitoring network for cost-effectiveness and data accuracy.

Completed National Water Grid Fund Projects:

- \$2.4 million 4-year project to investigate the feasibility of managed aquifer recharge in the Tindall Limestone Aquifer using wet season flows from the King River, supporting long-term water supply for Katherine and the Venn horticultural precinct
- \$0.6 million 3-year project to recalibrate groundwater models for the Daly-Roper connected system and Western Davenport aquifers, improving understanding of capacity for large-scale horticulture across a 170,000 km<sup>2</sup> area
- \$0.9 million project to acquire high-resolution LiDAR survey data across priority catchments, enhancing the accuracy of hydrological models and planning tools.



| Mataranka Hot Springs



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Water Security

Led the delivery of 13 water information forums in remote communities providing accessible information about water quality, water security, and infrastructure investment. The team includes representatives from Health, Housing, and Power and Water.

Developed and released a suite of educational materials to improve public understanding of water management issues, including guidance for rural property owners on best-practice bore maintenance.

Released the Water Demand Management Strategy, targeting a reduction in water use by an estimated 1.4 billion litres annually by 2028. The strategy provides a whole-of-government approach to reducing water use, aligned with the Territory Water Plan. As part of the strategy, the Department of Education and Training implemented the Living Water Smart program across 20 schools, achieving over \$244,000 in water savings to date.

Secured \$32.5 million from the National Water Grid Fund for water infrastructure and research projects for the Northern Territory across multiple NT Government agencies with a combined value of \$41.7 million. Key projects include:

- Aboriginal Water Science in the Arid Zone: Ti Tree Basin Palaeovalley
- Better Bores for Communities Program.

Completed an assessment of Aboriginal cultural values of water in the Adelaide River catchment in collaboration with the NLC. This work informs future water allocation planning in that catchment and will enable Aboriginal knowledge, cultural values, and water-dependent places to be recognised and maintained as the Darwin region develops.



Rowan, Stephanie and Chris  
First Nations Land and Water Forum

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Flora and Fauna

- Continue implementation of the MacDonnell Ranges Threat Abatement Project at priority sites, incorporating innovative approaches such as:
  - AI-enabled feral cat traps capable of distinguishing non-target species
  - aerial culling of feral herbivores
  - use of drones to monitor threatened plant recovery following buffel grass control
  - training Traditional Owners in fire management practices on their country.
- Continue implementation of the Saltwater Crocodile Management Program, including:
  - trialling innovative crocodile detection technologies
  - supporting the crocodile industry through regulation and monitoring under the Wildlife Trade Management Program.
- Developing HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza) Bird Flu Emergency Response Plans, focusing on:
  - risk assessments for high-priority species and locations in the Northern Territory
  - stakeholder consultation and scenario planning
  - development of management actions to increase species and site resilience.
- Commence implementation of the Beetaloo Regional Monitoring Program, in partnership with Charles Darwin University and key stakeholders, building on baseline work from the Strategic Regional Environmental and Baseline Assessment. The Division leads the collation, management, and community dissemination of environmental monitoring data.
- Expanding the Darwin Harbour Marine Monitoring Program to include new biological receptors and bioindicators. Initial work focuses on identifying priority receptors and developing a pilot study for method development and sampling design.
- Continue biodiversity assessments in the Greater Darwin region to fill knowledge gaps and inform strategic land use planning for sustainable development.
- Increase access to biodiversity data for environmental decision-making by:
  - developing data standards and improving permit return workflows
  - creating a data submission portal
  - engaging stakeholders and delivering proof-of-concept projects to test systems and workflows.
- Publishing the Regional Ecosystem and Landscape Mapping (REALM) Program Framework, including:
  - peer-reviewed Level 1 (ecoregion) and Level 2 (sub-region) maps
  - an interactive interface for accessing and exploring mapping products
  - ongoing development of finer-resolution levels, with finalisation to follow the Pine Creek study area mapping.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Land Resources

- Implementing red tape reduction initiatives for land clearing assessment processes, increasing efficiency and streamlining approvals.
- Strengthening the capacity of the Vegetation Compliance Unit to investigate alleged unpermitted native vegetation clearing under the *Planning Act 1999*.
- Continue the department's land resource mapping program in priority areas including:
  - Coomalie Municipality
  - Pine Creek region
  - Keep River/Spirit Hills Conservation Area
  - Northern and Southern Alice Springs pastoral districts.
- Undertaking intensive soil sampling across cotton paddocks in the Daly agricultural area to inform evidence-based crop and land management practices.
- Publishing remnant vegetation mapping for the Litchfield Local Government area and release new land information for the Owen Springs locality.
- Reviewing progress against the Northern Territory Weeds Strategy 2021–2026, incorporating findings from regional weed strategies for Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek, and Alice Springs.
- Developing a draft Weed Management Plan for Buffel Grass, following its recent declaration as a weed under the *Weeds Management Act 2001*.
- Implementing the Gamba Litchfield Neighbours Project, in collaboration with:
  - Crown Land Estate
  - Parks and Wildlife (Department of Tourism and Hospitality)
  - Bushfires NT (NT Fire and Emergency Services)
  - Coomalie Community Government Council.
- Establishing a cross-border working group with Queensland stakeholders to address the spread of rubber vine, a Class A priority weed, into the Northern Territory.
- Continue support for the Gamba Eradication and Biodiversity Conservation Project in the high-priority Gamba A Zone.
- Continue monitoring of mangrove extent and condition in Darwin and Bynoe Harbours, as part of the long-term Darwin Harbour Mangrove Monitoring Program.
- Establishing processing services for land cover assessments and drone imagery analysis within the High-Performance Computing (HPC) server environment, improving capacity for environmental monitoring and reporting.
- Finalising and launching the enhanced NR Maps platform, improving access to mapping and geospatial data visualisation tools for both the NT Government and the public.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – NATURAL RESOURCES

## Water Resources

- Delivering water allocation plans in priority catchments, including the Northern Territory's first surface water allocation plan for the Adelaide River, as well as progressing plans for Katherine, Alice Springs, and Berry Springs. These plans support sustainable and integrated management of water resources to secure long-term supply for communities, agriculture, and industry.
- Continuing to review and refine water policy settings to support economic development. This includes; promoting Aboriginal Water Reserves across water plan areas and strengthening guidance and access pathways for Traditional Owners, improving policy support and enhancing water market transparency, flexibility, and access through mechanisms such as recovery of unused water and clarification of trading arrangements.
- Enhancing communication and engagement with the public, water licence holders, and key stakeholders to improve understanding and trust in water resource management.
- Modernising data management systems to ensure that water-related data is:
  - accessible and up to date
  - timely and consistent
  - capable of supporting evidence-based decision-making across policy, planning, and regulatory functions.
- Completing a \$3.5 million, 4-year investigation project (funded by the National Water Grid Fund) to improve the understanding of aquifer characteristics in the Western Davenport region. This project supports future planning and investment in sustainable agriculture and water resource development

## Water Security

- Continue leading the delivery of key priorities under the Territory Water Plan, supporting long-term water security and sustainable development across the Northern Territory including:
  - delivering community water forums in remote regions to improve public understanding of water quality, infrastructure, and water security
  - coordinating funding proposals to attract further investment in Northern Territory water infrastructure and science programs to underpin the Northern Territory's sustainable development, including from the National Water Grid Fund and other funding streams
  - implementing the Water Demand Management Strategy, with a focus on improving government water use efficiency and reducing overall consumption
  - expanding the Living Water Smart program to regional areas in partnership with Power and Water Corporation, promoting water conservation through education and community engagement
  - producing and disseminating accessible water information to the public, community organisations, and industry groups, empowering them to make informed decisions about water use on their properties and in their businesses
  - exploring new opportunities to increase the Northern Territory's water security, including policy reform, scientific investigation, and infrastructure development.



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# Snapshot



Decisions under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* made within statutory timeframes



Decisions made under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998* within 60 business days of a compliant application



Authorised high risk sites or activities that undergo a compliance inspection



Places and objects on the NT Heritage register



Decisions made under regulation 11 of the *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016* made within 90 calendar days



NT Environment Protection Authority satisfaction with support provided<sup>1</sup>



Decisions made under the *Water Act 1992* within 60 business days of a compliant application

# Achievements by output group:

## Environment

Objective: Ecologically sustainable development of the Northern Territory is supported by administering the Territory's environmental laws.

### Environment management and policy

Assessment, regulation and provision of policy advice on potential environmental impacts and risks from human activities, including a changing climate, to support the ecologically sustainable development of the Northern Territory.

#### Statutory body

Objective: To efficiently and effectively support the department's statutory authority.

**NT Environment Protection Authority:**  
Provide staff and facilities to enable the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority to properly exercise its powers and perform its functions.

#### Communities

Objective: Promote social cohesion, inclusion, equity and participation so Territory communities are empowered, diverse, vibrant and safe places for everyone.

**Heritage, libraries and archives:** Protect, preserve and promote the Territory's rich and diverse history and culture through curated collections and preservation of historic sites.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) (As per Budget Paper 3, 2024–25)	2024–25 Budget	2024–25 Estimate	2024–25 Actual
Decisions under the <i>Environment Protection Act 2019</i> made within statutory timeframes	≥ 80%	80%	88%
Authorised high risk sites or activities that undergo a compliance inspection	100%	100%	100%
Decisions made under regulation 11 of the <i>Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016</i> made within 90 calendar days	≥ 90%	100%	75%*
Decisions made under the <i>Water Act 1992</i> within 60 business days of a compliant application	≥ 90%	90%	86%
Decisions made under the <i>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998</i> within 60 business days of a compliant application	≥ 90%	90%	92%
Places and objects on the NT Heritage register	303	–	303
NT Environment Protection Authority satisfaction with support provided <sup>1</sup>	≥ 5	5	5.5

\* In 2024–25 the KPI was not met due to a delay in receiving an Authority Certificate from the interest holder for a single submission.

<sup>1</sup> Measure ranges from a rating of 1 = extremely dissatisfied to 6 = extremely satisfied.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – ENVIRONMENT

## NT Environment Protection Authority

Supported the NT Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) in administering environmental impact assessments under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* and *Environment Protection Regulations 2020*, as follows:

- made 17 statutory decisions, with 88% (15 decisions) completed within statutory timeframes
- accepted 7 referrals for diverse activities, including mining, onshore gas, critical water supply, and residential development
- determined 3 referrals did not require further assessment
- completed 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- provided advice to the Minister on the Equatorial Launch Australia Pty Ltd – Phase 2 expansion of the Arnhem Space Centre
- conducted 8 public and government consultation processes
- administered 5 bilateral/accredited assessments under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- published guidance on assessing terrestrial ecosystems, marine ecosystems, and atmospheric processes.



Environmental Officers  
out in the field



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – ENVIRONMENT

## Environment management and policy

Supported Ministerial decisions granting environmental approvals for:

- AAPowerlink Australia Assets Pty Ltd – Australia–Asia Powerlink Project
- Equatorial Launch Australia Pty Ltd – Phase 2 expansion

Achieved a 17% improvement in decision-making within statutory timeframes compared to 2023–24, and a 35% improvement compared to 2022–23.

Advanced legislative, regulatory, policy, and administrative reforms to streamline processes and improve regulatory certainty, including removal of third-party merit reviews and drafting the Lands, Planning and Environment Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

Supported the Minister's engagement in national forums including the Energy and Climate Ministerial Council and Environment Ministers' Meetings.

Contributed to national climate initiatives such as the National Climate Risk Assessment and National Climate Adaptation Plan.

Provided climate action funding to the NT Cattlemen's Association, Indigenous Carbon Industry Network, and the 2025 North Australia Savanna Fire Forum.

Administered the environment grants program, establishing a new grant for Landcare NT to support on-ground projects.

Progressed reforms to expand and simplify the Northern Territory's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS), including stakeholder consultation and collaboration with interstate schemes.

Facilitated government investment in waste management, resource recovery, and recycling infrastructure through extended National Partnership Agreements.

Supported NT EPA licensing under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*:

- issued 3 Environment Protection Approvals
- issued 50 Environment Protection Licences.

Supported licensing under the *Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Act 2011*:

- assessed and issued 9 depot approvals (including 7 renewals and 2 new depots)
- processed 34 supplier registrations.

Assisted the Controller of Water Resources in issuing 7 Waste Discharge Licences under the *Water Act 1992*.

Supported Ministerial administration of Environmental Approvals, issuing 4 amendments under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*.

Assessed 8 Environment Management Plans under the *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016*, achieving a 31% reduction in approval timeframes year-on-year.

Published the Division's first Report Card outlining progress against the 2023–24 Petroleum Regulation Compliance Plan commitments.

Undertook petroleum regulation compliance activities per the 2024–25 Petroleum Regulation Compliance Plan, including:

- auditing petroleum sector compliance with wastewater storage freeboard and chemical handling requirements
- reviewing progressive rehabilitation in the Beetaloo Sub-basin
- conducting a targeted audit of onshore petroleum land clearing to assess cumulative impacts
- inspecting 24 EMPs, including 3 high-risk sites
- conducting 75 inspections of licensed premises and 4 inspections of unlicensed premises
- responding to 540 pollution reports via the Pollution Response Line.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – ENVIRONMENT

Undertook a series of regulatory and enforcement actions in line with the division's Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Enforcement Guidelines, including:

**Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998**

- Warning letter: 15
- Penalty Infringement Notice: 4
- Direction: 1
- Prosecution: 1
- Industry-wide education correspondence: 7
- Environment Protection Licence suspension: 1

**Petroleum Act 1984**

- Warning letter: 6
- Penalty Infringement Notice: 3
- Direction: 1
- Regulatory statements: 2

**Water Act 1992**

- Warning letter: 5
- Penalty Infringement Notice: 1
- Industry-wide education correspondence: 1

Identified widespread unlicensed waste transport through use of intelligence and data analysis and addressed the issue through an industry-wide information campaign.

Maintained air quality monitoring stations across the Northern Territory to ensure continuous, reliable ambient air quality data is available to the public, supporting transparency and environmental health monitoring.

Finalised the Guidance for Modelling Dispersion of Air Pollutants in the Northern Territory following stakeholder consultation. This document provides clear technical direction for proponents and regulators in assessing potential air quality impacts of proposed developments.



Published the Waste Tyre Guidance, providing private landholders with information about the environmental risks and legal obligations associated with waste tyre storage and disposal, promoting safe and compliant waste management practices.

Participated in national and interjurisdictional collaboration through membership on boards and working groups, including:

- Air Project Management Group
- National Air Quality Technical Advisory Group
- National Pollutant Inventory Intergovernmental Working Group
- NPI Review Steering Committee
- Fuel Standards Consultative Committee
- Interagency Asbestos and Silica Project Team
- Darwin Harbour Development Plan and Dredging Strategy Group
- Decarbonisation Working Group
- Climate Adaptation Working Group.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – ENVIRONMENT

## Communities – heritage, libraries and archives

Assessed 23 applications for works to heritage places under the *Heritage Act 2011*, ensuring activities aligned with statutory protections and conservation principles.

Enhanced the recognition and protection of culturally and historically significant sites across the Territory by declaring 3 new heritage places, in partnership with the Minister and Heritage Council:

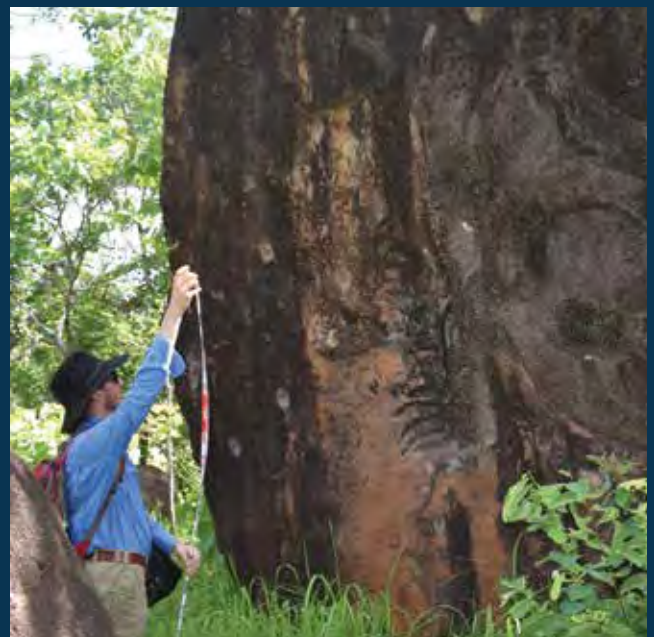
- Sea Rights Yingapungapu
- Fort Dundas / Punata
- Historic Mission Precinct.

Responded to 986 public inquiries regarding heritage matters, with over 80% addressed within 14 days, surpassing internal performance benchmarks and supporting community engagement and understanding.

Provided support to non-government owners of heritage-listed places through:

- expert heritage conservation advice
- access to formal incentives including heritage grants and rate relief programs, encouraging preservation and responsible stewardship.

Completed a successful prosecution under the *Heritage Act 2011* for unauthorised damage to the heritage-listed Wave Hill Walk Off Site, reinforcing the importance of compliance and the Northern Territory's commitment to safeguarding its heritage.



Ryan, Senior Heritage Officer |

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – ENVIRONMENT

## Environment management and policy

- Coordinate the department's Regulatory Reform Program, improving regulatory certainty and efficiency in line with recommendations from the Approvals Fast Track Taskforce.
- Develop a roadmap for implementing the Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management Standard in the Northern Territory, aligning with national standards for chemical regulation.
- Publish regulatory performance updates:
  - Regulatory Report Card 2024–25, outlining performance against the Compliance Plan
  - Regulatory Priorities and Compliance Plan 2025–26, setting clear compliance expectations for regulated industries.
- Deliver targeted red tape reduction initiatives, including:
  - introducing a risk-based approach to aquaculture licensing
  - reforming the *Petroleum (Environment) Regulations 2016* to streamline processes and reduce duplication through a standardised EMP format
  - finalising and publishing a new Environmental Code of Practice with supporting administrative procedures
  - developing a Chemical Register for hydraulic fracturing chemicals to improve transparency and streamline petroleum EMP approvals.
- Replace the Pollution Response database with a more modern, efficient platform to support improved incident tracking and response.
- Progress an industry-funded air quality monitoring program, informed by best-practice models from other jurisdictions.
- Finalise legislative amendments to the *Environment Protection (Beverage Containers and Plastic Bags) Act 2011* to:
  - expand the CDS
  - undertake further stakeholder engagement for successful implementation.
- Support efforts to phase out single-use plastics and promote reuse and sustainable alternatives, targeting problematic and unnecessary products.
- Ensure effective waste management to support economic and urban growth by:
  - assisting the construction and demolition sector in managing hazardous waste, including contaminated soil and concrete
  - improving emergency waste preparedness, particularly the management of green and construction waste following cyclones.
- Support NT Government efforts to implement foundational activities in preparation for climate-related financial disclosure, in line with emerging Australian Accounting Standards.

