

**NORTHERN TERRITORY
GRANTS COMMISSION**

Annual Report 2002 – 2003





Mr John Ah Kit MLA
Minister for Local Government
Parliament House
DARWIN NT 0800

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 16 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*, I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the Commission on its activities for 2002/03. Included in the report are the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2003.

Yours sincerely

BOB BEADMAN
Chairman

27 October 2003





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Section 16 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act 1986* requires that the Commission report annually to the Minister for Local Government on its activities during the year, and in particular its activities relating to Commonwealth financial assistance to local governing bodies.

I am pleased to present the seventeenth annual report, my first, on behalf of the Northern Territory Grants Commission. The report contains information on the distribution of funding provided to the Northern Territory's local governing bodies under the Commonwealth's *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*, as well as details on the objectives, performance, and future directions of the Commission. My hope is the report conveys sufficient relevant information on the Commission's programs and performance to enable any agency, organisation or individual so interested to assess its operations and functioning.

My predecessor, Mr Don Darben AO, was Chairman of the Commission from February 1993 to October 2002, and I pay tribute to his contribution. Mr Darben's experience and knowledge, particularly of the road network with which he was involved for nearly fifty years, will be sorely missed.

During the year the Commission recommenced the review of its methodology first begun in 1999, and which was put on hold when the Commonwealth announced the Commonwealth Grants Commission would review the Commonwealth local government legislation. This year a Discussion Paper was prepared and sent to all local governing bodies in the Northern Territory, inviting them to make submissions on the issues raised in the paper. To assist the councils to focus their submissions, workshops were held in Alice Springs, Katherine, and Darwin. Written comments were received from nine councils, along with a joint written submission from the municipal councils.

A vexing question for the Northern Territory is how to assess revenue-raising capacity given that most of our councils do not charge rates, a consequence of the nature of land title over those areas. None of the councils who provided submissions attempted to provide an answer to this issue, although one council did endeavour to explore several options that might be available. A further discussion paper on assessing revenue-raising capacity is being prepared, and it is hoped that the review can be finalised in the third quarter of 2003-04.

For a number of years the Commission has been collecting data from local governments by annual survey and from submissions. Like my predecessor, I am disappointed by the poor quality of the annual returns generally and by the indifference shown by some councils and their clerks towards the requirement to provide meaningful data. In the 2003-04 financial year changes to the manner in which the Commission collects this data will be implemented. It is hoped

that the changes will lead to improved returns, in the interests of the councils who do not need further handicaps.

The Commission continued its rolling program of community visits during the year. The municipal councils have now been included in the community visits program. These visits are important and integral to the workings of the Commission.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to record our appreciation for the valuable cooperation and assistance that we have received during the Commission's work throughout the year from most local governing bodies, and in particular, those visited during the year. The Commission would like to express its thanks to the Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine Councils for the use of their facilities during the Commission's public hearings.

The Commission is grateful for the executive support and assistance of both Mr Ted Clark and Ms Donna McLeod and other staff of the Local Government unit, the Local Government and Regional Development Division, the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs, combined with the assistance and services provided by the regional offices of the department.

I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of my colleagues, David Coles, Alderman Jenny Mostran, Barry Puruntatameri and deputies David Norton and Margaret Vigants. Their assistance has been very much appreciated. Mr Puruntatameri required major heart surgery during the year and is now considering his future as a member of the Commission. I am sure that the remaining members join with me in wishing him well for the future.



BOB BEADMAN
Chairman



Membership

The *Local Government Grants Commission Act 1986* provides for a Commission of four members, consisting of:

- a Chairman appointed by the Minister;
- the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Agency primarily responsible to the Minister for the administration of the Act, or his delegate; and
- two members appointed by the Minister; one representing the interests of municipal councils and the other representing the interests of community government councils and approved local governing bodies.

In 2002–03 the members of the Commission were:

Mr Don Darben	(Re-appointed Chairman 1 November 2000 and expired 31 October 2002)
Mr Robert Beadman	(Appointed Chairman 1 November 2002)
Mr David Coles	(CEO's delegate – appointed 8 October 1997)
Mrs Jenny Mostran	(Representing municipal councils – appointed 1 November 2000)
Mr Barry Puruntatameri	(Representing community government councils – appointed 1 November 2000)
Mr David Norton	Deputy of Mrs Mostran
Mrs Margaret Vigants	Deputy of Mr Puruntatameri

Members' Profiles

Don Darben AO

Don is a Civil Engineer who first came to the NT in 1956 and served in Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. He left the NT in 1959, but returned in 1965 to manage the Beef Roads Projects from Katherine. He was promoted to Darwin as Chief Engineer Roads for NT in 1974.

He became the Secretary of Transport and Works in 1978 and subsequently Secretary of Lands and Primary Industries and Fisheries in 1988. As Secretary of Lands he was appointed Chairman of the Palmerston Development Authority in August 1981. Don was appointed Secretary of the Chief Minister's Department in August 1990 and retired from this position in April 1991.

