Setting the Scene: Where are we at in 2019 in the Northern Territory?

Wendy Morton



Newstart and Youth Allowance

- The NT has the highest proportion of people on Newstart
- In 2018 there were approximately 15 000 people on Newstart and 2000 people receiving Youth Allowance
- If Newstart and Youth Allowance were to be raised by \$75/wk, the NT economy would be lifted by \$58m in the first year alone

Alcohol Reform: Key Achievements

- Establishing the Liquor Commission
- Various amendments to the Liquor Act including putting onus on applicants to show their applications meet the community impact test and giving police powers to temporarily suspend trading under certain conditions
- The reintroduction of the Banned Drinkers Register
- Training and employment of Police Auxiliary Licencing Inspectors at bottle shops
- The introduction of a minimum floor price
- Publishing Emergency Department alcohol related data online



Child protection: Key Reforms

- Commitment to phasing out purchased home-based care in preference for family and kinship care and foster care by 2021
- The development of Aboriginal OoHC strategies in partnership with APONT in the Top End and SNAICC in Central Australia
- The expansion of Aboriginal Kinship Carers through dedicated funding for Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations
- The development of 'Children Safe, Family Together', the family and Kin Care Model for the NT by Tangentyere Council



Youth Justice: Key Achievements

- Reduced numbers of young people in youth detention centres,
- Moving Youth Justice out of the Department of Corrections to sit under Territory Families,
- Renovations to both centres, significant youth justice officer recruitment, improved staff training, introduction of supported bail accommodation

some positive and some disappointing legislative reform



Housing and Homelessness: Key Achievements

- The Commonwealth and NT Governments reached an agreement on remote housing- matched funding of \$220 million per year for 5 years to provide housing in remote communities.
- The Town Camps review
- Two rounds of stimulus investment in public housing repairs and maintenance.
- The announcement of short term visitor accommodation and Better Pathways Centres for Darwin and Palmerston