Heritage facilitating a tour of Hope Inlet  
(archaeological shell middens)



## FUTURE PRIORITIES – ENVIRONMENT

### Communities – heritage, libraries and archives

- Enhancing the effectiveness, transparency, and accessibility of the *Heritage Act 2011* through targeted reforms and improved information sharing including:
  - development of new guidance materials to support both decision-makers and proponents in navigating legislative requirements and best-practice heritage management
  - review and enhancement of heritage content on the department’s website to:
    - increase public visibility of heritage consultations and decision notifications
    - improve transparency and engagement with stakeholders and the broader community
  - establishing the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information System (ACHIS) to enable:
    - improved functionality for managing archaeological data
    - greater accessibility and data sharing between stakeholders, Traditional Owners, and researchers
  - development of a Heritage Compliance Manual to guide regulatory officers in enforcing compliance with the *Heritage Act 2011* and to support consistent, informed decision-making across the Northern Territory.

# Snapshot



Average processing time for development applications



Planning Scheme amendments approved



Building practitioners audited



Survey plans approved



NT Integrated Land Information System is online and accessible



New places named



Average approval times for survey plans (days)



Applications received under the *Planning Act 1999*

# Achievements by output group:

## Lands and Planning

Objective: Long-term integrated planning is undertaken, and land is released and managed to support community needs and economic development in the Territory. Land and building developments are appropriately regulated across the Territory

### Land Development

Plan, develop and implement the land development program to design and deliver headworks infrastructure to support land release and population growth across the Territory.

### Building Advisory Services

Manage and reform the regulatory framework to ensure structures within proclaimed building areas achieve structural, fire, safety, health and amenity standards, and meet community expectations. Ensure residential swimming pool safety barriers meet specific standards. Provide support for statutory boards.

### Crown Land Estate

Manage the Crown land estate including provision of land to support community needs and economic development. Provide advice and undertake administrative activities on a range of matters related to the Crown land estate including the release and management of Crown land, Aboriginal land claims, native title claims and community living area applications. Manage the operations of the Frances Bay marine facilities.

### Land Information and Spatial Analytics

Provide geospatial, survey and valuation services with supporting land information, geospatial data, systems and mapping to support the NT Government, land development industry, business and the public.

### Development Assessment Services

Provide streamlined development and control processes under the *Planning Act 1999*.

### NT Planning Commission

Set the strategic framework for integrated land use, transport and infrastructure planning. Develop planning options that provide flexibility for the future and meet a range of possible needs, while delivering more sustainable and cost effective outcomes for the community that reflect environmental and heritage values.

### Lands Planning

Provide strategic and long-term integrated planning that supports community needs, sustainable development and future growth of the Northern Territory.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) (As per <i>Budget Paper 3, 2024-25</i> )	2024-25 Budget	2024-25 Estimate	2024-25 Actual
Average processing time for development applications	≤ 55	≤ 55	60
Building practitioners audited	65	65	66
NT Integrated Land Information System is online and accessible	100%	100%	100%
Average approval times for survey plans (days)	≤ 6	≤ 6	4

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – LANDS AND PLANNING

### Land Development

Secured Commonwealth funding for the Farrar West (Palmerston) and St Mary’s (Alice Springs) development projects under the Housing Support Program Priority Works, to advance vital enabling infrastructure for housing.

Completed the concept design for Holtze Enabling Infrastructure, preparing a development-ready site in the Holtze Development Area, now progressing into the delivery phase.

Re-established the NT Subdivision Development Guidelines Management Committee, ensuring ongoing oversight and promotion of best-practice subdivision design and construction standards.

Enhanced certainty and streamlined approval processes to accelerate the release of titled land to market.

Conducted infrastructure master planning for future residential growth in the Katherine East Neighbourhood Centre.

Facilitated servicing of Crown land for community group uses, aligning with approved Crown land leases.

Completed engineering feasibility studies on drainage options to mitigate overland flooding in Alice Springs up to a 1 in 100-year event, under the Alice Springs Flood Mitigation project.

### Crown Land Estate

Managed development agreements over Crown land across the Northern Territory, facilitating the delivery of over 150 new titled residential lots to the market, with more than 160 Crown-released residential lots sold during this reporting period.

Acquired strategic land parcels supporting key projects, including 2 properties for the Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage project, and over 30,000 hectares adjoining Litchfield National Park to enhance tourism and recreational opportunities that bolster the local economy and Territory lifestyle.

Oversaw management and maintenance of the Crown land estate, encompassing approximately 55,000 km<sup>2</sup> of vacant Crown land, through coordinated fire mitigation, weed control, and infrastructure upkeep, with increased efforts in fire break establishment, weed management, and drain maintenance.

Operated the Frances Bay Mooring Basin and associated wharves, supporting the Territory’s commercial fishing industry by issuing over 135 Crown Land Licences authorising 315 vessels to utilise these facilities.

Managed over 670 Crown leases across the Northern Territory supporting economic development and the community use of Crown land.

Administered the NT Government’s Community Land Grant program, granting three new Crown leases to not-for-profit organisations for the development of community infrastructure supporting art and culture, sport and recreation, and religious activities.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – LANDS AND PLANNING

## Development Assessment Services

Development applications received and determined:

- 328 development applications received
- 239 applications determined.

A total of 524 applications received under the *Planning Act 1999*.

Significant approvals include:

- 144 multi-dwelling units across 4 six-storey and 1 five-storey buildings, plus an office in a single-storey building in Alice Springs
- mixed-use redevelopment in Katherine: existing hotel plus shop, drive-through restaurant, and additional accommodation.

Major subdivision approvals:

- Northcrest Southern Precinct, Berrimah: 935 lots (909 residential, 24 open space, 1 community purpose, 1 tourist commercial), staged over 21 phases with a 10-year base period
- Holtze subdivision: 559 residential lots, staged over 23 phases with a 7-year base period.

Darwin CBD approvals totalling an estimated value of \$685 million (including \$395 million approved during the financial year):

- 228 apartments
- 108 serviced apartments
- 443 motel rooms
- 75 student accommodation rooms
- 52,000 m<sup>2</sup> of commercial space.

## Lands Planning

Approved 18 Planning Scheme Amendment applications, including rezoning and concurrent applications.

Introduced the Greater Holtze Area Plan and Humpty Doo Rural Activity Centre Area Plan into the Strategic Framework of the NT Planning Scheme.

Continued support for the NT Planning Commission as a statutory body, with significant progress on the NT Strategic Planning Policy.



Hosted the 2025 Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Planning Congress at the Darwin Convention Centre, with the NT Government as a proud platinum sponsor. Nearly 500 attendees participated, highlighting the Northern Territory's commitment to advancing planning practices.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – LANDS AND PLANNING

**Building Advisory Services**

Implemented Commercial Builder Registration in partnership with the Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations.

Inspected 75 properties in the Northern Territory for mandatory drainage notifications with registered plumbers and drainers.

Processed 162 applications for change of building certifier for construction projects.

Processed 1,550 Crown Land permits through various channels including email, postal, and in-person submissions.

Managed 102,137 digital file requests, supporting public and industry needs.



Rebecca and Eric (Building Advisory Services, DLPE) | with Boof the Barra at Splashfest |

Participated in the 2024 Splashfest at the Darwin Waterfront. The Swimming Pool Safety Unit engaged with approximately 479 visitors providing safety advice, stickers, and pamphlets.

Conducted 1,342 pool barrier inspections across the Northern Territory. The Swimming Pool Fencing Unit issued 999 compliance certificates.

**Land Information and Spatial Analytics**

Named 43 new places including 21 names commemorating individuals and their contributions to the Northern Territory.

Completed 6 complex Land Tenure History reports supporting major economic projects and for determinations.

Approved 114 new survey plans and created 322 new freehold titles.

Developed the Digital Plan Lodgement module within ILIS in collaboration with the Surveyors Board and industry to create provisional CAD drawing standards and tools.

Completed Unimproved Capital Value revaluations for 30,561 properties in Alice Springs, Litchfield, and regional council areas, issuing 29,147 valuation notices.

Established values for 1,261 government land parcels around Litchfield.

Produced the Cyclone Tracy Map for the 50th anniversary.

Shifted from photogrammetric to LiDAR data production, improving surface model accuracy and fidelity and completed LiDAR mapping for the Litchfield Local Government Area.

Developed and implemented an online Spatial Data Register to manage strategic geospatial datasets across agencies.

Updated Northern Territory Topographic Mapping Specifications and quality assurance processes.

Represented Northern Territory on national geospatial groups including ANZLIC and ICSM.



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS - LANDS AND PLANNING

### NT Planning Commission

Captured over 5,200 km<sup>2</sup> of aerial imagery and LiDAR covering Litchfield, Larrimah, 61 remote communities, Darwin, Palmerston, Nhulunbuy, and Tennant Creek.

Maintained platforms supporting ILISMaps, NRMaps, STRIKE, POINT, Know Your Bore, NT Visualiser, and address validation services. ILIS processed over 4.5 million address validation, postal address, and geocoding requests during the year.

Finalised the Greater Holtze Area Plan and the Humpty Doo Rural Activity Centre Area Plan.

Conducted further consultations on the Strategic Planning Policy, aimed at providing high-level direction for strategic land use planning and policy development Territory-wide.

Continued background studies and groundwork for the South of the Gap and Greater Weddell Subregional Land Use Plans.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – LANDS AND PLANNING

## Land Development

- Develop concept designs to support delivery of social housing on the St Mary's site, under the Housing Support Program funding in Alice Springs.
- Undertake infrastructure planning to support future residential and industrial land releases in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek.
- Finalise flood mitigation works in Kulaluk under the Commonwealth's National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program.
- Continue infrastructure planning to facilitate an update of the Greater Holtze Area Plan's investigation area.
- Complete the concept design for enabling infrastructure to support a future residential release in the Katherine East Neighbourhood Centre.
- Maintain business continuity as interim Local Authority for the Northcrest Development; and prepare for asset handover upon a council establishment.
- Complete subdivision works enabling a land release in Sienna Village, Alice Springs.



| Flood mitigation works, Kulaluk

## Crown Land Estate

- Advance the release of land at Farrar West to support the release of residential land in Greater Darwin.
- Advance land and interest acquisitions via the Capital Acquisition Program to back NT Government projects, including:
  - Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage project
  - Territory Energy Link
  - Territory road and infrastructure works.
- Progress the release of crown land in Greater Darwin and Alice Springs, including:
  - Mt Johns Stage 2 (Alice Springs) for future residential subdivision
  - Tourist commercial land in Ross (Alice Springs) to support economic development
  - residential land in Bellamack (Darwin) to stimulate economic development.
- Administer the Community Land Grant program to facilitate community infrastructure development, including increasing Crown land availability for multicultural groups to support the Territory's diverse lifestyle.
- Progress Direct Applications for the sale and lease of Crown land to support development across the Northern Territory and assist in rebuilding the Territory's economy.
- Progress discussions with Traditional Owners for authorisation to develop and release future residential land in Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

## Development Assessment Services

- Review and implement improvements to the development assessment process to increase efficiencies and reduce assessment timeframes.
- Continue development and enhancement of tools, templates, and processes to better assist and support applicants with the planning process.

## Lands Planning

- Enhance the NT Planning Scheme to promote more efficient approval pathways.
- Review the NT *Planning Act 1999* to increase regulatory certainty and simplify approval processes for low-risk developments.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES - LANDS AND PLANNING

## Building Advisory Services

- Review amendments to the *Building Regulations 1993* to simplify change-of-use requirements, focusing primarily on building integrity and safety, to support the NT Government's fast-track initiative for converting vacant commercial buildings into student accommodation.
- Review and progress reforms to enhance building certification quality, safety, and health standards, following the 2024 Ombudsman Investigation report on building certification.
- Exempt low-risk building work from requiring building certification to reduce regulatory burden and red tape.
- Develop and implement online processing for Crown land permits and a booking system for pool barrier inspections through Territory Services.



## Land Information and Spatial Analytics

- Complete the revaluation of Katherine, Coomalie, and Wagait statutory Unimproved Capital Value revaluation program.
- Commission key digital infrastructure upgrades including the NT Flood Reporting Portal, ArcGIS Enterprise upgrade, Crown Licence Module, new Spatial Data Register assets, FME Server upgrade, and NT Atlas/ILISMaps replacement.
- Complete aerial imagery acquisition for Darwin, Palmerston, Borroloola, Alice Springs, Katherine, 26 remote communities, and critical emerging projects.
- Lead the revision of Australian Place Naming Principles through the national working group and align Northern Territory place naming policies accordingly.
- Develop options to digitise and capture spatial information to support the Land Tenure History reporting process.
- Enhance the Digital Plan Lodgement system by introducing an expedited plan assessment service for qualifying projects.

## NT Planning Commission

- Finalise and implement the Strategic Planning Policy to guide long-term land use and development across the Northern Territory.
- Continue background studies and preparatory work for the South of the Gap and Greater Weddell Subregional Land Use Plans.

# Snapshot



**118**

Mine sites inspection days



**68**

Mining management plans assessed and approved



**39%**

Mine management plans determined within 90 days



**27**

Environmental mining licences issued



New Mining Scheme established

# Achievements by output group:

## Mining

Objective: Minerals and petroleum projects are developed and managed responsibly and sustainably through provision of quality geological information, efficient and effective administration of laws regulating land tenure and titles, exploration, production and remediation activities. By 2030, 50% of electricity consumption, 70% in remote communities, is supplied by renewable sources, while maintaining electricity system reliability, security and affordability.

### Mines services

Support sustainable mining development through an outcomes-focused and risk proportionate approach to regulation in line with the *Mining Management Act 2001* and *Mineral Titles Act 2010*.

Key Performance Indicator (KPI) (As per <i>Budget Paper 3, 2024–25</i> )	2024–25 Budget	2024–25 Estimate <sup>1</sup>	2024–25 Actual
Mine sites inspection days	≥ 85%	–	118
Mine management plans determined within 90 days	≥ 85%	–	39%

<sup>1</sup> On 1 July 2024, a new regulatory framework for managing mining activities commenced under the *Environment Protection Act 2019*. Over a 4-year transition period, Mining Management Plans submitted prior to 1 July 2024 continue to be assessed in accordance with the *Mining Management Act 2001*. Both KPIs have been replaced in 2025–26 to reflect the new legislative framework. No 2025–26 estimates are provided against the above KPIs.



Environmental Mining Officers |

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – MINING

Established a new environmental mining licensing scheme under the *Environment Protection Act 2019* to manage mining impacts.

Assessed and approved 68 Mining Management Plans (MMPs) during the Acts' transitional phase.

Granted 27 environmental mining licences for exploration and operations, with 96% issued within statutory timeframes.

Issued 4 Environmental Officer directions to ensure proper environmental management of mining activities.

Appointed independent technical expert panels for the Northern Overburden Emplacement Facility and Tailings Storage Facility at McArthur River Mine.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – MINING

- Assess environmental mining licence applications within statutory timeframes.
- Implement a risk-based compliance program to minimise environmental impacts from mining activities.
- Transition deemed mining licences to ongoing, transferrable environmental (mining) licences for projects continuing beyond 30 June 2028.
- Review risk criteria and licence conditions to improve eligibility for exploration and extractive operation licences, particularly for lower to medium-risk projects.
- Develop mining security thresholds aligned with maximum disturbance footprints to streamline security assessments and licensing.
- Establish a public register of environmental (mining) licences and related documents.
- Regulate historic mining and active uranium exploration in the Alligator Rivers Region under agreed NT–Australian government arrangements.







# Achievements by output group: Corporate and Shared Services

Objective: Improved organisational performance through strategic and governance leadership and the provision of corporate services functions.

## Corporate and governance

Provide a range of corporate and governance services to support the department's functions.

## Shared services received

Receive corporate services from the Department of Corporate and Digital Development. Receive infrastructure services from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS – CORPORATE AND SHARED SERVICES

Aligned the department's WHS Management System with the NTPS WHS Framework.

Facilitated emergency management training across the NT Government to enhance preparedness for marine pollution incidents.

Advanced implementation of recommendations from the National Plan for Maritime Environmental Emergencies and the International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

Produced the Guide to Sustainable Territory Development, outlining environmental licences and approvals to promote sustainable growth supporting a \$40 billion economy.

Managed change processes related to Machinery of Government reforms following the August 2024 Northern Territory election.

Reviewed and updated the Governance Framework to ensure alignment with best practice standards.

Updated the Corporate Governance Framework to support the establishment of the new department, including the creation of a governance structure comprising the SEG, ELT, and supporting subcommittees.

Created the DLPE intranet with re-badged and rewritten content tailored to the new department.

Developed the new department brand, including templates, online, and printed materials.

Developed the DLPE Strategic Plan 2024–28.

Established the new department's financial management framework and structure.

## FUTURE PRIORITIES – CORPORATE AND SHARED SERVICES

---

Support the implementation of SAGE alongside the Department of Treasury and Finance, including configuration, data migration, and testing in preparation for rollout across divisions.

---

Collaborate with DCDD to implement the Strategic Workforce Action Plan, supporting strategic and workforce-related programs.

---

Facilitate the delivery and analysis of the NTPS People Matter Survey 2025.

---

Deliver services that support staff efficiency across the department, including regional areas.

---

Enhance partnerships to deliver high-quality services that enable shared outcomes.

---

Provide a safe and supportive work environment where staff feel heard and valued.

---





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# OUR *People*

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# Snapshot



Female 238  
Male 216  
Self-specified 1



Average employee age



Employees identified as Aboriginal



Culturally and linguistically diverse employees



Employees with a disability



Senior professional stream



Professional stream



Flexible work arrangements



Full-time employees



Part-time employees

## Our employee profile

The department values its diverse workforce, comprising talented individuals with a wide range of skills, experiences, and perspectives. We are committed to empowering our people by providing opportunities for growth, fostering a culture of continuous learning, and ensuring our services remain meaningful to stakeholders and partners.

This commitment relies on strong leadership and a culture of performance, excellence, and accountability, ensuring every staff member feels supported, valued, and inspired to contribute toward our organisational goals.

As our workforce evolves, we recognise the importance of resilience and adaptability to meet the growing and varied demands of our work. We aim to deliver services collaboratively, efficiently, and effectively across multiple disciplines and geographic locations.

The department is committed to investing in our people through a new Strategic Workforce Strategy, which outlines a range of measures to support and develop our workforce for the future.

As of 30 June 2025, the department employed 455 paid staff across the Northern Territory. During the reporting period, 173 positions were advertised and filled, with 172 of these advertised under Special Measures arrangements to increase Aboriginal employment participation.