Robert Beadman

Bob was appointed Secretary to the Department of Lands, Housing and Local Government and CEO to the Office of Aboriginal Development on 31 October 1994. He retired from these positions on 18 December 2001.

Since 1973, Bob has been involved in Aboriginal affairs at senior levels, and previously worked in the Top End and Central Australia on separate occasions. He acted at the Deputy Secretary level on numerous occasions.

Career highlights include: Working with Torres Strait Islanders – at the Prime Minister's request – on Australian's International Border with Papua New Guinea, two extended periods as Senior Private Secretary to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs: and representing Australia at the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous peoples.

Before his appointment to the Territory, Bob was the General Manager of Corporate Services with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission in Canberra.

Although born and bred in Canberra, Bob enjoys the lifestyle the Territory has to offer. He loves the bush and spends his holidays and most weekends, exploring out-of-the-way places. He enjoys visiting communities in remote areas and catching up with old acquaintances he met in his DAA days.

David Coles

David was appointed the Assistant Secretary of the then Department of Housing & Local Government from October 1996. He is now the Executive Director, Local Government and Regional Development Division of the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs.

Since his arrival in the Northern Territory in 1984, David has worked in the Department of Community Development, Territory Health Services, Department of the Chief Minister and the Office of Aboriginal Development in senior policy development positions.

From 1987 David spent two and a half years as a Ministerial Officer to two Ministers for Health and Community Services. He completed the Executive Management Program in 1993 and a Masters in International Management in 1997.





Jenny Mostran

Jenny Mostran is currently an alderman of the Alice Springs Town Council. She entered local government in May 2000 and has been the Chairman of the Economic and Community Development Committee and is now the Deputy Mayor.

Jenny is a businesswoman and mother who believes her greatest achievement has been to be able to manage both business and family commitments successfully. She came to Alice Springs in 1975 and has been at home in Alice ever since.

Jenny has been involved in many community organisations over many years in Alice Springs and is now a member of the Northern Territory University Council and the Development Consent Authority.

Jenny believes that you learn valuable lessons by being involved and a part of your own community and is looking forward to furthering her studies in financial planning and community services.

Barry Puruntatameri

Barry Puruntatameri was the initial President of the Tiwi Islands Local Government, and is currently a member of the Nguiu Community Management Board. He was previously the President of the Nguiu Community Government Council, a position he held for over 14 years until its amalgamation with Milikapiti and Pirlangimpi Community Government Councils.

He is a member of the Tiwi Health Board and has been involved in the Tiwi Islands Football League for many years.

His community involvement is quite extensive and he is often referred to as the Ambassador for Nguiu.

David Norton

David Jeffery Norton has been involved in local government since 1977 when he started work for the London Borough of Croydon Planning Department.

He has been a Jabiru Town Councillor since May 1992 and currently holds other local government positions, such as the Jabiru Town Council Administration Chairman, Jabiru Wind Festival delegate and Chairman, Jabiru Territory Anti Litter Chairman, and Kakadu Visitor Organisation delegate.

David is also involved on several other committees and associations in Jabiru. For example the National Committee for Regional Co-operation and Development, NT Grants Municipal Commissioner, Jabiru Lions Club Treasurer, Jabiru Blue Light Ventures Treasurer and the ABC radio 8DDD Local Correspondent, just to name a few. For the past four years he has been the Local Government Association of the NT, Municipal Vice President.

David's hobbies and interests include organising music festivals, raising money for community projects, the cinema, natural history and keeping his 1973 Valiant Wagon on the road.

Margaret Vigants

Margaret Vigants is a long term resident of the Northern Territory and has lived in remote areas of the Territory for over twenty years. Margaret is a former President of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory and was the President of the Timber Creek Community Government Council for a period of nine years immediately prior to her relocation to Darwin during the year.

Administration and Staffing

The costs of operation of the Commission for the year were met by funds appropriated to the Department of Local Government. The operational expenditure for 2002–03 was \$115,651 compared to \$85,993 in 2001–02.

The Executive Officer, Mr Ted Clark and Ms Donna McLeod of the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs, coordinated the visitation program and assisted with the Commission's activities by providing executive support to the Commission.



Background

On 1 July 1986 the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act* came into force. A subsequent review of this legislation led to the enactment of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. This Commonwealth legislation provides for the total Northern Territory population to be taken into account in determining its global financial entitlement, relative to the other Australian States. The Act requires each State and the Northern Territory to establish a Local Government Grants Commission.

Under section 6(1) of the Act, the Commonwealth Minister, after consulting the relevant State Ministers and with bodies representative of local government, formulated national principles. These principles are for the purpose of allocating to States, amounts payable to local governing bodies, under this Act.

In formulating the National Principles (see **Appendix A**), the Minister:

- (a) is to have regard to the need to ensure that the allocation of funds for local government purposes is made, as far as practicable, on a full horizontal equalisation basis; but
- (b) must ensure that no local governing body will be allocated an amount in a year that is less than the amount that would be allocated to the body if 30% of the amount which the State/Territory is entitled in respect of the year was allocated among local governing bodies on a per capita basis.

