

2016 NT ELECTION: 4 ASKS FROM NTCOSS

for a fairer Northern Territory

The Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NTCOSS) has developed the *Vision for a Coordinated Service System to Promote Child & Family Wellbeing* Framework. The Framework informs the priorities that we as a community need to address in order to create a fair, inclusive and safe NT. It works across all areas of government the community service sector, including the key areas of housing, justice, governance, and culturally appropriate service design.

Improving the wellbeing of children and families in the Northern Territory goes a long way towards ensuring the growth of the NT both socially and economically. Our priority is to continue to work with the NTG and community service sector on implementing the Framework.

Guided by the Framework, the following 4 Election Asks are critical to assisting those experiencing vulnerability and disadvantage in the Northern Territory:

1. Child Protection

Out of Home Care services (including foster and kinship care) to be outsourced to the NGO sector over a 7 year transitional period. Establishment of an Aboriginal-controlled OoHC sector.

2. Cost of Living

Review eligibility criteria for access to NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme (NTPCCS) to ensure those who are most disadvantaged are able to access the scheme. This would include all those on Newstart and Youth Allowance.

3. Justice

The development of an Aboriginal Justice Agreement that sets out how government and Aboriginal people will work together to make justice work in the Northern Territory. The Agreement will be the result of a process that is based on, and builds, trust and engagement and will lead to practical solutions that meet the needs of our community.

4. Alcohol

Independent review of past and current alcohol initiatives to inform a comprehensive, evidence based, long-term Alcohol Plan for the Northern Territory.



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