Classification	Paid headcount
Administrative Officer 2	2
Administrative Officer 3	6
Administrative Officer 4	27
Administrative Officer 5	35
Administrative Officer 6	29
Administrative Officer 7	34
DPC Service Worker 2	2
DPC Service Worker 5	1
Executive Officer 1 - Executive Contract	7
Executive Officer 2	1
Executive Officer 2 - Executive Contract	13
Executive Officer 3 - Executive Contract	1
Executive Officer 5 - Executive Contract	1
Executive Officer 6 - Executive Contract	1
Graduate Trainees	3
Professional 1	15
Professional 2	44
Professional 3	79
Senior Administrative Officer 1	32
Senior Administrative Officer 2	31
Senior Professional Officer 1	29
Senior Professional Officer 2	13
Technical 2	7
Technical 3	12
Technical 4	23
Technical 5	6
Technical 6	1
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>



**Employees by classification**

Classification	Paid headcount
Corporate Services	26
Environment	72
Flora and Fauna	50
Land Resources	57
Lands and Planning	145
Mining	19
Office of Water Security	10
Water Resources	76
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>

**Employees by region**

Location	Paid headcount
Alice Springs	33
Darwin	330
Katherine	12
Outside the NT	1
Palmerston	77
Tennant Creek	2
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>

**Employees by stream**

Stream	Paid headcount
Administrative	133
DPC Service Worker	3
Executive Contract Officer	23
Graduate	3
Professional	138
Senior Administrative	63
Senior Professional	43
Technical	49
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>



| Some of our dedicated staff from Flora and Fauna and Land Resources

## Our culture

The department aims to foster a workplace culture that is collaborative, respectful, and accountable. We achieve this by:

- building and enhancing strategic leadership across the department
- maintaining and increasing capability through succession planning and development programs
- delivering a healthy and safe work environment
- reducing risk and supporting continuous improvement
- continuously improving business processes and streamlining internal systems.

## Developing our workforce capacity and capability

We are committed to supporting, retaining, and developing our people to ensure they are capable and dedicated to achieving the department's strategic objectives. To assist employees in understanding their roles and obligations as public servants, the department has developed a suite of essential online training programs.

The OneNTG Online Learning Platform offers a range of essential corporate training courses designed to support NT Government employees. During the reporting period, there were 385 enrolments in OneNTG training courses.

Additionally, MyLearning serves as the department's enrolment and training platform, with 697 course enrolments recorded during the reporting period, including those for OneNTG essential training.

### Study assistance

The department encourages employees to enhance their professional and technical skills through higher education. During the reporting period, 4 employees applied for study assistance, with a total of \$11,888 provided to support their educational pursuits.

## Employment programs

The department has continued to offer career pathways development programs during the reporting period, including:

- 2 participants completing the Public Sector Management Program and 4 commencing
- 14 participants in the Emerging Leaders Program
- 6 participants in the Graduate Employment Program.

## Investment in our people

The department training expenditure for the reporting period totalled \$703,275.

During the reporting period, the department sponsored the following events:

Event Sponsored	Amount
Territory Natural Resource Management Conference	\$11,000
2025 North Australia Savanna Fire Forum	\$15,000
Australian Youth Delegate to the Emerging Client Leaders Program 2024	\$3,000
NT Cattleman's Association Conference	\$8,250
Developing Northern Australia Conference 2025	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$52,250</b>

## Workforce diversity and inclusion

### Equal employment opportunity

The department is committed to fostering a diverse workforce and values the contributions of people from all cultures and backgrounds. To support this, the department implements a Special Measures Plan that prioritises Aboriginal applicants in recruitment processes to increase Aboriginal employment participation.

#### Employee Diversity count

	2024-25
Female	238
Male	216
Self-specified gender	1
Aboriginality	22
Culturally and linguistically diverse	72
Disability	10

## Health and wellbeing

The department prioritises the health and wellbeing of all employees by providing a range of support initiatives, including flexible working arrangements, immunisation programs, and access to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

### Work-life balance

The department offers flexible working options as a key strategy to enhance productivity and support employees in balancing work and personal commitments. These arrangements accommodate various circumstances, including returning from parental leave, caregiving responsibilities, and transitioning to retirement.

During the reporting period, the department supported 228 flexible work arrangements.

Flexible work arrangement	Under 55 years of age	Over 55 years of age
Averaging hours arrangements	58	9
Individual flexible work agreement	61	15
Part-time employment contracts	35	4
Home-based work agreements	49	6

### Employee Assistance Program

The EAP is available to all employees and their families, offering professional, independent, and confidential counselling services free of charge. The program supports individuals in addressing personal or workplace issues that may affect work performance. Its goal is to provide early detection and proactive interventions to help manage both work-related and personal challenges.

### Flu vaccination program

The department provided influenza (flu) vaccinations as part of its health and wellbeing initiatives. The 2024-25 vaccination program was well-received, with 184 employees vaccinated across Darwin, Palmerston, Katherine, and Alice Springs.



Jonathon and Mathews  
water sampling, Bitter Springs



Diya, Beth, Keira and Cassie  
Building Advisory Services



Heritage team out in the field

## Employment instructions

Under the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 1993*, Employment Instructions provide direction to agencies on human resource management matters. The department's performance against each Employment Instruction is reported below.

Employment instruction	Action
1. Filling vacancies	Recruitment and establishment procedures are available online. All employees involved in the selection process are required to complete Merit Selection and Special Measures Training every three years.
2. Probation	The department's probation procedure aligns with relevant legislation and is available online. New employees are informed about the probation process during induction and provided with clear information regarding their responsibilities. Probation progress is regularly monitored, with managers receiving reminders of upcoming probation due dates to ensure timely compliance.
3. Natural justice	The principles of natural justice are clearly communicated to all employees and are consistently upheld in all employee-related matters. These principles are appropriately embedded in internal policies and procedures, which are available online.
4. Employee management	The department has established performance management systems to support employee development and accountability. The online MyPerformance system is utilised to facilitate ongoing performance planning, monitoring, and feedback.
5. Medical examinations	The department engages qualified health professionals through DCDD to support our staff members when there are concerns pertaining to their health.
6. Performance and inability	The performance and inability guidelines are available online. DCDD Workforce Services provides support to managers addressing under-performance issues and assists both managers and employees in improving performance.
7. Discipline	The discipline employment instruction and related guidelines are available online. DCDD collaborates closely with managers to ensure that disciplinary processes are conducted correctly and in accordance with principles of natural justice.
8. Internal agency complaints and section 59 grievance reviews	The department is committed to having a fair and just working environment and publishes the procedures for resolving complaints and the formal grievance process online.
9. Employment records	DCDD maintains employment records in personnel files, with the department adhering to DCDD policies concerning access to these files.
10. Equality of employment opportunity programs	The department adheres to the principles of the NTPS EmployAbility Strategy and upholds an Inclusion and Diversity Policy, which is available online.
11. Occupational health and safety programs	The department maintains a WHS Management System with procedures designed to support a healthy and safe work environment through consultative and cooperative approaches.
12. Code of Conduct	The Code of Conduct is available online and forms a key component of the essential training provided to all new employees.
13. Appropriate workplace behaviours	The department is committed to providing all employees with a safe and healthy workplace, free from inappropriate behaviours such as bullying, harassment and discrimination. Documentation on addressing inappropriate workplace behaviour is available online and forms part of the essential training for all employees.
14. Redeployment and redundancy procedures	The department complies with the current redeployment and redundancy provisions as set out under the Enterprise Agreement and Employment Instruction 14.
15. Special measures	The department has a Special Measures Plan in place, which is available online.

## Staff recognition

### Nerida Beard

#### Australian Water Association Lifetime Achievement Award 2025



The Lifetime Achievement Award honours members of the Australian Water Association who have made a positive and demonstrable contribution to water management in Australia. This prestigious award recognises individuals who have exemplified outstanding personal and professional commitment in their field, provided leadership and influence among colleagues, promoted water careers, mentored junior professionals, championed diversity and inclusion, and raised community awareness about water issues.

As Executive Director of the Office of Water Security, Nerida leads the Northern Territory's transformative agenda for water security. This award recognises her as a highly collaborative, values-driven leader passionate about making a difference through her work, advocacy, and mentorship over nearly 25 years in water, energy, and sustainability.

### Dr Susannah Clement

#### 2024 NT Young Water Professional of the Year



This award honours individuals whose contributions to the water sector embody the Australian Water Association's mission to inspire and drive a sustainable water future.

Since joining the department in 2021, Susannah has been a pivotal force behind the development of the Territory Water Plan and numerous related initiatives. She has worked collaboratively with the Departments of Health and Housing, as well as Power and Water, to address critical water security challenges in remote communities.

Susannah has led significant reform projects, including safe drinking water reforms, supported infrastructure development proposals, and spearheaded programs aimed at improving community engagement and communication around water quality and supply.



## GEM awards recognition

The department values employees who consistently 'go the extra mile' in their work. The GEM (Go the Extra Mile) program provides a platform to recognise and celebrate these outstanding contributions. The following staff were honoured during the reporting period:



### Joelene Challis

Nominated by Aless Smith and endorsed by Executive Director Amy Dysart, Joelene was recognised for her significant contributions to the Water Regulation Branch and Water Resources Division. The ELT supported her nomination in March 2025. Colleagues praised Joelene for her willingness to support others, enhancing both individual and team performance. Despite managing the Licensing Team and acting as Senior Regulation Officer, Joelene consistently delivered high-quality work on time. Her patience, knowledge, and dedication make her a deserving recipient of the GEM Award.



### David Steinberg

Nominated by the Heritage Branch and endorsed by Executive Director Paul Purdon, David's nomination was supported by the ELT in April 2025. David played a key role in managing remedial works at the Wave Hill Walk Off heritage site, successfully prosecuting the first offence under the *Heritage Act 2011* in the Northern Territory. His extensive consultation, investigation, and evidence collection ensured the protection of this culturally significant site. David's engagement with stakeholders throughout the process was exemplary, helping maintain strong relationships for ongoing heritage protection efforts.

### Raechel Squires

It is with great sadness that we also acknowledge the sudden passing of Raechel Squires on 17 April 2025. Raechel was a dedicated professional who made significant contributions across multiple teams, including Environment Division, Bushfires NT, and most recently Corporate Services. Her work in marine emergency management was exemplary and will be deeply missed.

Raechel was recognised for her pivotal role in developing a strong marine oil spill response capability in the Northern Territory. Raechel was highly respected for her expertise and dedication to emergency management. Jamie Storrie, Manager Response Planning at Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), highlighted Raechel's proactive approach, which significantly boosted training participation across AMSA's courses, including AIIMS, Marine Pollution Response, Advanced Equipment Operator, and Incident Controller Level 2. Raechel's commitment to strengthening marine emergency response capacity in the Northern Territory was outstanding.

# Recognition of Service Milestones



The department proudly recognises staff members who have reached significant length of service milestones within the NTPS during the reporting period. Their ongoing commitment and valuable contributions to public service are highly commendable.

## 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Jonathon Burcher**  
Water Resources Division

**Peter Waugh**  
Office of Water Security

**Mandy Trueman**  
Environment Division

**Elizabeth (Libby) Ewens**  
Environment Division

**Jane Orr**  
Environment Division

**Fity Peehikuru**  
Environment Division

**Graeme Finch**  
Lands and Planning

**Michael Tsakirios**  
Lands and Planning

**Amber Sayers-Hunt**  
Lands and Planning

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## 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Peter Morante**  
Flora and Fauna Division

**Julia Fortune**  
Flora and Fauna Division

**Peter Zeroni**  
Environment Division

**Aidan Smith**  
Water Resources

**Kara Maclean**  
Land Resources

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## 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Megan (Meg) Edmonds**  
Environment Division

**Diane Napier**  
Land Resources

**Bart Edmeades**  
Land Resources

**Mark Meldrum**  
Lands and Planning

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## 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Steven Mueller**  
Land Resources  
Alice Springs

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Environmental Officer conducting an aerial survey with a drone |



# FINANCIAL Statements

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# Financial Statement Overview

For the year ended 30 June 2025

The newly formed Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, as a result of Machinery of Government administrative arrangements on September 2024, consists of five output groups to engage with community, business and industry and support the Territory’s economic development, protect its natural resources and cultural assets through integrated planning, evidence-based advice and efficient regulation.

The department had a final adjusted budget of \$141.864 million, an increase of \$13.823 million from the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report.

The increase primarily consists of:

- recognition of services received free of charge from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure and the Department of Corporate and Digital Development
- one-off non-cash infrastructure related expenditure that does not meet the asset capitalisation criteria
- one-off non-cash capital expenditure in 2024–25 related to land infrastructure assets provided as non-cash capital grants to Power and Water Corporation, as well as local government councils, transferring ownership of assets for no consideration.

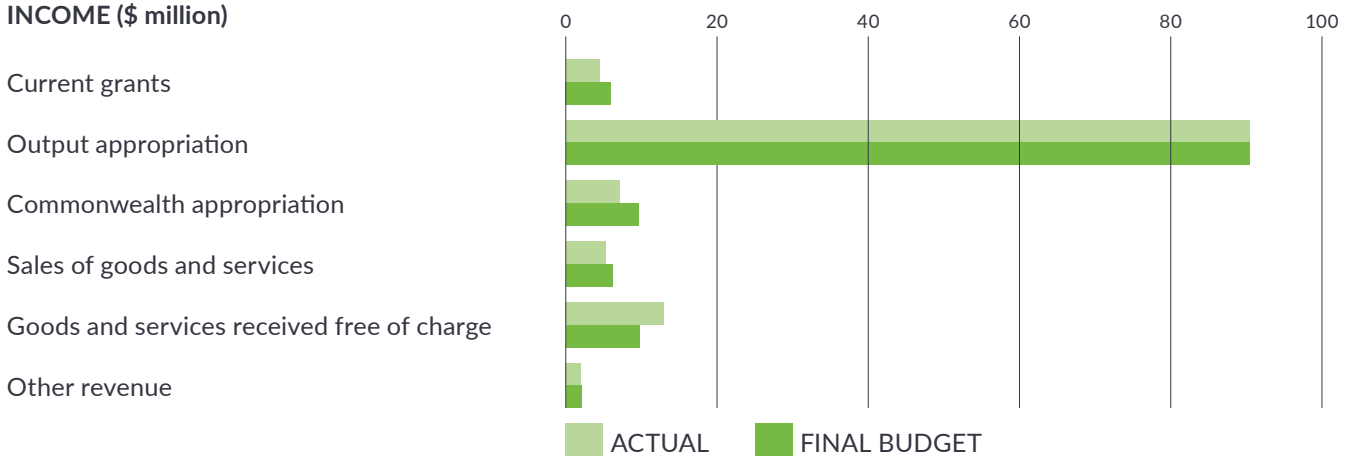
## Operating statement (Financial Performance)

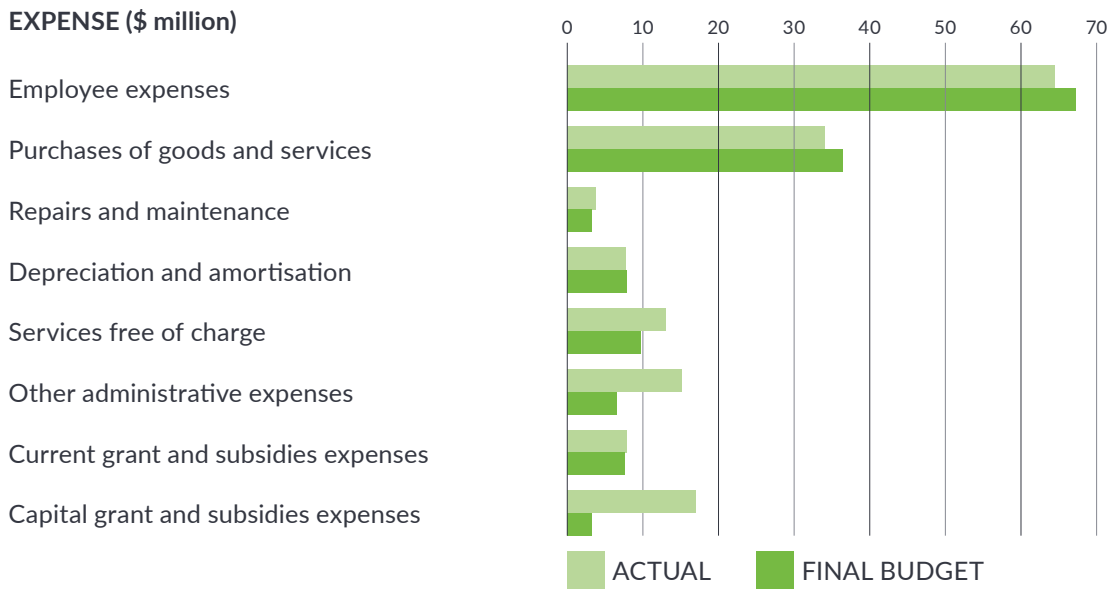
The department reported a net deficit of \$40.815 million for the financial year primarily due to non-cash expenditure such as depreciation, services received free of charge, land infrastructure related expenses not capitalised and lower than anticipated revenue received.

Income for externally funded projects are generally recognised as earned when project milestones are completed. Revised project timeframes contributed to revenue recognition lower than estimated forecasts predominantly for Commonwealth funded projects. These included Saving Native Species Priority Places, National Water Grid Fund and National Soil Action Plan.

When excluding the non-cash expenditure aspects, the department was under forecasted expenditure by \$3.985 million due to the ability to obtain specialist expertise, effective management of staff recruitment, timing of monitoring consultancy and revised externally funded project milestones.