Local government councils incorporated under either the municipal or community government provisions of the Northern Territory *Local Government Act* are, like those similarly incorporated in other States, eligible to receive Commonwealth financial assistance as of right. Associations that have not been formally incorporated under that Act, but have been approved by the respective Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments as local governing bodies, are also included in the distribution of Commonwealth financial assistance and local roads grants. A list of those associations is shown at **Appendix C**.

The *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* also requires each State and the Northern Territory to have a local government grants commission. In accordance with that requirement, the Northern Territory legislated for a statutory, independent commission, the Northern Territory Grants Commission, in June 1986.

Vision

The Grants Commission has a vision to allocate all funding in an equitable, transparent and culturally sensitive manner.

Mission Statement

The Grants Commission's mission is to make recommendations to the Commonwealth Government, through the Northern Territory Minister for Local Government, on the distribution of financial assistance and local roads grants to local governing bodies within the Northern Territory.

Functions

- The Commission makes recommendations to the Federal Minister in respect of the amounts of money to be allocated to local governing bodies from the money provided to the Territory by the Commonwealth under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.
- The Commission also makes recommendations on such other matters relating to the finances of local governing bodies as the Northern Territory Minister for Local Government, from time to time, refers to the Commission.

Performance against Objectives

To develop and implement policies which ensure the equitable distribution of Commonwealth funding to Northern Territory local governing bodies.

Policy development is an ongoing commitment within the Commission. This year it continued to refine its policies relating to the recognition of local roads and outstation populations being serviced by councils outside their community government areas, and the accepted boundaries of approved local governing bodies.

The Commission reviewed all disability factors during this years deliberations. Generally, the approach taken to determine isolation allowances was modified to better recognise the extent to which the more remote council areas are disadvantaged.



To continuously review the distribution processes for Commonwealth funding to Northern Territory local governing bodies in the interests of funding equity.

In 1996 a partial review was undertaken of the Commission's funding methodology in relation to Commonwealth financial assistance and local roads funding but was subsequently postponed pending the outcome of the review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act* by the Commonwealth Grants Commission.

A discussion paper was distributed to local governments during the year and submissions were invited. Public hearings were held in most regions to explain the issues canvassed in the discussion paper. Ten submissions were received.

To assess the relative difficulties each local governing body encounters in the provision of local government services.

In 2002–03 the Commission held public hearings in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine and continued its rolling program of visits to local governing bodies, to gain information on difficulties with local government services delivery. In addition, the Commission invited all local governing bodies, and other interested parties, to submit comments or proposals in relation to any aspect of the funding methodology.

To visit and consult with all local governing bodies included in the grants programs, over a three year period.

The Commission has a policy of visiting every local governing body in the Northern Territory over a three year period. This year 20 visits were made. The councils visited this year are shown in **Schedule 7**.

To develop improved mechanisms for the collection, storage and analysis of information and comparative data for community needs assessment.

In the interests of funding equity the Commission continues to collect a variety of core data, relating to a council's relative cost of service provision and revenue raising capacity, directly from all councils. The data return forms distributed were submitted through the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs, Local Government and Regional Development offices for verification prior to the submission to the Commission.

In 1996 the Commission commenced a process of digitising and colour coded road status maps indicating the road responsibilities of each council in the Northern Territory. This has proved a very successful method of updating road data responsibilities. The digitising process ensures that annual updating in a cost effective manner is possible. These maps have now been converted in Mapinfo format and a process to examine the feasibility of making the maps available on the internet has commenced.



Review of the FAG Methodology

Following a request from the then Minister of Local Government, the Northern Territory Grants Commission (NTGC) commenced a comprehensive and detailed review of the methodology used to distribute Commonwealth general purpose and identified roads financial assistance grants, and of the processes of the Commission.

However, because of the review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* by the Commonwealth Grants Commission at the request of the Commonwealth, the Commission postponed final consideration of the methodology pending outcome of that review.

During the year the Commission issued a discussion paper to facilitate the finalisation of our review.

Annual Conference

The National Conference of Local Government Grants Commissions was held at the Hobart Function and Conference Centre Tasmania, in October 2002.

The commission was represented by Mr Darben, outgoing chairman and Mr Bob Beadman, incoming chairman.

Papers were presented by Mr Geof Watts of the National Office of local Government, Ms Jane Gascoigne of the South Australian Grants Commission, Dr Natalie Jackson of the University of Tasmania, Ms Marguerite Scott, Director, Tasmanian Local Government Division, Mr David Hope, Principal Analyst, Department of Treasury and Finance, Mr Frank Blanchfield, Director Geography Australian Bureau of Statistics, Mr David Peloquin, Canadian Office of the Privy Council, Mr Chris Lock, Director, Economic Policy, Department of Treasury and Finance and Mr David Lovell, Chairperson, Tasmanian Local Government Board.

Delegates were also invited to attend a Civic Reception at the Hobart City Council.

Executive Officers' Meeting

In April 2003 the National Office of Local Government sponsored a meeting of the Executive Officers from each State in Canberra. The Executive Officer, Mr Ted Clark, attended this meeting.

