

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL
OPERATIONS
2018-19 Annual Report Hearing – Supplementary Questions**

Water Corporation

Hon Kyle McGinn MLC asked:

- 1) Supplementary Question A4 - referring to page 9, the Chief Executive Officer's report, there is a comment on the right-hand side, third paragraph from the bottom, in respect of the \$23 million investment in the licensed water service provided to Mowanjum, Bayulu and Bidyadanga in the Kimberley. This will then be expanded to a further seven communities in the Kimberley and the Pilbara. Are you able to explain what is involved in that expansion and whether the federal government is involved in that?

Department of Communities

Answer:

The expansion would involve upgrading the water services infrastructure currently provided to the communities and transferring asset responsibility to the Water Corporation. The Department of Communities, in conjunction with the Water Corporation, has been developing cost estimates for the next four communities for future consideration by Government.

Prior to 2016, the Commonwealth Government contributed to services in remote communities in two ways:

1. The funding of services and generator fuel in approximately 165 remote communities in Western Australia through its municipal and essential services program; and
2. Supporting the construction of new houses and refurbishments through the 10-year National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing which commenced in 2008.

Both these initiatives have been discontinued. The Commonwealth Government has had no involvement in the current or proposed upgrades to water services infrastructure.


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