### INCOME (\$ million)

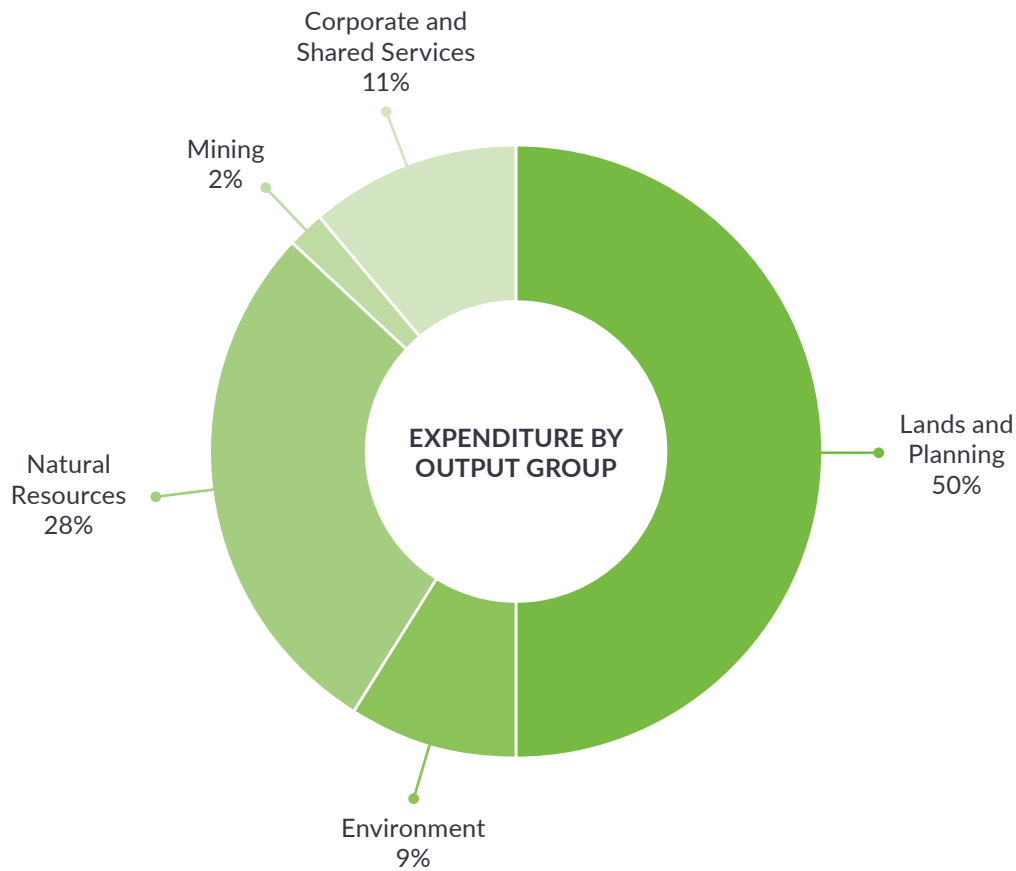




Variations to final budget are detailed below:

	2024-25		
	Actual \$000	Final Budget \$000	Variance \$000
<b>INCOME</b>			
Current grants	4 432	5 974	- 1 542
Output appropriation	90 438	90 438	-
Commonwealth appropriation	7 107	9 627	- 2 520
Sales of goods and services	5 284	6 174	- 890
Interest revenue	23	-	23
Goods and services received free of charge*	12 965	9 753	3 212
Gain (+)/loss (-) on disposal of assets*	677	-	677
Other revenue	1 294	2 101	- 807
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>122 220</b>	<b>124 067</b>	<b>- 1 847</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee expenses	64 518	67 285	- 2 767
Administrative expenses			
Purchases of goods and services	34 092	36 417	- 2 325
Repairs and maintenance	3 724	3 208	516
Depreciation and amortisation	7 777	7 834	- 57
Services free of charge*	12 965	9 753	3 212
Other administrative expenses*	15 158	6 521	8 637
Grants and subsidies expenses			
Current	7 807	7 552	255
Capital*	16 990	3 294	13 696
Interest expenses	4	-	4
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>163 035</b>	<b>141 864</b>	<b>21 171</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS (+)/DEFICIT (-)</b>	<b>- 40 815</b>	<b>- 17 797</b>	<b>- 23 018</b>

\*Denotes, or includes, non-cash item(s)



Key expenditure by Output Group variation:

- **Lands and Planning:**
  - Land Development include non-cash capital grants or expenditure for land servicing works greater than forecasted
  - Crown Land Estate saw increased costs due to property maintenance of vacant crown land
  - Building Advisory Services cost reflects unfunded expenditure in relation to Home Building Certification Fund obligations.
- **Environment:**
  - Environment under expenditure assisted in the department's overall ability to stay within budget.
- **Natural Resources:**
  - Flora and Fauna under expenditure due to consultancy project timing and revised externally funded milestones
  - Water Resources under expenditure due to revised externally funded milestones.

Output Group / Output	2024-25		
	Actual \$000	Final Budget \$000	Variance \$000
<b>Lands and Planning</b>	<b>80 960</b>	<b>55 389</b>	<b>25 571</b>
Land Development	34 612	17 102	17 510
Crown Land Estate	23 620	18 948	4 672
Planning	6 319	6 397	- 78
Building Advisory Services	7 635	3 296	4 339
Land Information and Spatial Analytics	8 490	9 278	- 788
NT Planning Commission	284	368	- 84
<b>Environment</b>	<b>14 752</b>	<b>17 500</b>	<b>- 2 748</b>
Environment Assessment and Policy	5 392	7 670	- 2 278
Environment Regulation	7 164	7 486	- 322
Heritage	1 351	1 415	- 64
Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority	845	929	- 84
<b>Natural Resources</b>	<b>45 455</b>	<b>51 872</b>	<b>- 6 417</b>
Flora and Fauna	15 717	18 569	- 2 852
Water Resources	17 217	19 235	- 2 018
Water Security	2 894	3 521	- 627
Land Resources (formerly Rangelands)	9 627	10 547	- 920
<b>Mining</b>	<b>3 325</b>	<b>3 234</b>	<b>91</b>
Mining	3 325	3 234	91
<b>Corporate and Shared Services</b>	<b>18 543</b>	<b>13 869</b>	<b>4 674</b>
Corporate and governance	5 578	4 116	1 462
Shared services received	12 965	9 753	3 212
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>163 035</b>	<b>141 864</b>	<b>21 171</b>

## Balance sheet (Financial Position)

The balance sheet details the department's net worth and financial position. The department held assets totalling \$1.11 billion, the largest component being Crown land assets.

As at 30 June 2025, the department owns 3,278 land parcels across the Northern Territory with a total carrying amount of \$902 million. During 2024-25, 62% of these parcels were revalued contributing to a net increment of \$43.9 million.

Liabilities predominantly consist of employee entitlements, unearned revenue, payables and provisions for unconditional land acquisition contracts.

## Statement of cash flows

The statement of cash flows represents cash received and expenditure during the year, split between operating, investing and financing activities. At 30 June 2025, the department's cash holding was \$11.36 million.

## Certification of Financial Statements

We certify that the attached financial statements for the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment have been prepared based on proper accounts and records in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and with the requirements as prescribed in the *Financial Management Act 1995* and Treasurer's Directions.

We further state that the information set out in the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, 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 2025 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.



Joanne Townsend  
Chief Executive Officer  
29 August 2025



Desirée Ng  
Chief Financial Officer  
29 August 2025

# Comprehensive operating statement

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$000
<b>INCOME</b>		
Grants and subsidies revenue	4	
Current		4 432
Capital		-
Appropriation	5	
Output		90 438
Commonwealth (excluding capital appropriation)		7 107
Sales of goods and services	6	5 284
Interest revenue		23
Goods and services received free of charge	7	12 965
Gain on disposal of assets	8	677
Other income	9	1 294
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>122 220</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee expenses	10	64 518
Administrative expenses		
Property management		6 136
Purchases of goods and services	11	27 956
Repairs and maintenance		3 724
Depreciation and amortisation	21, 22, 23	7 777
Other administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>		28 123
Grants and subsidies expenses		
Current	12a	7 807
Capital	12b	16 990
Community service obligations	12c	-
Interest expenses	13	4
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>163 035</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(40 815)</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/deficit</b>		
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		36 748
Other comprehensive income		5 052
<b>TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>41 800</b>
<b>COMPREHENSIVE RESULT</b>		<b>985</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes DCDD service charges and DLI repairs and maintenance service charges.

The comprehensive operating statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# Balance sheet

As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$000
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and deposits	15	11 235
Receivables	17	3 617
Inventories	18	15
Advances and investments	19	35
Assets held for sale	24, 31	17 153
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>32 055</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Receivables	17	9 745
Property, plant and equipment	21, 31	1 067 872
Intangibles	22, 31	284
Heritage and cultural assets	23, 31	58
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>1 077 959</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1 110 014</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Deposits held	25	805
Payables	26	5 459
Borrowings and advances	27	97
Provisions	28	17 099
Other liabilities	29	5 381
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>28 841</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Borrowings and advances	27	33
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>33</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>28 874</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1 081 140</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Capital		554 007
Reserves		760 767
Accumulated funds		(233 634)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>1 081 140</b>

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Equity at 1 July \$000	Comprehensive result \$000	Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners \$000	Equity at 30 June \$000
<b>2025</b>				
<b>Accumulated funds</b>				-
Accumulated funds	-	(40 815)	-	(40 815)
Transfers from reserves	-	5 052	-	5 052
Net transfer in from Administrative Arrangements	-	-	(197 871)	(197 871)
<b>Total Accumulated funds</b>	-	<b>(35 763)</b>	<b>(197 871)</b>	<b>(233 634)</b>
<b>Reserves</b>				
Asset Revaluation Reserve	-	36 748	760	37 508
Net transfer in from Administrative Arrangements	-	-	723 259	723 259
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>36 748</b>	<b>724 019</b>	<b>760 767</b>
<b>Capital – transactions with owners</b>				
Equity injections				
Capital appropriation	-	-	1 156	1 156
Equity transfers in	-	-	40 432	40 432
Net transfers from Administrative Arrangements	-	-	512 419	512 419
<b>Total capital – transactions with owners</b>	-	-	<b>554 007</b>	<b>554 007</b>
<b>Total equity at end of financial year</b>	-	<b>985</b>	<b>1 080 155</b>	<b>1 081 140</b>

The 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 2025

	Note	2025 \$000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Operating receipts</b>		
Grants and subsidies received		
Current		5 967
Appropriation received		
Output		90 438
Commonwealth (excluding capital appropriation)		4 990
Receipts from sales of goods and services		11 069
Deposits received		219
<b>Total operating receipts</b>		<b>112 683</b>
<b>Operating payments</b>		
Payments to employees		(64 482)
Payments for goods and services		(44 041)
Grants and subsidies paid		
Current		(7 807)
Capital		(332)
Interest paid		(4)
<b>Total operating payments</b>		<b>(116 666)</b>
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	16	<b>(3 983)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Investing receipts</b>		
Proceeds from sales of non-financial assets	8	3 053
Repayment of advances received		859
<b>Total investing receipts</b>		<b>3 912</b>
<b>Investing payments</b>		
Purchases of non-financial assets		(1 240)
<b>Total investing payments</b>		<b>(1 240)</b>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>		<b>2 672</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>Financing receipts</b>		
Equity injections		
Capital appropriation	5	1 156
Equity transfers in due to Administrative Restructure		11 472
<b>Total financing receipts</b>		<b>12 628</b>
<b>Financing payments</b>		
Lease liabilities payments	16	(82)
<b>Total financing payments</b>		<b>(82)</b>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>		<b>12 546</b>
Net increase in cash held		11 235
Cash at beginning of financial year		-
<b>CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	15	<b>11 235</b>

The cash flow statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

# Index of notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2025

## NOTE

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15	Cash and deposits		
16	Cash flow reconciliation		
17	Receivables		
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19	Advances and investments		
20	Other financial assets		
21	Property, plant and equipment		
22	Intangibles		
23	Heritage and cultural assets		
24	Assets held for sale		
		<b>Liabilities</b>	
		25	Deposits held
		26	Payables
		27	Borrowings and advances
		28	Provisions
		29	Other liabilities
		30	Capital commitments
		<b>Other disclosures</b>	
		31	Fair value measurement
		32	Financial instruments
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		34	Contingent liabilities and contingent assets
		35	Events subsequent to balance date
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		37	Budgetary information
		38	Budgetary information: Administered Territory items

# 1 Objectives and funding

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment engages with community, business and industry to support the Territory's economic development and protect its natural resources and cultural assets through integrated planning, evidence-based advice and efficient regulation.

Additional information in relation to the department and its principal activities may be found in the Achievements by Output Group section of the annual report.

The department considered primary users of these financial statements and their needs for information and quantitative thresholds to determine which accounting policy information is material and therefore must be disclosed.

The department is predominantly funded and therefore dependent, on the receipt of parliamentary appropriations. The financial statements encompass all funds through which the department controls resources to carry on its functions and deliver outputs. For reporting purposes, outputs delivered by the department are summarised into several output groups. Note 3 provides summarised financial information in the form of a comprehensive operating statement by output group.

## a) Machinery of Government changes

It is usual practice to include in the financial statements comparative results of the prior financial year. During the reporting period however, the department was significantly impacted by administrative restructuring as part of Machinery of Government changes initiated in September 2024. The restructuring involved wide-scale transfer of functions into and out of the department making it administratively impractical to have attempted to recast an opening budget covering all transferred functions.

### Transfers in

Details of transfer:	Lands and Planning transferred from the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
	Environment, Flora and Fauna, Rangelands (now Land Resources), Water Resources and Office of Water Security from the Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security
	Heritage from the Department of Territory, Families, Housing and Communities
	Mining Operations transferred from the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade
Basis of transfer:	Administrative Arrangement Order (No.3) 2024
Date of transfer:	Effective from 1 July 2024

The assets and liabilities transferred as a result of this change were as follows:

	\$000
<b>Assets</b>	
Cash	11 427
Inventory	(251)
Receivables	13 550
Advances and investments	859
Assets held for sale	20 108
Property, plant and equipment	701 142
	746 835
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Deposits held	(738)
Payables	2 185
Borrowings and advances	(81 915)
Provisions	4 274
Other liabilities	4 828
	(71 366)
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>818 201</b>

## 2 Statement of material accounting policy information

### a) Statement of compliance

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1995*, related Treasurer's Directions and Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The *Financial Management Act 1995* requires the department to prepare financial statements for the year ended 30 June based on the form determined by the Treasurer. The form of department financial statements should include:

1. a certification of the financial statements
2. a comprehensive operating statement
3. a balance sheet
4. a statement of changes in equity
5. a cash flow statement and
6. applicable explanatory notes to the financial statements.

#### Standards and interpretations effective from 2024–25 financial year

Several amendments and interpretations have been issued that apply to the current reporting period, but are considered to have no or minimal impact on public sector reporting.

#### Standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

No Australian accounting standards have been adopted early for the 2024–25 financial year. Several amendments interpretations have been issued that apply to future reporting periods but are considered to have no or minimal impact on public sector reporting.

### b) Department and Territory items

The financial statements of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment include income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity over which the department has control (department items) and is able to utilise to further its own objectives. Certain items, while managed by the department, are administered 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 department's financial statements. However, as the department is accountable for certain Territory items managed on behalf of government, these items have been separately disclosed in Note 36 – Schedule of administered Territory items.

### c) 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. Figures in the financial statements and notes may not equate due to rounding.

### d) Contributions by and distributions to government

The department may receive contributions from government where the government is acting as owner of the department. Conversely, the agency may make distributions to government. In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1995* 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 department as adjustments to equity.

The statement of changes in equity provides additional information in relation to contributions by, and distributions to, government.

### 3 Comprehensive operating statement by output group

	Note	2025					Total \$000
		Lands and Planning \$000	Environment \$000	Natural Resources \$000	Mining \$000	Corporate and Shared Services \$000	
<b>INCOME</b>							
Taxation revenue							
Grants and subsidies revenue	4						
Current		86	22	4 324	-	-	4 432
Capital		-	-	-	-	-	-
Community service obligations		-	-	-	-	-	-
Appropriation	5						
Output		32 294	16 726	34 620	2 795	4 003	90 438
Commonwealth		-	150	6 957	-	-	7 107
Sales of goods and services	6	4 329	-	955	-	-	5 284
Interest revenue		23	-	-	-	-	23
Goods and services received free of charge	7	4 629	2 398	4 963	401	574	12 965
Gain on disposal of assets	8	639	-	38	-	-	677
Other income	9	572	10	254	434	24	1 294
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>42 572</b>	<b>19 306</b>	<b>52 111</b>	<b>3 630</b>	<b>4 601</b>	<b>122 220</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>							
Employee expenses	10	21 008	11 043	25 698	2 349	4 420	64 518
Administrative expenses							
Property management		5 095	49	696	15	281	6 136
Purchases of goods and services	11	11 040	2 732	12 485	956	743	27 956
Repairs and maintenance		3 720	-	-	-	4	3 724
Depreciation and amortisation	21, 22, 23	6 433	231	990	5	118	7 777
Other administrative expenses <sup>1</sup>		19 672	2 450	5 014	401	586	28 123
Grants and subsidies expenses							
Current	12a	1 629	645	5 533	-	-	7 807
Capital	12b	16 990	-	-	-	-	16 990
Interest expenses	13	1	-	3	-	-	4
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>85 588</b>	<b>17 150</b>	<b>50 419</b>	<b>3 726</b>	<b>6 152</b>	<b>163 035</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(43 016)</b>	<b>2 156</b>	<b>1 692</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>(1 551)</b>	<b>(40 815)</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>							
Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/deficit		5 052	-	-	-	-	5 052
Changes in asset revaluation surplus		36 748	-	-	-	-	36 748
<b>TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>41 800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41 800</b>
<b>COMPREHENSIVE RESULT</b>		<b>(1 216)</b>	<b>2 156</b>	<b>1 692</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>(1 551)</b>	<b>985</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes DCDD service charges and DLI repairs and maintenance service charges.

As a consequence of AAO changes on 10 September 2024, financial statements of the department reflect the actual period of responsibility for the outputs, being the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 for the transferring output Lands and Planning, Environment, Natural Resources, and Mining.

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment is predominantly funded by parliamentary appropriations for the provision of outputs. Outputs are the services provided or goods produced by an agency for users external to the agency. They support the delivery of the agency's objectives and or statutory responsibilities. The above table disaggregates revenue and expenses that enable delivery of services by output group which form part of the balances of the department.

This comprehensive operating statement by output group is to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

## 4 Grants and subsidies revenue

	2025		
	Revenue from contracts with customers	Other	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000
Current grants	4 432	-	4 432
<b>Total grants and subsidies revenue</b>	<b>4 432</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4 432</b>

Grants revenue is recognised at fair value exclusive of GST in accordance with the requirements of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities.

To determine if a grant should be accounted for under AASB 1058 or AASB 15, the department must determine if the relevant agreement is 'enforceable' and contains 'sufficiently specific' performance obligations. When assessing whether the performance obligations are 'sufficiently specific', the department has applied significant judgement by performing a detailed analysis of the terms and conditions contained in the grant agreement, including accompanying documentation (e.g. activity work plans) and where necessary holding discussions with relevant parties.

Income recognition from grants received by the department has been appropriately accounted for under AASB 1058 or AASB 15 based on the assessment performed.

Where assessed as AASB 15, revenue is initially deferred as unearned contract revenue liability, included in Note 29 Other Liabilities, when received in advance and recognised as or when the performance obligations are satisfied.

The department's contracts with customers are primarily for research services to conserve, protect and maintain flora, fauna and waterways. Funding is generally received upfront and the department typically satisfies obligations and recognises revenue as services are being delivered as specified in the agreement.

A financing component for consideration is only recognised if it is significant to the contract and the period between the transfer of goods and services and receipt of consideration is more than one year. For the 2024-25 reporting period there were no adjustments for the effects of a significant financing component.

Where grant agreements do not meet criteria above, they are accounted for under AASB 1058 and are recognised upfront on receipt of funding.