Visits to Local Governing Bodies

The rolling program of Commission visits continued in the 2002/2003 year. This program takes three years for a full cycle, although special circumstances may warrant occasional departure from the pre-planned program. The 21 locations visited this year are listed in **Schedule 7**.

While the main areas of interest relate to population and roads, the Commission also discusses the difficulties that local governing bodies experience in providing services to their respective communities and outstations. This provides an ongoing review of the community disability factors.

At several councils, the Commission was concerned at the lack of maintenance of local roads/street infrastructure. Sealed streets are being constructed as part of housing projects, but from discussions with councils, it would seem that maintenance of streets is not included in the project development process. Councils advise that patching and resealing programs are expensive and are outside councils' financial capabilities. This problem may become a major issue in future years for remote councils generally but more so for those island councils in particular.

In addition to the visits program, the Commission continues to extend its standing invitation to all local governing bodies and other interested parties to submit comments, or proposals regarding the refinement of any aspect of the methodology.

Many of the councils that were visited this year chose to make either informal or formal submissions to the Commission. The Commission thanks those councils for their contributions, which were an invaluable, additional source of information.

The Commission also expresses its concern that at a number of councils visited during the year, no councilors were present. This is showing a disturbing trend bordering on antipathy to the work of the Commission.

Public Hearings

In accordance with section 11 of the Commonwealth legislation, the Commission held public hearings throughout the Territory during the year. Overall, attendance at these hearings was disappointing and mainly consisted of representatives of those councils in whose precincts the hearings were held. No members of the public attended any meetings, while the attendance by members of remote councils was very small in numbers. This may indicate that many councils are content to rely on the Commission's rotational visits program to facilitate feedback to the Commissioners. The locations of the public hearings held during the year are shown in **Schedule 7**.



Financial Data

For the 2002-03 allocations the Commission was obliged to update the Australian Bureau of Statistics supplied local government income and expenditure factors for local governments from \$31.154 million and \$62.935 million to \$110.34 million and \$192.172 million respectively. The updated figures were based on ABS gathered financial data for the 1998-1999 financial year. No updated figures were available for this year's allocation and consequently the amounts applied to this year's allocations remain the same as last year.

Data Collection Returns

The Commission requires all local governing bodies to complete annual returns, which show population data, road lengths and specific financial data. The annual returns were mailed to councils in November 2001 and completed returns were required back by 31 January 2002.

Some improvement in the quality of the completed returns was noticeable this year but many were generally of a poor standard. Where returns are of a poor standard the Commission makes the best possible judgement on the basis of information it obtains from departmental officers so that services to people do not suffer as a result of the administrative deficiencies of their council.

Five local governing bodies failed to lodge a return resulting in the Commission using last years figures. Councils should be aware, however, that the Commission is only obliged to make a per capita grant and the consequence is that those defaulting councils would lose money.

Kaltukatjara Community Council Aboriginal Corporation
Ltyentye Apurte Community Government Council
Walungurru Council Aboriginal Corporation
Watiyawanu Community Government Council
Waruwi Community Council

Twenty two local governing bodies failed to lodge completed returns by the due date, which delayed the final deliberations. These were:

Aherrenge Community Council Incorporated
Alice Springs Town Council
Anmatjere Community Government Council
Aputula Housing Association Incorporated
Arltarlpilta Community Government Council
Darwin City Council

Gapuwiyak Community Council Incorporated
Imanpa Community Incorporated
Jabiru Town Council
Kaltukatjara Community Council Aboriginal Corporation
Kunbarllanjja Community Government Council
Ltyentye Apurte Community Government Council
Nganmarriyanga Community Incorporated
Ntaria Council (Hermannsberg) Incorporated
Numbulwar Numburindi Community Government Council
Papunya Community Council Incorporated
Ramingining Community Council Incorporated
Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council
Urapuntja Council Aboriginal Corporation
Wallace Rockhole Community Government Council
Yuelamu Community Incorporated
Yuendumu Community Government Council

The local governing bodies concerned are reminded that the accurate and timely preparation of the data required is an essential element to the grant calculation.

Annual Financial Statements

Regulation 11 of the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, stipulates that a copy of the local governing bodies Audited Annual Financial Statements be forwarded to the Chairman of the Northern Territory Grants Commission, no later than 31 October.