Capital grants with enforceable contracts and sufficiently specific obligations are deferred as an unearned capital grants liability, included in Note 29 Other Liabilities, when received and subsequently recognised progressively as revenue as or when the department satisfies its obligations under the agreement. Where a non-financial asset is purchased, revenue is recognised at the point in time the asset is acquired and control transfers to the department.

Grant revenue, passed on from a Territory Government-controlled entity with the exception of the Central Holding Authority, is recognised upfront on receipt, irrespective of which revenue accounting standard it may fall under in accordance with the Treasurer's Direction on income.

Grant agreements accounted as revenue from contracts with customers have been disaggregated below into categories to enable users of these financial statements to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of income and cash flows. These categories include a description of the type of product or service line, type of customer and timing of transfer of goods and services.

	2025 \$000
<b>Type of good and service:</b>	
Regulatory services	52
Service delivery	25
Research services	4 084
Other	271
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>4 432</b>
<b>Type of customer:</b>	
Commonwealth Government	1 257
State and Territory Government	-
Non-government entities	3 175
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>4 432</b>
<b>Timing of transfer of goods and services:</b>	
Over time	4 432
Point in time	-
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>4 432</b>

## 5 Appropriation

Appropriation recorded in the operating statement includes output appropriation and Commonwealth appropriation received for the delivery of services.

	2025		
	Revenue from contracts with customers \$000	Other \$000	Total \$000
Output	-	90 438	90 438
Commonwealth	7 107	-	7 107
<b>Total appropriation in the operating statement</b>	<b>7 107</b>	<b>90 438</b>	<b>97 545</b>

Appropriation recorded in the cash flow statement includes capital appropriation and Commonwealth capital appropriation received for the delivery of assets to be retained by the department.

	2025		
	Revenue from contracts with customers \$000	Other \$000	Total \$000
Capital	1 156	-	1 156
Commonwealth	4 990	-	4 990
<b>Total appropriation in the cash flow statement</b>	<b>6 146</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6 146</b>

Output appropriation is the operating payment to each department for the outputs they provide as specified in the Appropriation Act. It does not include any allowance for major non-cash costs such as depreciation. Output appropriations do not have sufficiently specific performance obligations and are recognised on receipt of funds.

Commonwealth appropriation follows from the intergovernmental agreement on federal financial relations, resulting in specific purpose payments (SPPs) and national partnership (NP) payments being made by the Commonwealth Treasury to state treasuries, in a manner similar to arrangements for GST payments. These payments are received by the Department of Treasury and Finance on behalf of the Central Holding Authority and then passed on to the relevant agencies as Commonwealth appropriation.

Where Commonwealth appropriation received has an enforceable contract with sufficiently specific performance obligations, the transaction is accounted for under AASB 15 as revenue from contracts with customers. In this case, revenue is recognised as and when goods and or services are transferred to the customer or third party beneficiary. Otherwise revenue is recognised when the department gains control of the funds. The department's contracts with customers primarily include services provided under the National Water Grid Fund, National Soil Action Plan, and National Pest Animal and Weed Management for the delivery of environmental monitoring, conservation and sustainable management. Funding is generally received upfront and the department typically satisfies obligations and recognises revenue as services are being delivered as specified in the agreement.

Commonwealth appropriations accounted as revenue from contracts with customers have been disaggregated below into categories to enable users of these financial statements to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of income and cash flows. These categories include a description of the type of product or service line, type of customer and timing of transfer of goods and services.

	2025 \$000
<b>Type of good and service:</b>	
Service delivery	4 971
Research services	1 543
Other	593
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>7 107</b>
<b>Type of customer:</b>	
Commonwealth Government	7 107
State and Territory Government	-
Non-government entities	-
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>7 107</b>
<b>Timing of transfer of goods and services:</b>	
Over time	7 107
Point in time	-
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>7 107</b>

## a) Summary of changes to appropriations

The following table presents changes to budgeted appropriations authorised during the current financial year together with explanations for significant changes. It compares the amounts originally identified in the *Appropriation (2024-2025) Act 2024* with revised appropriations as reported in 2025-26 Budget Paper No. 3 Agency Budget Statements and the final end of year appropriation.

The changes within this table relate only to appropriation and do not include department revenue (for example, goods and services revenue and grants received directly by the department) or expenditure. Refer to Note 37 Budgetary information for detailed information on variations to the department's actual outcome compared to budget for revenue and expenses.

	Original 2024-25 budget appropriation \$000	Revised 2024-25 budget appropriation \$000	Change to budget appropriation (b-a) \$000	Note	Final 2024-25 budget appropriation (d) \$000	Change to budget appropriation (d-b) \$000
Output	92 293	90 666	(1 627)	1	90 438	(228)
Capital	10 749	928	(9 821)	2	1 156	228
Commonwealth	11 646	9 627	(2 019)	3	9 627	-
<b>Total appropriation</b>	<b>114 688</b>	<b>101 221</b>	<b>(13 467)</b>		<b>101 221</b>	<b>-</b>

Output and capital appropriations reflect funding as a direct result of government-approved decisions, with actual funding received by the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment in line with budgeted amounts.

Commonwealth appropriation reflects funding anticipated to be received from the Commonwealth for both operational and capital purposes. As Commonwealth appropriations are largely recognised as or when performance obligations are satisfied, the actual amounts received by the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment and reported in these financial statements may vary from the budgeted amounts reported in this table.

The following are explanations of changes over \$1 million or where there is a significant offset resulting in net changes under \$1 million.

1. Transfer of funds between years to enable key environmental activities and land development objectives due to resourcing shortages in technical specialties leading to delays or timing of operational requirements.
2. Timing of land acquisition between years to support strategic infrastructure programs including Darwin Regional Water Supply.
3. Transfer of funds between years primarily related to programs National Water Grid Funds and National Soil Action Plan.

## 6 Sales of goods and services

	2025		
	Revenue from contracts with customers \$000	Other \$000	Total \$000
Fees from regulatory services	1 022	-	1 022
Other goods and services revenue	2 485	1 777	4 262
<b>Total sales of goods and services</b>	<b>3 507</b>	<b>1 777</b>	<b>5 284</b>

### Fees from regulatory services

Revenue from regulatory fees include fees for the issue of licences, and is generally recognised when the department satisfies its performance obligations or upfront on receipt of cash for licences with a term less than 12 months or a low value of \$10,000 or less.

The department's sole performance obligations for the issue of a non-intellectual property licence is the issue of the licence, therefore revenue is recognised upfront on issue of the licence. For intellectual property licences, revenue is recognised at a point in time or over time as or when the performance obligation is satisfied.

### Sales of goods and service delivery revenue

Sale of goods and service delivery revenue comprise income from rendering of services, and sales of goods and services. These are recognised at fair value, exclusive of GST.

## Sales of goods

Revenue from sales of goods is recognised when the department satisfies a performance obligation by transferring the promised goods. The department typically satisfies its performance obligations when services have been completed. The payments are typically due at that point in time.

Revenue from these sales are based on the price specified in the contract, and revenue is only recognised to the extent that it is highly probable a significant reversal will not occur. There is no element of financing present as sales are made with a short credit term.

## Rendering of services

Revenue from rendering of services is recognised when the department satisfies the performance obligation by transferring the promised services. The department provides commercial land information and environmental research expertise. The department typically satisfies its performance obligations when completed. Where a performance obligation is satisfied at a point in time the customer obtains control of goods and services upon receipt or when milestone agreements are met.

Sales of goods and services accounted as revenue from contracts with customers have been disaggregated below into categories to enable users of these financial statements to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of income and cash flows. These categories include a description of the type of product or service line, type of customer and timing of transfer of goods and services.

	2025 \$000
<b>Type of good and service:</b>	
Regulatory services	1 022
Service delivery	2 147
Research services	299
Other	39
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>3 507</b>
<b>Type of customer:</b>	
Commonwealth Government	29
State and Territory Government	1 477
Non-government entities	2 001
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>3 507</b>
<b>Timing of transfer of goods and services:</b>	
Over time	299
Point in time	3 208
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>3 507</b>

## 7 Goods and services received free of charge

	2025 \$000
Corporate and information services	6 657
Repairs and maintenance	6 308
<b>Total goods and services received free of charge</b>	<b>12 965</b>

Resources received free of charge are recognised as revenue when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense. Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Repairs and maintenance expenses incurred on the department's assets and costs associated with administration of these expenses are centralised and in the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure on behalf of the department, and form part of goods and services received free of charge by the department.

In addition, the following corporate services staff and functions are centralised and provided by Department of Corporate and Digital Development on behalf of the department and form part of goods and services received free of charge by the department:

- financial services including accounts receivable, accounts payable and payroll
- employment and workforce services
- information management services
- procurement services
- property leasing services.

## 8 Gain on disposal of assets

	2025 \$000
Net proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	3 015
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	2 376
Gain on the disposal of non-current assets – Land	639
Net proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	23
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	-
Gain on the disposal of non-current assets - Plant and Equipment	23
Net proceeds from the disposal of non-current assets	11
Less: Carrying value of non-current assets disposed	-
Gain on the disposal of non-current assets – Transport Equipment	11
Proceeds from sale of minor assets	4
<b>Total gain on disposal of assets</b>	<b>677</b>

## 9 Other income

	2025		
	Revenue from contracts with customers \$000	Other \$000	Total \$000
Miscellaneous revenue	1 287	7	1 294
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>1 287</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1 294</b>

### Miscellaneous revenue

Miscellaneous revenue includes reimbursements, and research funding from non-government organisations. Where funding is received for agreements that are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations for the department to transfer goods or services to the grantor or third-party beneficiary, the transaction is accounted for under AASB 15 as revenue from contracts with customers. Where this criteria is not met, revenue is generally accounted for under AASB 1058 and income is generally recognised upfront upon receipt of funding.

Revenue arising from contracts with customers include independent monitoring of McArthur River Mine; performance obligations are satisfied when monitoring services are completed.

Other income accounted for as revenue from contracts with customers have been disaggregated below into categories to enable users of these financial statements to understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of income and cash flows. These categories include a description of the type of product or service line, type of customer and timing of transfer of goods and services.

	2025 \$000
<b>Type of good and service:</b>	
Service delivery	1 039
Other	248
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>1 287</b>
<b>Type of customer:</b>	
Commonwealth Government	-
State and Territory Government	525
Non-government entities	762
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>1 287</b>
<b>Timing of transfer of goods and services:</b>	
Over time	-
Point in time	1 287
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>1 287</b>

## 10 Employee benefits expense

	2025 \$000
Salaries and wages	54 592
Superannuation expenses	6 439
Fringe benefits tax	176
Payroll tax	3 311
<b>Total employee benefits expense</b>	<b>64 518</b>

The number of full-time equivalent employees for 2024–25 was 445.

Salaries and wages are recognised in the reporting period when the employee renders services to the NT Government. It includes recreation leave, labour hire costs, allowances and other benefits, which are recognised in the reporting period when employees are entitled to the benefit or when incurred.

The recognition and measurement policy for employee benefits is detailed in Note 26 Payables and Note 28 Provisions.

## 11 Purchases of goods and services

	2025 \$000
The net surplus/(deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:	
<b>Goods and services expenses:</b>	
Consultants <sup>1</sup>	4 966
Advertising <sup>2</sup>	105
Marketing and promotion <sup>3</sup>	347
Document production	61
Legal expenses <sup>4</sup>	2 731
Recruitment <sup>5</sup>	208
Training and study	651
Official duty fares	755
Travelling allowance	394
Information technology charges and communications <sup>6</sup>	7 290
Motor vehicle expenses <sup>7</sup>	2 201
Other	8 247
<b>Total purchases of goods and services</b>	<b>27 956</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes marketing, promotion and IT consultants.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include recruitment related advertising or advertising for marketing and promotion.

<sup>3</sup> Includes advertising for marketing and promotion but excludes marketing and promotion consultants' expenses, which are incorporated in the consultants category.

<sup>4</sup> Includes legal fees, claim and settlement costs.

<sup>5</sup> Includes recruitment-related advertising costs.

<sup>6</sup> Excludes IT consultants which are incorporated in the consultants category.

<sup>7</sup> Includes lease costs to NT Fleet.

Purchases of goods and services generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations, including supplies and service costs recognised in the reporting period in which they are incurred.

## 12 Grant and subsidies expenses

### a) Current grant and subsidy expense

	2025 \$000
<b>Current grants</b>	
Private and not-for-profit sector	6 138
Grants to other sectors of government	1 419
<b>Total current grants</b>	<b>7 557</b>
<b>Subsidy</b>	
Private and not-for-profit sector	250
Total subsidies	250
<b>Total current grant and subsidy expense</b>	<b>7 807</b>

Current grants expenses are intended to finance the current activities of the recipient for which no economic benefits of equal value are receivable in return. Current grant expenses largely comprise Aboriginal Ranger grants, Darwin Harbour Catchment Waterways and Ichthys Coastal Management programs to improve and conserve riparian habitat, enhance biodiversity, improve water quality and hydrology, and conserve threatened marine habitat.

Subsidies are payments aimed at reducing all or part of the costs of an activity. This includes payment made to NT Land Corporation.

Current grant and subsidy expenses are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable, exclusive of the amount of GST.

### b) Capital grant expense

	2025 \$000
Local government	
Northern Territory Government schools	6 469
Private and not-for-profit sector	1 564
Grants to other sectors of government	8 957
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 990</b>

Capital grant expenses are transfers made to a recipient for the purpose of acquiring or constructing a new physical asset or upgrading an existing physical assets, for which no economic benefits of equal value are receivable in return. It also includes the transfer of existing department assets to another entity for which no economic benefits of equal value are receivable in return.

Capital grant expenses largely comprise of non-cash capital works expenditure relating to expenditure for land servicing works; asset ownership transferred to Power Water Corporation and local government councils for nil consideration; and payments to private sector for works completed under the Home Building Certification Fund.

Capital grant expenses are recognised in the reporting period in which they are paid or payable, exclusive of the amount of GST. Where an existing department asset is transferred to a recipient, the transaction is recognised when the department transfers control of asset to the recipient.

## 13 Interest expenses

	2025 \$000
Interest from lease liabilities	4
<b>Total interest expenses</b>	<b>4</b>

Interest expenses consist of interest and other costs incurred in connection with the borrowing of funds. It includes interest on lease liabilities. Interest expenses are recognised in the reporting period in which they are incurred.

## 14 Write-offs, postponements, waivers, gifts and ex gratia payments

The following table presents all write-offs, waivers, postponements, gifts and ex gratia payments approved under the *Financial Management Act 1995* or other legislation that the agency administers.

	Agency items		Territory items	
	2025 \$000	No. of trans.	2025 \$000	No. of trans.
<b>Authorised under the <i>Financial Management Act 1995</i></b>				
<b>Write offs, postponements and waivers approved by delegates</b>				
Irrecoverable money written off	-	-	-	-
Losses or deficiencies of money written off	-	-	-	-
Value of public property written off	16	6	-	-
Postponement of right to receive or recover money or property	-	-	-	-
Waiver of right to receive or recover money or property	-	-	-	-
<b>Total write offs, postponements and waivers approved by delegates</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Ex gratia payments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total authorised under the <i>Financial Management Act 1995</i></b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Authorised under other legislation</b>				
Write-offs, postponements and waivers	-	-	-	-
Gifts <sup>1</sup>	3 500	1	-	-
<b>Total authorised under other legislation</b>	<b>3 500</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>1</sup> Gifted under provisions of the *Kenbi Land Trust Act 2011* and *Crown Lands Act 1992*.

### Write-off

Write-offs reflect the removal from accounting records the value of public money or public property owing to, or loss sustained by the Territory or department. It refers to circumstance where the Territory or a department has made all attempts to pursue the debt, however, is deemed irrecoverable due to reasons beyond the Territory or an department's control. Write-offs result in no cash outlay and are accounted for under 'Other administrative expenses' in the comprehensive operating statement.

## Waiver

Waivers reflect the election to forego a legal right to recover public money or receive public property. Once agreed with and communicated to the debtor, it will have the effect of extinguishing the debt and renouncing the right to any future claim on that public money or public property. Waivers result in no cash outlay, and are accounted for under 'Current grants and subsidies expense' in the comprehensive operating statement.

## Postponement

A postponement is a deferral of a right to recover public money or receipt of public property from its due date. This has no effect on revenues or expenses recognised but may affect cash inflows or assets in use.

## Gifts

A gift is an asset or property, deemed surplus to government's requirements, transferred to a suitable recipient, without receiving any consideration or compensation, and where there is no constructive or legal obligation for the transfer. Gifted property is accounted under 'Other administrative expenses' in the comprehensive operating statement.

## Ex gratia

Ex gratia payments or act-of-grace payments are gratuitous payments where no legal obligation exists. All ex gratia payments are approved by the Treasurer. Ex gratia payments result in cash outlay and are accounted for under 'Purchases of goods and services' in the comprehensive operating statement.

# 15 Cash and deposits

	2025 \$000
Cash on hand	1
Cash at bank	11 234
<b>Total cash and deposits</b>	<b>11 235</b>

For the purposes of the balance sheet 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.

## 16 Cash flow reconciliation

### a) Reconciliation of cash

The total of department 'Cash and deposits' of \$11.2 million recorded in the balance sheet is consistent with that recorded as 'Cash' in the cash flow statement.

#### Reconciliation of net surplus/(deficit) to net cash from operating activities

	2025 \$000
<b>Net surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(40 815)</b>
<i>Non-cash items:</i>	
Depreciation and amortisation	7 777
Gain on sale of assets	(677)
Asset write-offs/write-downs	126
Assets expensed - WIP	11 709
Capital grants non-cash	16 658
Gifted Assets	3 500
Interest and charges on advances and investments	(35)
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities net of transfers in due to administrative restructuring:</i>	
Increase in receivables	(545)
Increase in inventories	(15)
Increase in deposits held	219
Decrease in payables	(1 066)
Decrease in provisions	(120)
Decrease in other liabilities	(699)
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(3 983)</b>

### b) Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

2025	Cash flows							Other			30 June \$000
	1 July \$000	Loans and advances \$000	Securities \$000	Lease liabilities repayments \$000	Service concession liabilities \$000	Other \$000	Total cash flows \$000	Lease liability transfers in \$000	New lease liability \$000	Total other \$000	
Borrowings and advances	-	-	-	(82)	-	-	(82)	35	177	212	130
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>(82)</b>	-	-	<b>(82)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>130</b>

### c) Non-cash financing and investing activities

#### Lease transactions

During the financial year, the department recorded right-of-use assets for the lease of remote land and equipment with an aggregate value of \$133,000.

# 17 Receivables

	2025 \$000
<b>Current</b>	
Accounts receivable	32
Less: loss allowance	(12)
	<hr/> 20
Contract receivables	830
Less: loss allowance	(581)
	<hr/> 249
Accrued contract revenue	965
GST receivables	1 325
Other receivables	522
Prepayments	536
<b>Non-current</b>	
Accounts receivable	825
Prepayments	8 920
<b>Total receivables</b>	<hr/> <b>13 362</b>

Receivables are initially recognised when the department becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument and are measured at fair value less any directly attributable transaction costs. Receivables include contract receivables, accounts receivable, accrued contract revenue and other receivables.

Receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairments.

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

The loss allowance reflects lifetime expected credit losses and represents the amount of receivables the department estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful.

## Accrued contract revenue

Accrued contract revenue relates to the department's right to consideration in exchange for works completed but not invoiced at the reporting date primarily in respect of services provided towards completion of federally funded programs. Once the department's rights to payment becomes unconditional, usually on issue of an invoice, accrued contract revenue balances are reclassified as contract receivables. Accrued revenue that does not arise from contracts with customers are reported as part of other receivables.

## Prepayments

Prepayments represent payments made in advance of receipt of goods and services. Prepayments are recognised on an accrual basis and amortised over the period in which the economic benefits from these assets are received.

## Credit risk exposure of receivables

Receivables are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure exposure to bad debts is not significant. The entity applies the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses. This approach recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime expected credit losses for all accounts receivables, contracts receivables and accrued contract revenue. To measure expected credit losses, receivables have been grouped based on shared risk characteristics and days past due.

The expected loss rates are based on historical observed loss rates. Further macroeconomic trends were not applied to the expected credit loss as these factors were inherently included through the decrease in the observed collection rate.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Financial Management Act 1995*, receivables are written off when based on demonstrated actions to collect, there is no reasonable expectation of recovery for reasons beyond the department's control.

The loss allowance for receivables at reporting date represents the amount of receivables the department estimates is likely to be uncollectible and is considered doubtful. Ageing analysis and reconciliation of loss allowance for receivables as at the reporting date are disclosed below.

Internal receivables reflect amounts owing from entities controlled by the NT Government such as other agencies, government business divisions and government owned corporations. External receivables reflect amounts owing from third parties which are external to the NT Government.

### Ageing analysis

	2025			
	Gross receivables \$000	Loss rate %	Expected credit losses \$000	Net receivables \$000
<b>Internal receivables</b>				
Not overdue	10	0%	-	10
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	0%	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	0%	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	1	0%	-	1
<b>Total internal receivables</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>External receivables</b>				
Not overdue	1 028	0%	-	1 028
Overdue for less than 30 days	12	0%	-	12
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	33	0%	-	33
Overdue for more than 60 days	603	98%	593	10
<b>Total external receivables</b>	<b>1 676</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>1 083</b>

Total amounts disclosed exclude statutory amounts and prepayments as these do not meet the definition of a financial instrument and therefore will not reconcile to the receivables note. It also excludes accrued contract revenue where no loss allowance has been provided.

### Reconciliation of loss allowance for receivables

	2025 \$000
<b>External receivables</b>	
Opening balance	-
Transfers due to administrative restructuring	769
Decrease in allowance recognised in profit or loss	(176)
<b>Total external receivables</b>	<b>593</b>

## 18 Inventories

	2025 \$000
<b>General inventories</b>	
At cost	15
<b>Total inventories</b>	<u>15</u>

Inventories include assets held either for sale or distribution at no or nominal consideration in the ordinary course of business operations.

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, except for those held for distribution which are carried at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

The cost of inventories held for distribution are assigned using a mixture of first in, first out or weighted average cost formula, or using specific identification of their individual costs.

Inventory held for distribution is regularly assessed for obsolescence and loss.

## 19 Advances and investments

	2025 \$000
<b>Current</b>	
Advances paid	35
Less: loss allowance	-
<b>Total advances and investments</b>	<u>35</u>

### a) Advances paid

During 2012-13, the Territory provided a loan to the Master Builders Association (NT) towards the Fidelity Fund Scheme for Residential Building Cover which replaced the Home Building Certification Fund (HBCF). On 31 December 2012 the HBCF ceased issuing new policies and was replaced by the Residential Building Cover Package.

Advances paid are recognised initially at fair value plus or minus relevant transaction costs and are recognised in the balance sheet when the department becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instruments. Where the advances are provided with interest free periods or at concessional interest rates, they are considered to have a fair value which is less than the amount lent. This fair value is calculated in accordance with Note 31. The difference between the amount lent and the fair value is recognised as an expense in the comprehensive operating statement except when loss is deferred.

Subsequently, advances paid are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The average discount rate used to calculate the amortised cost is 4.29%.

Loss allowances on advances paid reflect either 12-month or lifetime expected credit losses depending on changes in credit risk and represents the amount of advances paid the department estimates are likely to be uncollectible and are considered doubtful.

No loss allowance has been recognised for the department as all advances are expected to be collected in full.

## Credit risk exposure of advances paid

Advances paid are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure exposure to bad debts is not significant. The department applies the AASB 9 general approach to measuring expected credit losses. This approach recognises a loss allowance based on 12-month expected credit losses if there has been no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition and lifetime expected credit losses if there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition.

The loss allowance for advance paid represents amount of advances paid the department estimates to be uncollectible and is considered doubtful. No amount is considered doubtful as the advance is expected to be collected in full.

### Ageing analysis

	2025			
	Gross advances paid \$000	Loss rate %	Expected credit losses \$000	Net advances paid \$000
<b>External advances paid</b>				
Not overdue	35	0%	-	35
Overdue for less than 30 days	-	0%	-	-
Overdue for 30 to 60 days	-	0%	-	-
Overdue for more than 60 days	-	0%	-	-
<b>Total external advances paid</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35</b>

## 20 Other financial assets

### a) Department as a lessor

#### Finance leases

Leases under which the department transfers substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset are classified as finance leases.

Subleases are classified by reference to the right-of-use asset arising from the head lease, rather than by reference to the underlying asset. A sublease is an arrangement where the underlying asset is re-leased by a lessee (intermediate lessor) to another party, and the lease (head lease) between the head lessor and original lessee remains in effect.

Finance income arising from finance leases is recognised over the lease term, based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the lessor's net investment in the lease.

The department does not have any finance lease or sublease arrangements.

#### Operating leases

An operating lease is a lease other than a finance lease. Rental income arising is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease terms and is included in revenue in the comprehensive operating statement due to its operating nature. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the underlying asset and recognised over the lease term on the same basis as rental income. Contingent rents are recognised as revenue in the period in which they are earned.

The department owns land that is leased to tenants under operating lease arrangements with rentals payable monthly. Lease payments for some contracts include CPI increases, but there are no other variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate.

The leases at the Frances Bay Mooring Basin and Sadgroves Creek Mooring are generally for a 12-month licence with an option to extend annually up to 5 years. Rental receivables greater than one year are not certain.

Future minimum rentals receivable (undiscounted) under non-cancellable operating lease as at 30 June are as follows:

	2025 \$000
Less than one year	340
One to two years	-
Two to three years	-
Three to four years	-
Four to five years	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>340</b>

### b) Contract cost asset

Costs to obtain a contract are expensed where goods and services will be transferred within one year or less and only capitalised if deemed material. NT Government employee costs that satisfy the criteria for recognition as a cost to fulfil a contract are not capitalised and are expensed immediately. Other costs to fulfil a contract are accounted for as a contract cost asset if deemed material. For the 2024-25 financial year, no costs were capitalised as a contract cost asset.

## 21 Property, plant and equipment

### a) Total property, plant and equipment

	2025 \$000
<b>Land</b>	
At fair value	884 470
	<u>884 470</u>
<b>Buildings</b>	
At fair value	58 431
Less: accumulated depreciation	(44 443)
	<u>13 988</u>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
At fair value	196 332
Less: accumulated depreciation	(30 880)
	<u>165 452</u>
<b>Plant and equipment</b>	
At fair value	13 777
Less: accumulated depreciation	(10 654)
	<u>3 123</u>
<b>Right of use assets</b>	
At fair value	211
Less: accumulated depreciation	(78)
	<u>133</u>
<b>Computer hardware</b>	
At fair value	849
Less: accumulated depreciation	(622)
	<u>227</u>
<b>Transport equipment</b>	
At fair value	3 309
Less: accumulated depreciation	(2 830)
	<u>479</u>
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<u>1 067 872</u>

## Reconciliation of carrying amount of property, plant and equipment

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

2025	Land \$000	Buildings \$000	Infrastructure \$000	Plant and equipment \$000	Right of use \$000	Computer hardware \$000	Transport equipment \$000	Total \$000
Carrying amount as at 1 July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	8 364	98	-	1 195	177	24	-	9 858
Disposals	(5 876)	-	-	(16)	-	-	-	(5 892)
Additions/disposals from administrative restructuring	836 186	13 006	161 334	2 333	34	326	718	1 013 937
Additions/disposals from asset transfers	1 150	2 315	9 198	162	-	-	-	12 825
Depreciation/amortisation expense	-	(1 431)	(5 080)	(551)	(78)	(123)	(239)	(7 502)
Revaluation increments/decrements	41 690	110	-	-	-	-	-	41 800
Impairment losses	-	(110)	-	-	-	-	-	(110)
Transfers to/from assets held for sale	2 956	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 956
<b>Carrying amount as at 30 June</b>	<b>884 470</b>	<b>13 988</b>	<b>165 452</b>	<b>3 123</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1 067 872</b>

## b) Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment used by the department

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment held and used by the department to deliver its outputs and services to the public is set out below:

2025	Land \$000	Buildings \$000	Infrastructure \$000	Plant and equipment \$000	Right of use \$000	Computer hardware \$000	Transport equipment \$000	Total \$000
Carrying amount as at 1 July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	8 364	4 172	2 532	2 473	177	177	718	18 613
Disposals	(5 876)	-	-	(15)	-	-	-	(5 891)
Additions/disposals from administrative restructuring	811 574	8 747	158 802	656	-	173	-	979 952
Additions/disposals from asset transfers	6 624	2 500	9 198	560	34	-	-	18 916
Depreciation/amortisation expense	-	(1 431)	(5 080)	(551)	(78)	(123)	(239)	(7 502)
Revaluation increments/decrements	38 287	110	-	-	-	-	-	38 397
Impairment losses	-	(110)	-	-	-	-	-	(110)
Transfers to/from assets held for sale	2 956	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 956
<b>Carrying amount as at 30 June</b>	<b>861 929</b>	<b>13 988</b>	<b>165 452</b>	<b>3 123</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>1 045 331</b>

## c) Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment where the department is a lessor under operating leases

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment where the department is a lessor under operating leases is set out below. These assets are leased by public and non-government organisations for the purpose of providing services to the community.

2025	Land \$000	Buildings \$000	Infrastructure \$000	Plant and equipment \$000	Right of use \$000	Computer hardware \$000	Transport equipment \$000	Total \$000
Carrying amount as at 1 July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additions/disposals from administrative restructuring	24 612	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 612
Additions/disposals from asset transfers	(5 474)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5 474)
Revaluation increments/ decrements	3 403	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 403
<b>Carrying amount as at 30 June</b>	<b>22 541</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22 541</b>

### Acquisitions

Property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost.

Items of property, plant and equipment with a cost or other value, equal to or greater than \$10,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition and depreciated as outlined below. Items of property, plant and equipment below the \$10,000 threshold are expensed in the year of acquisition.

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

### Construction (work in progress)

As part of the financial management framework, the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure is responsible for managing general government capital works projects on a whole-of-government basis. Therefore appropriation for capital works is provided directly to the Department of Logistics 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 department.

### Revaluation of assets

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

- land
- buildings
- infrastructure assets.

The above classes of property, plant and equipment include certain new assets initially recognised at cost. Such new assets will continue to be measured at cost, which is deemed to equate to fair value, until the next revaluation for that asset class occurs.

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

The latest revaluations as at 1 July 2024 were conducted by the Valuer-General. Refer to Note 31. Fair Value for additional disclosures.

## Impairment of assets

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

Materially significant non-financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment annually. If any indicator of impairment exists, the department determines the asset's recoverable amount. The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's current 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 comprehensive operating statement. They are disclosed as an expense 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 an available balance exists in the asset revaluation surplus.

In certain situations, an impairment loss may subsequently be reversed. Impairment loss may be reversed only if there has been a change in the assumptions used to determine the asset's recoverable amount. The reversal is limited so that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, nor exceed the net carrying amount that would have been determined had not impairment loss been recognised for the asset in the prior years. Where an asset is carried at a revalued amount, impairment reversal is recognised in the comprehensive operating statement as income to the extent that an impairment loss was previously recognised in the profit or loss, otherwise, impairment reversal results in an increase in the asset revaluation surplus.

Department property, plant and equipment assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2025. As a result of this review \$110,000 of impairment losses were recognised against buildings. Impairment losses were expensed during the 2024-25 financial year.

## Depreciation and amortisation expense

Items of property, plant and equipment, including buildings but excluding land, have limited useful lives and are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or from the time an asset is completed and held ready for use.

The estimated useful lives for each class of asset are in accordance with the department's determination as follows:

	2025
Buildings	10 – 50 years
Infrastructure assets	8 – infinite years
Plant and equipment	2 – 15 years
Right of use	1 – 40 years
Computer hardware	3 – 6 years
Heritage and cultural assets	100 years
Intangibles	2 – 10 years

## Right-of-use asset

The department assesses at contract inception whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration and hence contains a lease.

The department recognises lease liabilities representing an obligation to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets, except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets.

The department recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (the date the underlying asset is available for use).

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the department at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

Right-of-use assets are subsequently measured at fair value which approximates costs less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are subject to remeasurement principles consistent with the lease liability. This includes applying indexation and market rent review. Right-of-use assets are also revalued where a trigger or event may indicate their carrying amount does not equal fair value.

### Intergovernmental leases

The department applies the inter-governmental leases recognition exemption as per the Treasurer's Direction – Leases, and recognises these as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. These largely relate to the lease of motor vehicles from NT Fleet. Leases of commercial properties for office accommodation are centralised with the Department of Corporate and Digital Development (DCDD). Consequently all lease liabilities and right-of-use assets relating to these arrangements are recognised by DCDD and not disclosed within these financial statements.

Right-of-use assets under leases at significantly below-market terms and conditions that are entered into principally to enable the department to further its objectives, are measured at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets. These right-of-use assets are subject to impairment testing but are not subject to revaluation.

The following amounts were recognised in the comprehensive operating statement during the reporting period in respect of leases where the department is the lessee:

	2025 \$000
Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	78
Interest expense on lease liabilities	4
Expense relating to short-term leases	40
Expense relating to leases of low-value assets	2
Intergovernmental leases	1 676
<b>Total amount recognised in the comprehensive operating statement</b>	<b>1 800</b>

## 22 Intangibles

### a) Total intangibles

	2025 \$000
<b>Intangibles with a finite useful life</b>	
<b>Computer software</b>	
Gross carrying amount	5 964
Less: accumulated amortisation	(5 680)
Carrying amount at 30 June	284
<b>Total intangibles</b>	<b>284</b>

The department's intangibles comprise of computer software assets.

Intangible assets are initially measured at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no or nominal cost, the cost is the fair value as at the date of acquisition.

There is no active market for any of the department's intangible assets. As such, intangible assets are subsequently recognised and carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Intangibles with limited useful lives are amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, which reflects the pattern of when expected economic benefits are likely to be realised.

The estimated useful lives for finite intangible assets are determined in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and are determined as follows:

	2025
Computer software	2 – 10 years

Intangible assets with finite useful life are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If any indicator of impairment exists, the department determines the asset's recoverable amount. If the recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount is reduced to the recoverable amount and the reduction is recognised as an impairment loss.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortised, but are tested for impairment annually. The assessment of indefinite life is reviewed annually to determine whether the indefinite life continues to be supportable. If not, the change in useful life from indefinite to finite is made on a prospective basis.

Department intangible assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2025. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

### b) Reconciliation of carrying amount of intangibles

	2025 \$000
<b>Intangibles with a finite useful life</b>	
<b>Computer software</b>	
Carrying amount at 1 July	-
Additions	157
Additions/disposals from administrative restructuring	397
Amortisation	(270)
<b>Carrying amount as at 30 June</b>	<b>284</b>

## 23 Heritage and cultural assets

	2025 \$000
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
Gross carrying amount	86
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(28)
<b>Carrying amount at 30 June</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Reconciliation of carrying amount</b>	
Carrying amount at 1 July	-
Additions/disposals from administrative restructuring	86
Additions/disposals from asset transfers	(23)
Depreciation	(5)
<b>Carrying amount as at 30 June</b>	<b>58</b>

The department's heritage and cultural assets comprise of the old Darwin Town Hall stonework and the old Returned Services League (RSL) memorial garden at Marrara.

Heritage and cultural assets are initially measured at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no or nominal cost, the cost is the fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Heritage and cultural assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

The estimated useful lives of heritage and cultural assets is determined in accordance with the Treasurer's Directions and was 100 years in 2024–25.

The department's accounting policies on impairment for property, plant and equipment disclosed in Note 21 also apply to heritage and cultural assets.

Department heritage and cultural assets were assessed for impairment as at 30 June 2025. No impairment adjustments were required as a result of this review.

## 24 Assets held for sale

	2025 \$000
Land	17 153
Property, plant and equipment	-
<b>Total assets held for sale</b>	<b>17 153</b>

Assets are classified as held for sale if its carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction or a grant agreement rather than continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the asset is available for immediate sale or granting in its present condition and the sale is highly probable. Management must be committed to the sale or grant agreement, which should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification.

These assets are measured at the lower of the asset's carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell and are not subject to depreciation.

In accordance with legislation and policy, the Northern Territory releases Crown land for development and community purposes.

The Territory continues to manage a range of development agreements to provide residential and industrial land to support economic development across the Territory. The Territory also closely monitors land availability and plans for future land supply.

Land and buildings held for sale include those contracted for sale and not yet settled at 30 June as well as those being available for sale within the next 12 months.

## 25 Deposits held

	2025 \$000
Clearing money	343
Other	462
<b>Total deposits held</b>	<b>805</b>

Deposits held mainly comprise of clearing monies and land deposits.

Clearing money is public money in transit that is payable to another entity. These funds typically do not contribute to the operations of the department.

## 26 Payables

	2025 \$000
Accounts payable	3 015
Accrued salaries and wages	1 556
Other accrued expenses	888
<b>Total payables</b>	<b>5 459</b>

Liabilities for accounts payable and other amounts payable are carried at amortised 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 department. Accounts payable are normally settled within 20 days from receipt of valid invoices under \$1 million or 30 days for invoices over \$1 million.

Salaries and wages that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the service are recognised and measured at the amounts expected to be paid.

## 27 Borrowings and advances

	2025 \$000
<b>Current</b>	
Lease liabilities	97
<b>Non current</b>	
Lease liabilities	33
<b>Total borrowings and advances</b>	<b>130</b>

### Lease liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease where the department is the lessee, the department recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term.