For financial year 2001/2002 the following local governing bodies failed to lodge their Annual Financial Statements by the date specified:

Aherrenge Community Council Incorporated
Ali Curung Council Incorporated
Alice Springs Town Council
Amoonguna Community Incorporated
Angurugu Community Government Council
Anmatjere Community Government Council
Aputula Housing Association Incorporated
Areyonga Community Incorporated
Barunga Manyallaluk Community Government Council
Belyuen Community Government Council
Binjari Community Government Council
Cox Peninsula Community Government Council
Daguragu Community Government Council
Elliott District Community Government Council



Galiwinku Community Incorporated
 Gapuwiyak Community Incorporated
 Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council
 Aboriginal Corporation
 Ikuntji Community Council Incorporated
 Imanpa Community Incorporated
 Jabiru Town Council
 Jilkminggan Community Government Council
 Kaltukatjara Community Council Aboriginal Corporation
 Kardu Numida Incorporated
 Kunbarllanjja Community Government Council
 Ltyentye Purte Community Government Council
 Maningrida Council Incorporated
 Marngarra Community Government Council
 Mataranka Community Government Council
 Milingimbi Community Incorporated
 Milyakburra Community Council Incorporated
 Minjilang Community Incorporated
 Nauiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council
 Nganmariyanga Community Incorporated
 Ntaria Council (Hermannsberg) Incorporated
 Numbulwar Numburindi Community Government Council
 Papunya Community Council Incorporated
 Peppimenarti Community Council Incorporated
 Pine Creek Community Government Council
 Ramingining Community Council Incorporated
 Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council
 Tennant Creek Town Council
 Timber Creek Community Government Council
 Tiwi Island Local Government
 Urapuntja Council Aboriginal Corporation
 Walangeri Ngumpinku Community Government Council
 Warruwi Community Council
 Yuelamu Community Incorporated
 Yugul Mangi Community Government Council

Submissions

The following councils made submissions to the Commission at the Public Hearings held in November 2002 and late February and April 2003

Alice Springs Town Council
 Tennant Creek Town Council
 Katherine Town Council

Payments 2002/2003

During 2002/2003 the grants continued to be paid in quarterly installments. The total payments to local governing bodies during the year are summarised below:

19 August 2002	\$5,252,865
14 November 2002	\$5,038,267
14 February 2003	\$5,467,463
16 May 2003	\$5,253,061
Total Payments	\$21,011,656

Estimated Entitlement 2003/2004

The Estimated Entitlements for 2003/2004 are based on Commonwealth estimates of the annual CPI and the Territory's share of the national population.

Entitlement 2002/2003

The Commonwealth estimates of the annual CPI and the Territory's share of the national population was higher than the actual CPI and population. This resulted in the entitlement for 2002/2003 being overestimated for the general purpose component and underestimated for the roads component. An overpayment totalling \$35,916 for general purpose and an under payment totalling \$43,169 for roads.

Therefore the overall underpayment totalled \$7,253. Adjustments have been made across all councils based on the data used for the distribution of the Estimated Entitlement for 2002/2003.

Cash Entitlement 2003/2004

The Cash Entitlement for 2003/2004 is the Estimated Entitlement for the year less the Overpayment for general purpose plus the Underpayments for roads in 2002/2003.





Communication with Councils

In accordance with its policy to keep all NT Councils informed about its operations and latest developments, the Commission corresponds on a regular basis with individual councils on many issues. The following list summarises the main item sent to all councils during the year.

Subject	Date
Letters advising of the requirement to lodge an annual return	9 December 2002
Distribution of the NTGC Annual Report	28 January 2003
Letters advising of the Estimated Entitlements for the 2003/04 General Purpose Grant	18 August 2003

Revenue and Expenditure Assessments of Local Governments

The Commonwealth Grants Commission stated in its "Review of the Operation of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*" (Chapter 3 – Goal 1) that as a minimum, local government grant commissions' (LGGCs) annual report should provide information on:

- the grant outcomes of all local governments in the State;
- the expenditure and revenue assessments of all local governments in the State; and
- the key drivers of LGGCs' expenditure and revenue assessments.

Accordingly, revenue and expenditure assessments are included. (Schedules 4 and 5). Key drivers and a matrix of how the disability factors are applied is also included (see Appendix B).

Local Government Finances

The Federal Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, the Hon. Wilson Tuckey, announced in May 2002 a major inquiry into the financial position of local government in Australia. The terms of reference of that inquiry include the findings of the Commonwealth Grants Commission Review of the Act. A copy of the terms of reference is included at Appendix F. The Northern Territory Grants Commission made a submission to this inquiry. This submission is on the Commission's website.



Chairman's Letter

Our ref: LG2007/03

The Hon John Ah Kit MLA
Minister for Local Government
GPO Box 3146
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 12(1)(a) of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*, I am pleased to present to you the Commission's recommendations for the distribution of the Commonwealth financial assistance and local road funds for the 2003–04 financial year.

As a result of the Commonwealth's budget handed down in May, the Hon Wilson Tuckey MP, Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government issued a media release stating that the Commonwealth had increased the level of the financial assistance grants to local governments around Australia in 2003–04 by nearly 3.7% over the previous year.

The estimated entitlement for the Northern Territory for 2003–2004 is \$10,423,850 general purpose and \$10,860,402 for local roads. The National Office of Local Government has advised that in 2002–03 there was an overpayment in the general-purpose component and an underpayment in the road component of \$35,916 and \$43,169 respectively to Northern Territory local governments. These amounts when applied to the estimated entitlement determine the cash entitlements for the year. The amount to be distributed to local governing bodies in the Northern Territory in 2003–04 is, therefore, \$10,387,934 general purpose and \$10,903,571 roads (a decrease of 0.48% and an increase of 3.12% respectively). The total of these grants is \$21,291,505, an overall increase of \$279,849 or 1.33% on the previous year.

Recommendations are attached that show the Commission's proposed distribution for 2003–04.

Recommendation 1 shows the distribution of the "Estimated Entitlement for 2003–04".

Recommendation 2 shows the, distribution of the over/underpayment in 2002–03.

Recommendation 3 shows the net cash to be distributed to councils this year with a comparison of net cash distributed in 2002–03.

In making these three recommendations, I confirm that:

- (a) all general purpose recommendations conform with section 6(2)(b) of the Commonwealth's *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* in allocating amounts that are no less than those to which local governing bodies would be eligible to receive if 30% of the total to which the Northern Territory is entitled was distributed among local governing bodies on a per capita basis;
- (b) road funds were divided on weighted road length but, in addition, a base or minimum figure of \$10,000 has been adopted for all councils because it is felt that a derived figure of less than this amount was not commensurate with a realistic acceptance of road maintenance and responsibility;
- (c) the Commission held public hearings and permitted local governing bodies and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory to make submissions in connection with the recommendations in accordance with section 11(c)(i) & (ii) of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

- (d) the allocations comply with section 12(a) of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act* in that the total amount of all money recommended to be allocated is equal to the amount of money provided to the Territory under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* for the 2003–04 financial year.

The commission, in determining its recommendations for Financial Assistance Grants, continued to use the revised methodology that was adopted following the review of its funding programs in 1996/97. However, the following two points, were issues considered by the Commission during its deliberations this year and have had an influence on the allocations:

- For the 2002–03 allocations the Commission was obliged to update the Australian Bureau of Statistics supplied local government income and expenditure factors for local governments from \$31.154 million and \$62.935 million to \$110.34 million and \$192.172 million respectively. The updated figures were based on ABS gathered financial data for the 1998 – 1999 financial year. No updated figures were available for this year's allocation and consequently the amounts applied to this year's allocations remain the same as last year.
- The Commission was advised that the Gulin Gulin & Weemol Council Aboriginal Corporation had opted not to be involved in the new Nyirrangulung Mardrulk Ngadberre Regional Council (NMNRC) but had sought inclusion at the last minute. The local governing body status of Gulin Gulin has now been revoked. An additional payment of \$40,602 for general-purpose and \$54,446 for roads has therefore been made to NMNRC for agreeing to provide local government services to the people of Bulman during the forthcoming year pending the revision of the scheme.

The Commission continued its practise of surveying the local governments for the details of population figures that were used in determining the recommendations. A reconciliation of the Commission's population database with the 2001 Census has been completed and the results are still being evaluated.

During the course of the year the Commission continued with its program of community visits but departed from its previous policy and has commenced including municipal councils in its visit program. Visits to municipal councils now incorporate a public hearing and commenced with a visit to Alice Springs Town Council in November. In addition, in conjunction with the visits, separate public hearings were held in two regional centres during the year, namely Tennant Creek on 27 February and, Katherine on 6 May. The visits play an important role in the workings of the Commission by affording it the opportunity to gather invaluable and more accurate local government roads' data and to confirm population data.

The detailed review of the methodology used to distribute Commonwealth general purpose and identified roads financial assistance grants was resumed during the year. A discussion paper on this subject was released to local governing bodies in October and workshops were held in most regions. Submissions have been received and evaluated and it is hoped to finalise a revised methodology during the 2003–04 year.

The Commission's annual report is currently being prepared and will be forwarded to you in accordance with section 16 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act* in due course.

Yours sincerely



BOB BEADMAN
Chairman

14 July 2003

Recommendation 1 – Schedule of Estimated Entitlement

In accordance with section 12 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*, the Commission recommends the following grants to local governing bodies:

All general purpose recommendations conform with section 6(2)(b) of the Commonwealth *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* in allocating amounts that are no less than those to which local governing bodies would be eligible to receive if 30% of the total to which the Northern Territory is entitled (ie \$10,423,850) was distributed among local governing bodies on a per capita basis.

Roads funds totalling \$10,860,402 were divided on weighted road length. Additionally, a base or minimum figure of \$10,000 has been adopted for all councils as it is felt that a derived figure of less than this amount was not commensurate with a realistic acceptance of road maintenance and responsibility.

Council	Population	FAA \$	Roads \$
Aherrenge	546	76,998	26,738
Ali Curung	500	55,254	49,040
Alice Springs	30,554	1,031,610	709,588
Alpurrurulam	700	77,403	39,234
Amoonguna	275	33,184	10,587
Angurugu	875	112,548	95,616
Anmatjere	1,544	193,425	103,835
Aputula	215	42,296	29,290
Areyonga	249	45,196	29,317
Arltarlpilta	253	49,032	18,569
Belyuen	267	33,697	24,188
Binjari	274	31,242	12,600
Borroloola	936	108,993	58,882
Coomalie	1,667	138,711	292,987
Cox Peninsula	289	19,194	42,261
Daguragu	756	97,089	68,057
Darwin	73,856	1,229,631	1,356,624
Elliott	585	63,147	40,880
Galiwinku	1,792	223,676	143,051
Gapuwiyak	1,031	146,855	155,104
Nyirranggulung ¹	153	40,602	54,446
Ikuntji	149	56,575	35,108
Imanpa	183	40,455	22,258
Jabiru	2,166	84,993	76,973
Jilkminggan	243	36,786	23,487
Kaltukatjara	349	65,366	89,405
Katherine	10,410	490,337	445,138
Kunbarllanjnja	1,148	222,600	428,574
Lajamanu	972	116,522	84,775
Litchfield	16,111	781,913	1,529,725