Variable lease payments which depend on an index or a rate are included in the lease liabilities, otherwise, are recognised as expenses (unless they are incurred to produce inventories) in the period in which the event or condition that triggers the payment occurs.

Lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, which is generally the case for the department's leases, the NT Treasury Corporation's institutional bond rate is used as the incremental borrowing rate.

After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the lease payments (such as changes to future payments resulting from a change in an index or rate used to determine such lease payments) or a change in the assessment of an option to purchase the underlying asset.

The following table presents liabilities under leases.

	2025 \$000
Balance at 1 July	-
Additions/remeasurements	212
Interest expenses	4
Payments	(86)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>130</b>

The department had total cash outflows for leases of \$82,000 in 2025.

Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases not recorded as liability are as follows:

	2025	
	Internal	External
Not later than one year	919	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	1 813	-
Later than five years	98	-
	<b>2 830</b>	<b>-</b>

## 28 Provisions

	2025 \$000
<b>Current</b>	
<i>Employee benefits</i>	
Recreation leave	6 124
Leave loading	917
Other employee benefits	24
<i>Other current provisions</i>	
Fringe benefit tax	39
Payroll tax	474
Superannuation	923
Other	8 598
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>17 099</b>

The department employed 445 employees as at 30 June 2025.

	2025 \$000
<b>Reconciliations of provisions (other than employee benefits)</b>	
Balance at 1 July	-
Additional provisions recognised	8 598
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>8 598</b>

### Employee benefits

Provision for employee benefits includes wages and salaries and recreation leave accumulated as a result of employees rendering services up to the reporting date. Liabilities arising in respect of recreation leave and other employee benefit liabilities that fall due within 12 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 12 months of the reporting date are measured at present value of estimated future cash flows, calculated using the appropriate government bond rate and taking into consideration expected future salary and wage levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

All recreation leave is classified as a current liability.

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 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 Lands, Planning and Environment, and as such no long service leave liability is recognised in the department's financial statements.

## 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 department 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 therefore not recognised in the department's financial statements.

## 29 Other liabilities

	2025 \$000
<b>Current</b>	
Unearned Revenue – Current	5 381
<b>Total other liabilities</b>	<b>5 381</b>

### Unearned contract revenue liability

Unearned contract revenue liability relates to consideration received in advance from customers in respect of various external funding agreements where the services are yet to be provided.

Unearned contract revenue liability balance as at 30 June 2025 is \$5.4 million.

The department anticipates to recognise as revenue, unearned contract revenue liability in accordance with the time bands below:

	2025 \$000
Not later than one year	5 381
Later than one year and not later than five years	-
Later than five years	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 381</b>

## 30 Capital commitments

Capital commitments represent future obligations or cash outflows primarily related to the construction of assets that can be reliably measured and arise out of a contractual arrangement and typically binds the agency to performance conditions. Commitments are not recognised as liabilities on the balance sheet.

Commitments may extend over multiple reporting periods and may result in payment of compensation or return of funds if obligations are breached. These contracts are expected to be payable as follows:

	2025 \$000
Not later than one year <sup>1</sup>	
• Property	3 248
• Software	187
Later than one year and not later than five years	-
Later than five years	-
<b>Total capital expenditure commitments (exclusive of GST)</b>	<b>3 435</b>
Plus: GST recoverable	19
<b>Total capital expenditure commitments (inclusive of GST)</b>	<b>3 454</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes amounts recognised as unearned revenue in the department's financial records.

## 31 Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

When measuring fair value, the valuation techniques used maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs are used to the extent that sufficient relevant and reliable observable inputs are not available for similar assets/liabilities.

Observable inputs are publicly available data relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Observable inputs used by the department include, but are not limited to, published sales data for land and general office buildings.

Unobservable inputs are data, assumptions and judgments not available publicly but relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Such inputs include internal department adjustments to observable data to take account of particular and potentially unique characteristics/functionality of assets/liabilities and assessments of physical condition and remaining useful life.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the following fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used:

Level 1 – inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 – inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly

Level 3 – inputs are unobservable.

## a) Fair value hierarchy

The department does not recognise any financial assets or liabilities at fair value as these are recognised at amortised cost. The carrying amounts of these financial assets and liabilities approximates their fair value.

The table below presents non-financial assets recognised at fair value in the balance sheet categorised by levels of inputs used to compute fair value.

2025	Level 1 \$000	Level 2 \$000	Level 3 \$000	Total fair value \$000
<b>Assets</b>				
Land (Note 21)		884 470	-	884 470
Buildings (Note 21)			13 988	13 988
Infrastructure (Note 21)			165 452	165 452
Plant and equipment (Note 21)			3 123	3 123
Right of use assets (Note 21)			133	133
Computer hardware (Note 21)			227	227
Transport equipment (Note 21)			479	479
Intangible assets (Note 22)			284	284
Heritage and cultural assets (Note 23)			58	58
Assets held for sale (Note 24)		17 153	-	17 153
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>901 623</b>	<b>183 744</b>	<b>1 085 367</b>

There were no transfers between Level 1 and Levels 2 or 3 during the 2024–25 financial year.

## b) Valuation techniques and inputs

Valuation techniques and significant unobservable inputs used to measure fair value in 2024–25 are:

Asset classes	Level	Techniques	Significant unobservable inputs
Land – vacant land	2	Market	n/a
Specialised land – with no active markets and/or significant restrictions	3	Market	Valuer assessment on restrictions
Buildings	3	Current replacement cost	1. Construction costs or cost per square metre 2. Age and condition of asset 3. Remaining useful life
Infrastructure	3	Current replacement cost	1. Labour and material costs to replace 2. Useful life of components
Plant and equipment	3	Current replacement cost	1. Cost per unit 2. Useful life
Intangible assets	3	Current replacement cost	1. Labour costs 2. Useful life
Heritage and cultural assets	3	Reproduction cost	1. Construction costs or cost per square metre 2. Age and condition of asset 3. Remaining useful life
Assets held for sale	2	Market	n/a
Other non financial assets	3	Current replacement cost	1. Statistically verified random samples

There were no changes in valuation techniques in 2024–25.

Level 2 fair values of land were based on market evidence of sales price per square metre of comparable land.

Level 3 fair values of specialised buildings and infrastructure were determined by computing their current replacement costs because an active market does not exist for such facilities. The current replacement cost was based on a combination of internal records of the historical cost of the facilities, adjusted for contemporary technology and construction approaches. Significant judgement was also used in assessing the remaining service potential of the facilities, given local environmental conditions, projected usage, and records of the current condition of the facilities.

## c) Additional information for level 3 fair value measurements

### (i) Reconciliation of recurring level 3 fair value measurements of non-financial assets

2025	Buildings \$000	Infrastructure \$000	Plant and equipment \$000	Right of use \$000	Computer hardware \$000	Transport equipment \$000	Intangibles \$000	Heritage and cultural assets \$000	Total \$000
Fair value as at 1 July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	98	-	1 195	177	24	-	157	-	1 651
Disposals	-	-	(16)	-	-	-	-	-	(16)
Additions/ disposals from administrative restructuring	13 006	161 334	2 333	34	326	718	397	86	178 234
Additions/ disposals from asset transfers	2 315	9 198	162	-	-	-	-	(23)	11 652
Depreciation/ amortisation expense	(1 431)	(5 080)	(551)	(78)	(123)	(239)	(270)	(5)	(7 777)
Revaluation increments/ decrements	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110
Impairment losses	(110)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(110)
<b>Fair value as at 30 June</b>	<b>13 988</b>	<b>165 452</b>	<b>3 123</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>183 744</b>

### (ii) Sensitivity analysis

Given the large number of department assets, it is not practical to compute a relevant summary measure for the unobservable inputs. In respect of sensitivity of fair value to changes in input value, a higher historical cost would generally result in a higher fair value and greater consumption of economic benefit lowers fair value.

## 32 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.

The department's financial instruments include cash and deposits, receivables, advances paid, and payables. It excludes statutory receivables arising from taxes including tax receivables, GST input tax credits recoverable, and fines and penalties, which do not meet the definition of financial instruments as per AASB 132 Financial instruments: Presentation.

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment has limited exposure to financial risks as discussed below.

Exposure to interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk, credit risk, price risk and liquidity risk arise in the normal course of activities. The Territory Government's investments, loans and placements, and borrowings are predominantly managed through the Northern Territory Treasury Corporation adopting strategies to minimise the risk. Derivative financial arrangements are also utilised to manage financial risks inherent in the management of these financial instruments. These arrangements include swaps, forward interest rate agreements and other hedging instruments to manage fluctuations in interest or exchange rates.

### a) Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of the department's financial assets and liabilities by category are disclosed in the table below.

	Category	2025 \$000
Cash and deposits	Other	11 235
Receivables	Amortised cost	1 094
Advances paid	Amortised cost	35
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>12 364</b>
Deposits held <sup>1</sup>	Amortised cost	805
Payables <sup>1</sup>	Amortised cost	3 015
Lease liabilities	Amortised cost	130
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<b>3 950</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total amounts disclosed here exclude statutory amounts, prepaid expenses and accrued contract revenue.

### Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets categorised at amortised cost are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment. The department's financial assets categorised at amortised cost include cash, receivables, advances paid and leases receivables.

### Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income

The department does not have any financial assets under this category.

### Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

The department does not have any financial assets under this category.

## Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The department's financial liabilities categorised at amortised cost include all accounts payable, deposits held, and lease liabilities.

## Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

The department does not have any financial liabilities under this category.

### b) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The department has limited credit risk exposure (risk of default). In respect of any dealings with organisations external to government, the department 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 carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the department's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral or other security obtained.

Credit risk relating to receivables is disclosed in Note 17 and advances paid in Note 19.

### c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk the department will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The department's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure it will always have sufficient funds to meet its liabilities when they fall due. This is achieved by ensuring minimum levels of cash are held in the department's bank account to meet various current employee and supplier liabilities. The department's exposure to liquidity risk is minimal. Cash injections are available from the Central Holding Authority in the event that one-off extraordinary expenditure items arise that deplete cash to levels that compromise the department's ability to meet its financial obligations.

The following table details the department's remaining contractual maturity for its financial liabilities, calculated based on undiscounted cash flows at reporting date. The undiscounted cash flows in the table differs from the amounts included in the balance sheet, which are based on discounted cash flows.

#### Maturity analysis for financial liabilities

2025	Carrying amount \$000	Less than a year \$000	1 to 5 years \$000	More than 5 years \$000	Total \$000
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Deposits held <sup>1</sup>	805	805	-	-	805
Payables <sup>1</sup>	3 015	3 015	-	-	3 015
Lease liabilities	130	96	4	30	130
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>3 950</b>	<b>3 916</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3 950</b>

<sup>1</sup> Amounts disclosed exclude statutory amounts and accruals (such as accrued expenses, unearned revenue and provisions), as these do not meet the definition of financial instrument and therefore amounts will not be recognised in the balance sheet.

## 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

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rate.

The department's exposure to interest rate risk by asset and liability classes is disclosed below.

#### *Interest rate risk for financial assets and liabilities*

2025	Interest bearing		Non-interest bearing	Total	Weighted average
	Variable \$000	Fixed \$000	\$000	\$000	%
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and deposits	-	-	11 235	11 235	
Receivables <sup>1</sup>	-	-	1 094	1 094	
Advances paid	35	-	-	35	3.21%
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12 329</b>	<b>12 364</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Deposits held <sup>1</sup>	-	-	805	805	
Payables <sup>1</sup>	-	-	3 015	3 015	
Lease liabilities	-	130	-	130	
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>3 820</b>	<b>3 950</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Amounts disclosed exclude statutory amounts and accruals (such as accrued revenue and provisions), as these do not meet the definition of financial instrument and therefore amounts will not be recognised in the balance sheet.

### (ii) Price risk

The department is not exposed to price risk as it does not hold units in unit trusts.

### (iii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The department has limited exposure to currency risk due to transactional currency exposures arising from purchases in a foreign currency.

## 33 Related parties

### i) Related parties

The Department of Lands, Planning and Environment is a government administrative entity and is wholly owned and controlled by the Territory Government. Related parties of the department include:

- the portfolio minister and key management personnel (KMP) because they have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the department directly
- close family members of the portfolio minister or KMP including spouses, children and dependents
- all public sector entities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole-of-government financial statements
- any entities controlled or jointly controlled by KMPs or the portfolio minister, or controlled or jointly controlled by their close family members.

### ii) Key management personnel (KMP)

KMP of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the department. These include the Minister of Lands, Planning and Environment, the Chief Executive Officer and members of the department's Executive Leadership Team.

### iii) Remuneration of key management personnel

The details below exclude the salaries and other benefits of Minister of Lands, Planning and Environment as the minister's remunerations and allowances are payable by the Department of the Legislative Assembly and consequently disclosed within the Treasurer's annual financial statements.

The aggregate compensation of KMP of the department is set out below:

	2025 \$000
Short-term benefits	3 443
Post-employment benefits	376
<b>Total remuneration of key management personnel</b>	<b>3 819</b>

### iv) Related party transactions:

#### Transactions with NT Government-controlled entities

The department's primary ongoing source of funding is received from the Central Holding Authority in the form of output and capital appropriation and on-passed Commonwealth national partnership and specific-purpose payments.

The following table provides quantitative information about related party transactions entered into during the reporting period with all other NT Government-controlled entities.

2025	Revenue from related parties \$000	Payments to related parties \$000	Amounts owed by related parties \$000	Amounts owed to related parties \$000
Related party				
All NT Government departments	22 278	33 405	1 040	2 864

Most of the department's transactions with other government entities are not individually significant. Transactions with other government departments which were significant are listed as follows:

- \$6.7 million in notional revenue and expenditure related services received free of charge from the Department of Corporate and Digital Development
- \$6.3 million notional revenue and expenditure related services received free of charge from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
- \$9 million non-cash capital grant for land servicing infrastructure owned by Power and Water Corporation
- \$3 million payment of payroll tax to the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**Other related party transactions are as follows:**

Given the breadth and depth of Territory Government activities, related parties will transact with the NT public sector in a manner consistent with other members of the public including paying stamp duty and other government fees and charges and therefore these transactions have not been disclosed.

## 34 Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

### a) Contingent liabilities

The department has entered into contracts and agreements which contain indemnities. The contingent liabilities arising from these indemnities are unquantifiable, and the likelihood of occurrence is considered low. For all the events that would give rise to potential liabilities, the department has comprehensive risk management strategies in place. Legal proceedings of disputes in which the department is a party are not separately disclosed. Due to the wide variety and nature of individual cases, and the uncertainty of any potential liability, no value can be attributed to individual cases until such time as the courts make a decision so as not to prejudice the outcome of the proceeding or dispute.

Where the department has acquired land for the purpose of road openings under the *Control of Roads Act* compensation will be payable by the Territory. The value of compensation payable is uncertain and unquantifiable at the reporting date where agreement has not been reached at that time.

The department had no reportable contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2025.

### b) Contingent assets

The department had no contingent assets as at 30 June 2025.

## 35 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.

## 36 Schedule of administered Territory items

In addition to operating revenue controlled and utilised by the department to fund its activities that are included in the financial statements, the department also acts on behalf of the Territory Government in the management of administered items. These include rent from crown land leases and occupational licences, waste management licenses, and environmental management plan assessment fees. The department is unable to use administered items to further its own objectives without authorisation.

Administered items are transferred to and reported by the Central Holding Authority, as the parent entity of government. Administered income and expenses are not recognised in the department's operating statement but are reported separately in accordance with Australian accounting standards.

The following Territory items are managed by the department on behalf of the government and are recorded in the Central Holding Authority (refer to Note 2e).

	2025 \$000
<b>TERRITORY INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Taxation revenue	-
Grants and subsidies revenue	-
Fees from regulatory services	627
Royalties and rents	3 036
Other income	4
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3 667</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Central Holding Authority income transferred	3 671
Doubtful debts	(4)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>3 667</b>
<b>Territory income less expenses</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TERRITORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Assets</b>	
Royalties and rent receivable	644
Other receivables	1
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>645</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Central Holding Authority income payable	645
Unearned Central Holding Authority income	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>645</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>-</b>



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## 37 Budgetary information

The following tables present the variation between the 2024–25 original budgeted financial statements as reported in the 2024–25 Mid-Year Report as at November 2024 and the 2024–25 actual amounts reported in the financial statements together with explanations for significant variations.

The variations within these tables do not include changes to budgeted appropriations from 2024–25 original budget to 2024–25 final budget. Refer to Note 5a) for summary changes to budget appropriations.

Comprehensive operating statement	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Original budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
<b>INCOME</b>				
Grants and subsidies revenue				
Current	4 432	5 711	(1 279)	1
Appropriation				
Output	90 438	92 293	(1 855)	
Commonwealth	7 107	11 646	(4 539)	
Sales of goods and services	5 284	6 183	(899)	2
Interest revenue	23	–	23	
Goods and services received free of charge	12 965	3 830	9 135	3
Gain on disposal of assets	677	–	677	4
Other income	1 294	459	835	5
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>122 220</b>	<b>120 122</b>	<b>2 098</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Employee expenses	64 518	69 834	(5 316)	6
Administrative expenses				
Purchases of goods and services	34 092	35 582	(1 490)	7
Repairs and maintenance	3 724	2 934	790	8
Depreciation and amortisation	7 777	7 771	6	
Other administrative expenses	28 123	3 830	24 293	9
Grants and subsidies expenses				
Current	7 807	8 090	(283)	
Capital	16 990	–	16 990	10
Interest expenses	4	–	4	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>163 035</b>	<b>128 041</b>	<b>34 994</b>	
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>(40 815)</b>	<b>(7 919)</b>	<b>(32 896)</b>	
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
<b>Items that will not be reclassified to net surplus/deficit</b>				
Changes in asset revaluation surplus	36 748	–	36 748	11
Other comprehensive income	5 052	–	5 052	12
<b>TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>41 800</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>41 800</b>	
<b>COMPREHENSIVE RESULT</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>(7 919)</b>	<b>8 904</b>	

## Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 20% or \$1,000,000 where multiple significant variances have occurred.