RECOMMENDATIONS



Council	Population	FAA \$	Roads \$
Ltyentye Purte	600	75,647	76,690
Maningrida	2,092	243,698	188,321
Marngarr	313	31,031	15,554
Mataranka	391	25,516	24,758
Milingimbi	893	116,182	42,039
Milyakburra	207	56,940	18,226
Minjilang	243	47,917	66,678
Naiyu Nambiyu	489	82,124	140,292
Nganmariyanga	458	62,214	58,058
Ntaria	652	76,299	70,610
Numbulwar	1,207	161,128	130,732
Nyirranglung	1,168	212,005	239,779
Nyirripi	315	65,150	82,406
Palmerston	22,947	822,132	432,465
Papunya	390	52,009	41,339
Peppimenarti	225	76,033	129,702
Pine Creek	593	41,345	108,072
Ramingining	744	107,590	100,910
Tapatjatjaka	288	36,446	20,518





Council	Population	FAA \$	Roads \$
Tennant Creek	4,039	311,274	162,337
Thamarrurr	2,406	356,251	184,643
Timber Creek	306	44,572	88,004
Tiwi Island	2,372	434,323	589,747
Umbakumba	512	87,847	120,933
Urapuntja	897	143,669	74,514
Walangeri Ngumpinku	488	66,399	48,488
Wallace Rockhole	174	34,485	15,520
Walungurru	450	76,901	98,402
Warruwi	389	60,531	82,341
Watiyawanu	260	44,252	27,082
Yirrkala	1,027	101,306	53,237
Yuelamu	284	49,744	56,715
Yuendumu	1,344	223,872	258,042
Yugul Mangi	1,582	251,688	165,539
Trust Account (LGANT) ²	N/A	N/A	751,372
TOTALS	199,793	\$10,423,850	\$10,860,402

- 1 An additional allocation is being made to the Ngyirranggulong Mardrulk Ngadberre Regional Council for agreeing to provide local government services to the community of Bulman as the local governing body status of Gulin Gulin has been revoked.
- 2 A trust account, administered by the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, ensures the continued maintenance of those roads that could not logically be "allocated" to a local governing body





Recommendation 2 – Schedule of Underpayments 2002/2003

The “Estimated Entitlements” in 2002/2003 were \$10,234,625 general purpose and \$10,432,766 roads. The actual entitlements for that year were \$10,198,709 general purpose and \$10,475,935 roads. An overpayment totalling \$35,916 and an underpayment totalling \$43,169 have therefore occurred.

The over/underpayments have been distributed on the same basis as the original distribution of the estimated entitlements.

Council	Paid Entitlement 2002/2003		Actual Entitlement 2002/2003		Difference		Total
	General Purpose	Roads	General Purpose	Roads	General Purpose	Roads	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Aherrenge	70,447	25,965	70,200	26,072	-247	107	-140
Ali Curung	57,161	47,622	56,960	47,819	-201	197	-4
Alice Springs	1,085,905	693,298	1,082,094	696,167	-3,811	2,869	-942
Alpururulam	71,402	30,034	71,151	30,158	-251	124	-127
Amoonguna	34,931	10,215	34,808	10,257	-123	42	-81
Angurugu	109,861	91,221	109,475	91,598	-386	377	-9
Anmatjere	202,334	96,014	201,624	96,411	-710	397	-313
Aputula	44,522	28,443	44,366	28,561	-156	118	-38
Areyonga	47,575	28,470	47,408	28,588	-167	118	-49
Arlarlpilta	51,613	19,664	51,432	19,745	-181	81	-100
Barunga Manyallaluk ¹	73,371	84,088	73,114	84,436	-257	348	91
Belyuen	35,471	23,489	35,347	23,586	-124	97	-27
Binjari	32,886	12,234	32,771	12,285	-115	51	-64
Borroloola	97,316	57,996	96,975	58,236	-341	240	-101
Coomalie	136,928	283,275	136,447	284,447	-481	1,172	691
Cox Peninsular	18,220	41,066	18,156	41,236	-64	170	106
Daguragu	102,199	92,176	101,840	92,557	-359	381	22
Darwin	1,294,349	1,323,687	1,289,807	1,329,164	-4,542	5,477	935
Elliott	64,286	40,593	64,060	40,761	-226	168	-58
Galiwinku	211,540	138,239	210,798	138,811	-742	572	-170
Gapuwiyak	143,048	150,620	142,546	151,243	-502	623	121
Nyirranggulung ²	31,448	51,178	31,338	51,390	-110	212	102
Ikuntji	59,553	34,533	59,344	34,676	-209	143	-66
Imanpa	42,584	21,614	42,435	21,703	-149	89	-60
Jabiru	89,466	74,784	89,152	75,093	-314	309	-5
Jilkminggan	38,722	22,808	38,586	22,902	-136	94	-42
Kaltukatjara	67,784	84,273	67,546	84,622	-238	349	111
Kardu Numida ³	299,370	174,913	298,319	175,637	-1,051	724	-327
Katherine	516,144	435,447	514,333	437,249	-1,811	1,802	-9
Kunbarllanjnja	205,913	390,469	205,190	392,085	-723	1,616	893
Lajamanu	118,253	82,325	117,838	82,666	-415	341	-74
Litchfield	784,005	1,461,981	781,254	1,468,030	-2,751	6,049	3,298