1. The \$1.3 million decrease in grants and subsidies revenue to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - timing delays, requiring revised timeframes, towards completion of Commonwealth funded programs predominantly related to the Saving Native Species program and joint ventures relating to research and monitoring activities undertaken in the harbour.
2. The \$0.9 million decrease of goods and service revenue to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - timing delays, requiring revised timeframes, towards completion of externally funded programs
  - licensing arrangement changes leading to less than anticipated revenue
  - less than anticipated development application fees.
3. The \$9.1 million non-cash service free of charge revenue increase to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - \$3.3 million services received from the Department of Corporate and Digital Development
  - \$5.8 million services received from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.
4. Gain on disposal of assets relate primarily to land sales.
5. The \$0.8 million increase in other revenue from the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - returned unspent grant funding
  - recognition of revenue for McArthur River Mines Independent Monitoring services
  - reimbursement contributions towards software licencing.
6. Employee expenses decreased by \$5.3 million from the original budget largely due to resourcing issues across the sector, and delays and difficulties in recruitment of specialised personnel.
7. The \$1.5 million decrease in purchase of goods and services revenue from the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report primarily reflects revised timing of externally funded projects offset by expenditure against unfunded Home Building Certification Fund costs.
8. The \$0.8 million repairs and maintenance increase to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects land infrastructure development related consultancies.
9. The \$24.3 million other administrative charges increase to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - increased non-cash service free of charge received from Department of Corporate and Digital Development and Department of Logistics and Infrastructure of \$9.1 million
  - increase of non-cash capital related expenditure for completed land servicing infrastructure works that do not meet the asset capitalisation criteria of \$11.7 million
  - gifting of land of \$3.5 million.
10. The \$17 million increase in capital grant to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - non-cash land servicing infrastructure works that do not meet the asset capitalisation ownership criteria for Katherine East and Berrimah Trunk Sewer.
11. The increase in asset revaluation surplus primarily relates to recognition of land assets as a result of Machinery of Government changes.
12. The \$5 million increase in other comprehensive income relates to transfer of land parcels, Zuccoli land sales, and disposals or impairment of assets.

Balance sheet	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Original budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and deposits	11 235	6 543	(4 692)	1
Receivables	3 617	4 370	753	
Inventories	15	-	(15)	
Advances and investments	35	859	824	2
Assets held for sale	17 153	20 108	2 955	3
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>32 055</b>	<b>31 880</b>	<b>(175)</b>	
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
Receivables	9 745	9 760	15	
Property, plant and equipment	1 067 930	1 026 208	(41 722)	4
Other assets	284	119	(165)	5
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>1 077 959</b>	<b>1 036 087</b>	<b>(41 872)</b>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1 110 014</b>	<b>1 067 967</b>	<b>(42 047)</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Deposits held	805	740	(65)	
Payables	5 459	2 866	(2 593)	6
Borrowings and advances	97	35	(62)	7
Provisions	17 099	8 106	(8 993)	8
Other liabilities	5 381	1 160	(4 221)	9
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>28 841</b>	<b>12 907</b>	<b>(15 934)</b>	
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>				
Borrowings and advances	33	-	(33)	
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(33)</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>28 874</b>	<b>12 907</b>	<b>(15 967)</b>	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1 081 140</b>	<b>1 055 060</b>	<b>(26 080)</b>	
<b>EQUITY</b>				
Capital	554 007	487 019	(66 988)	10
Reserves	760 767	773 831	13 064	11
Accumulated funds	(233 634)	(205 790)	27 844	12
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>1 081 140</b>	<b>1 055 060</b>	<b>(26 080)</b>	

## Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 20% or \$1,000,000 where multiple significant variances have occurred.

1. Total cash and deposits are \$4.7 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflecting higher unearned externally funded revenue.
2. Advances and investments are \$0.8 million lower than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflecting repayment of the Master Builders Fidelity Fund principal.
3. Assets held for sale are \$3 million lower than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflecting reduced lots held as a result of sales during the period in Zuccoli Stage 2, 3, 4 and Humpty Doo Industrial Estate.
4. Property, plant and equipment is \$41.7 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report predominantly due to the revaluation of land holdings.
5. Other assets are \$0.2 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report due to capitalisation of software.
6. Payables are \$2.6 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report due to the timing of payments.
7. Borrowing and advances are \$62,000 higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflecting the recognition of a lease liability.
8. Provision are \$9 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report which predominantly reflects the recognition of acquisition of land contract which settled on 7 July 2025.
9. Other liabilities are \$4.2 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report largely reflecting Commonwealth, and other externally funded programs received in advance.
10. Capital is \$67 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report predominantly due to Machinery of Government administrative arrangements.
11. Reserves are \$13 million lower than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflecting the net effect of Machinery of Government administrative arrangements and the revaluation of land holdings.
12. Accumulated funds is \$27.8 million higher than the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report as per notes provided on the operating statement.

Cash flow statement	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Original budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
<b>Operating receipts</b>				
Grants and subsidies received				
Current	5 967	5 711	256	
Appropriation				
Output	90 438	92 293	(1 855)	
Commonwealth (excluding capital appropriation)	4 990	7 137	(2 147)	
Receipts from sales of goods and services	11 069	2 844	8 225	1
Deposits received	219	-	219	
<b>Total operating receipts</b>	<b>112 683</b>	<b>107 985</b>	<b>4 698</b>	
<b>Operating payments</b>				
Payments to employees	(64 482)	(71 645)	7 163	2
Payments for goods and services	(44 041)	(40 141)	(3 900)	3
Grants and subsidies paid				
Current	(7 807)	(8 090)	283	
Capital	(332)	-	(332)	4
Interest paid	(4)	-	(4)	
<b>Total operating payments</b>	<b>(116 666)</b>	<b>(119 876)</b>	<b>3 210</b>	
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(3 983)</b>	<b>(11 891)</b>	<b>7 908</b>	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>				
<b>Investing receipts</b>				
Proceeds from sales of non-financial assets	3 053	3 455	(402)	
Repayment of advances received	859	-	859	5
<b>Total investing receipts</b>	<b>3 912</b>	<b>3 455</b>	<b>457</b>	
<b>Investing payments</b>				
Purchases of non-financial assets	(1 240)	(22 799)	21 559	6
<b>Total investing payments</b>	<b>(1 240)</b>	<b>(22 799)</b>	<b>21 559</b>	
<b>Net cash from/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>2 672</b>	<b>(19 344)</b>	<b>22 016</b>	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
<b>Financing receipts</b>				
Equity injections				
Capital appropriation	1 156	10 749	(9 593)	
Other equity injections	-	18 291	(18 291)	7
Equity transfers in due to Administrative Restructure	11 472	-	11 472	7
<b>Total financing receipts</b>	<b>12 628</b>	<b>29 040</b>	<b>(16 412)</b>	
<b>Financing payments</b>				
Deposits paid	-	(2 398)	2 398	7
Lease liabilities payments	(82)	-	(82)	
Equity withdrawals	-	(380)	380	7
<b>Total financing payments</b>	<b>(82)</b>	<b>(380)</b>	<b>2 696</b>	
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<b>12 546</b>	<b>28 660</b>	<b>(13 716)</b>	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	11 235	(2 575)	16 208	
Cash at beginning of financial year	-	11 516	(11 516)	
<b>CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>11 235</b>	<b>8 941</b>	<b>4 692</b>	

## Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 20% or \$1,000,000 where multiple significant variances have occurred.

1. The \$8.2 million increase of receipts from sales of goods and services to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report reflects:
  - goods and service tax refunds
  - higher than expected unearned revenue.
2. Employee expenses decreased by \$7.2 million from the original budget largely due to resourcing issues across the sector, delays and difficulties in recruitment of specialised personnel.
3. The \$3.9 million decrease in purchase of goods and services revenue from the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report primarily reflects revised timing of externally funded projects offset by expenditure against unfunded Home Building Certification Fund costs.
4. The \$0.3 million increase in capital grants to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report are unfunded housing rectification costs for homes eligible under the Home Building Certification Fund.
5. The \$0.9 million increase in repayment of advances to the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report is due to the receipt of the Master Builders Fidelity Fund principal repaid.
6. The \$21.6 million decrease in purchase of non-financial assets from the original 2024–25 Mid-Year Report is predominantly due to revised timing of land acquisitions.
7. These variances are due to administrative restructuring.

## 38 Budgetary information: Administered Territory items

The following table presents the variation between the 2024–25 original budget for administered items as reported in 2024–25 Mid-Year Report as at November 2024 and the 2024–25 actual amounts disclosed in Note 36 of these financial statements together with explanations for significant variations.

Administered Territory items	2025 Actual \$000	2025 Original budget \$000	Variance \$000	Note
<b>TERRITORY INCOME AND EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Taxation revenue				
Grants and subsidies revenue				
Current				
Capital				
Fees from regulatory services	627	279	348	1
Royalties and rents	3 036	2 903	133	
Other income	4	-	4	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3 667</b>	<b>3 182</b>	<b>485</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Central Holding Authority income transferred	3 671	3 182	489	
Doubtful debts	(4)	-	(4)	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>3 667</b>	<b>3 182</b>	<b>485</b>	
<b>Territory income less expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>TERRITORY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>Assets</b>				
Royalties and rent receivable	644	-	644	
Other receivables	1	1	-	
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>644</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Central Holding Authority income payable	645	1	644	
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>644</b>	
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

## Notes:

The following note descriptions relate to variances greater than 20% or \$1,000,000 or where multiple significant variances have occurred.

1. The \$0.39 million increase in regulatory fees from the 2024–25 Mid-Year Budget predominantly reflects:
  - collection of assessment fees relating to environmental management plans greater than anticipated
  - collection of annual waste management licences greater than anticipated.





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## APPENDIX A

## Statutory boards and committees

Committee	Act establishing statutory body	Purpose
Adelaide River Water Advisory Committee	<i>Water Act 1992</i>	Provides advice to the Department and Minister on the development and implementation of the Water Allocation Plan.
Buffel Grass Weed Advisory Committee	<i>Weeds Management Act 2001</i>	Established to develop a Weed Management Plan for Buffel grass and provide advice to the Minister on Buffel grass management in Central Australia.
Building Advisory Committee (BAC)	<i>Building Act 1993</i>	Provides advice to the Minister on the administration of the Act, considers matters referred by the Minister, and accredits building products, construction methods, designs, components or systems.
Building Appeals Board	<i>Building Act 1993</i>	Responsible for resolving appeals regarding the application of building regulation, party wall construction and costs, decisions made by the Director or building certifiers, and other statutory functions.
Community Living Areas Tribunal	<i>Pastoral Land Act 1992</i>	An independent body established to consider and provide recommendations to the Minister regarding applications for excision of Aboriginal community living areas on pastoral leases.
Daly River Water Advisory Committee	<i>Water Act 1992</i>	Provides advice to the Department and Minister on the development and implementation of water allocation plans for the Daly River catchment.
Development Consent Authority	<i>Planning Act 1999</i>	Established to make statutory planning decisions, including determining development applications and undertaking compliance and enforcement functions across seven divisions.
Gamba Grass Weeds Advisory Committee	<i>Weeds Management Act 2001</i>	Established to develop the Weed Management Plan for Gamba Grass (2020–2030) and to oversee its implementation.
Heritage Council	<i>Heritage Act 2011</i>	Assesses the heritage significance of places and objects, and provides advice and decisions on their conservation, use, and management.
NT Environment Protection Authority	<i>Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority Act 2012</i>	The committee aims to promote ecologically sustainable development, implement effective waste management and minimisation strategies, and enhance community and business confidence in the Northern Territory's environmental protection regime.  Members are appointed by the Administrator of the Northern Territory, except for the Chairperson of the NT Planning Commission, who is appointed by the Minister in accordance with the <i>Planning Act 1999</i> .
NT Land Corporation	<i>Northern Territory Land Corporation Act 1986</i>	To acquire, hold, and manage designated land assets to support the development of the Northern Territory.
NT Planning Commission	<i>Planning Act 1999</i>	An independent statutory authority responsible for developing and consulting on strategic plans and planning policies and advising the Minister on significant development proposals. The Commission also conducts hearings related to Planning Scheme Amendments and Exceptional Development Permit applications, providing reports to the Minister on these matters.
Place Names Committee of the Northern Territory	<i>Place Names Act 1967</i>	Provides recommendations to the Minister on naming or renaming places.
Swimming Pool Safety Review Committee	<i>Swimming Pool Safety Act 2004</i>	Reviews decisions of the Swimming Pool Safety Authority concerning pool fencing and barrier compliance.
Valuation Board of Review Panel	<i>Valuation of Land Act 1963</i>	Reviews objections to Valuer-General decisions after new or revised property valuations are issued.

## Grant recipients 2024-25

Recipient	Purpose	NTG or externally funded	2024-25 Amount (\$)
Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association	Engage with cattle industry to identify and progress initiatives that provide industry with opportunities to engage with emergent carbon and biodiversity regulatory Government programs	NTG	160,000 (ex GST) 176,000 (inc GST)
Indigenous Carbon Industry Network	Establish a policy development capacity within the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network for Emissions Abatement Policy Development.	NTG	100,000 (ex GST) 110,000 (inc GST)
Indigenous Carbon Industry Network	Support development of an ACCU marketing and branding strategy – managed through Queensland Government	NTG via Queensland Government	40,000
Indigenous Carbon Industry Network	Sponsorship for the Savanna Fire Forum	NTG	15,000 (ex GST) 16,500 (inc GST)
Catholic Care NT	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: 8-10 Hartley Street Alice Springs	NTG	12,800 (ex GST)
Hamilton Downs Youth Camp Association	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: 8-10 Hartley Street Alice Springs	NTG	18,650 (ex GST)
National Trust NT	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Tuxworth Fullwood House, Tennant Creek	NTG	19,519 (ex GST)
National Trust NT	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Pine Creek Repeater Station and Railway Precinct	NTG	10,180 (ex GST)
Anindilyakwa Housing Aboriginal Corporation	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Angurugu, Groote Eylandt	NTG	20,000 (ex GST)
Ms Francoise Barr	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: 12 Schultze Street, Darwin	NTG	1,100 (ex GST)
Central Aviation Museum	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Heron aircraft, Alice Springs	NTG	15,269 (ex GST)
Larrakia Cultural Centre	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Steam Pump interpretive signage, Darwin	NTG	6,941 (ex GST)
Ms Lynne Wastell	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: 16 Railway Terrace, Alice Springs	NTG	10,006 (ex GST)
Catholic Church of the Diocese of Darwin	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Old Church, Wurrumiyanga Mission Precinct	NTG	2,747 (ex GST)
The Trustee for Airraid Property Trust	Northern Territory Heritage Grant: Sue Wah Chin Building, 33 Cavenagh Street	NTG	10,138 (ex GST)
Territory Natural Resource Management	Gamba Army (final year)	NTG	300,000
Anindilyakwa Land Council	Makarda III Vessel	Externally	500,000
Anindilyakwa Land Council	Anindilyakwa Sea Country Management Plan	Externally	95,000
Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation	Build on internal capacity in feral animal management: by practical co-development, design and implementation of feral pig control plan using gained qualifications on Gurruwiling (Arafura Swamp)	NTG	105,050
Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation	Protecting the biodiversity and cultural values of Gurruwiling (the Arafura Swamp) from the threat of Olive hymenachne	NTG	33,542

## APPENDIX B

Central Land Council	Implementation of the Reading the Country Program	NTG	191,200
Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation	Implementation of the Yolngu Knowledge Framework at Dhimurru	NTG	205,282
Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation	Monitoring of Sea grass and Marine Life Habitat	Externally	147,683
Gong-Dal Aboriginal Corporation	Establishing a Yolngu knowledge foundation for Mutjung Rangers	NTG	53,065
Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation	Biocultural monitoring of Mangarrayi bush plants and animals	NTG	95,800
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Larrakia Kembi Mardbalk Tiwi Marthakal Marine Megafauna project	Externally	110,000
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Larrakia Rangers Offshore Vessel	Externally	132,103
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Larrakia Biodiversity Project	Externally	45,190
Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation	Guwarrtji miwiyal'puy djäma / Hawksbill Turtle Nesting Project in the Laynhapuy Indigenous Protected Area	Externally	134,505
Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation	Laynhapuy IPA Feral Animal Control	Externally	77,664
Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Indigenous Corporation	Yanyuwa sea country planning and management	Externally	280,000
Milingimbi and Outstations Progress Resources Aboriginal Corporation	Tele-handler to support Sea Ranger operations	Externally	179,040
Milingimbi and Outstations Progress Resources Aboriginal Corporation	Use of drones to identify, count and monitor nesting sea turtles	Externally	25,920
Milingimbi and Outstations Progress Resources Aboriginal Corporation	Biodiversity Surveys of the Crocodile Islands	NTG	45,412
Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation	Establishing the Strong Women for Healthy Country Network as an Aboriginal Corporation.	NTG	240,000
Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation	Strong Women for Healthy Country Mentorship Support	NTG	196,000
Mimal Land Management Aboriginal Corporation	"Strengthening Mimal Governance of the Indigenous Protected Area" - Enabling dispersed communities and cohorts to have representation, voice, and participation in governance.	NTG	148,237
Northern Land Council	Increasing Women's Participation in the NLC Caring for Country Workforce	NTG	151,320
Northern Land Council	SEAL Sea Country IPA Seagrass surveys and development of ranger-led monitoring program	Externally	197,150
Northern Land Council	Sea turtle conservation and cultural site management under the Kenbi Open Area Declaration	Externally	33,600
Thamarrurr Development Corporation Ltd	Western Top End Invasive Weed Eradication	NTG	115,982
Thamarrurr Development Corporation Ltd	Feral animal management to protect natural habitat and cultural sites	NTG	62,953
Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd as trustee for the Tiwi Resources Trust	Increasing Tiwi Ranger capacity to manage Tiwi Sea country biodiversity and habitats.	Externally	69,771
Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd as trustee for the Tiwi Resources Trust	Tiwi Islands seagrass surveys and development of ranger-led monitoring program	Externally	260,658

## APPENDIX B

Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd as trustee for the Tiwi Resources Trust	Empowering Tiwi Rangers through communication skills training	NTG	15,560
Warddeken Land Management Limited	Warddeken Rock Art Conservation Management Capacity Building Support	NTG	172,563
Charles Darwin University	ARC linkage Collaboration	NTG	15,000
Landcare NT Incorporated	To improve water quality and riparian health in four catchments in the Darwin area	Externally	1,098,069

## APPENDIX C

# Acronyms

ACHIS	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information system
AELERT	Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators Network
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
CDS	Container Deposit Scheme
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLC	Central Land Council
CSO	Community Service Obligations
CSS	Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme
DCA	Development Consent Authority
DCDD	Department of Corporate and Digital Development
DLI	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
DLPE	Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
DRFA	Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
ELT	Executive Leadership Team
FOI	Freedom of Information
FVOCI	Fair Value Other Comprehensive Income
FVTPL	Fair Value Through Profit and Loss
GAP	Gamba Action Program
GST	Goods and Services Tax
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
HPC	High-Performance Computing
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
ICTC	Information Communications Technology Committee
ILIS	Integrated Land Information System
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
MMP	Mining Management Plan
NLC	Northern Land Council
NT	Northern Territory
NT EPA	NT Environment Protection Authority
NTGPASS	NT Government and Public Authorities Superannuation Scheme
NTPS	NT Public Sector
NTTC	NT Treasury Corporation
PIA	Planning Institute of Australia
RMAC	Risk Management and Audit Committee
SEG	Senior Executive Group
SPC	Strategic Policy Committee
SPP	Special Purpose Payments
WHS	Work Health and Safety
WHSC	WHS Committee