Council	Paid Entitlement 2002/2003		Actual Entitlement 2002/2003		Difference		Total
	General Purpose	Roads	General Purpose	Roads	General Purpose	Roads	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Ltyentye Purte	70,382	66,203	70,135	66,477	-247	274	27
Maningrida	203,431	182,878	202,717	183,635	-714	757	43
Marn Garr	32,664	10,774	32,549	10,819	-115	45	-70
Mataranka	26,859	44,606	26,765	44,791	-94	185	91
Milingimbi	107,194	40,824	106,818	40,993	-376	169	-207
Milyakburra	59,937	17,699	59,727	17,772	-210	73	-137
Minjilang	50,439	64,751	50,262	65,019	-177	268	91
Naiyu Nambiyu	66,541	135,923	66,307	136,485	-234	562	328
Nganmarriyanga	59,121	48,500	58,914	48,701	-207	201	-6
Ntaria	74,483	80,695	74,222	81,029	-261	334	73
Numbulwar	151,780	126,954	151,247	127,479	-533	525	-8
Nyirripi	68,579	91,933	68,338	92,313	-241	380	139
Palmerston	773,952	407,142	771,236	408,827	-2,716	1,685	-1,031
Papunya	54,746	40,144	54,554	40,310	-192	166	-26
Peppimenarti	80,035	120,869	79,754	121,369	-281	500	219
Pine Creek	39,161	106,343	39,024	106,783	-137	440	303
Ramingining	94,515	97,993	94,183	98,398	-332	405	73
Tapatjatjaka	38,364	19,925	38,229	20,007	-135	82	-53
Tennant Creek	308,866	157,645	307,782	159,030	-1,084	1,385	301
Timber Creek	46,918	78,008	46,753	78,331	-165	323	158
Tiwi Island	372,790	572,700	371,482	575,070	-1,308	2,370	1,062
Umbakumba	73,513	96,593	73,255	96,993	-258	400	142
Urapuntja	134,502	72,360	134,030	72,659	-472	299	-173
Walangeri Ngumpinku	69,894	47,086	69,649	47,281	-245	195	-50
Wallace Rockhole	36,300	15,134	36,173	15,197	-127	63	-64
Walungurru	77,550	93,430	77,278	93,817	-272	387	115
Warruwi	63,717	79,961	63,493	80,292	-224	331	107
Watiyawanu	46,581	24,190	46,418	24,290	-163	100	-63
Wugularr ⁴	84,986	133,558	84,688	134,111	-298	553	255
Yirkala	93,069	49,208	92,742	49,412	-327	204	-123
Yuelamu	52,362	55,075	52,178	55,303	-184	228	44
Yuendumu	235,655	250,583	234,828	251,620	-827	1,037	210
Yugul Mangi	247,132	160,754	246,265	161,419	-867	665	-202
Trust Account	N/A	689,591	N/A	691,712	N/A	2,121	2,121
TOTALS	\$10,234,625	\$10,432,766	\$10,198,709	\$10,475,935	\$-35,916	\$43,169	\$7,253

1 Shown here for comparison purposes. This adjustment will be paid to Nyirringgulong.

2 The adjustment relates to Gulin Gulin, however as the local governing body status of Gulin Gulin has been revoked the adjustment will be paid to Nyirringgulong.

3 Shown here for comparison purposes. This adjustment will be paid to Thamurrur CGC

4 Shown here for comparison purposes. This payment will be paid to Nyirringgulong.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 3 – Schedule of Cash Payment

Council	Estimated Cash Entitlement 2003/2004			Actual Cash Entitlement 2002/2003		
	General Purpose \$	Roads \$	Total \$	General Purpose \$	Roads \$	Total \$
Aherrenge	76,751	26,845	103,596	72,005	26,280	98,285
Ali Curung	55,053	49,237	104,290	58,425	48,317	106,742
Alice Springs	1,027,799	712,457	1,740,256	1,109,912	703,290	1,813,202
Alpurrurulam	77,152	39,358	116,510	72,743	30,318	103,061
Amoonguna	33,061	10,629	43,690	35,703	10,499	46,202
Angurugu	112,162	95,993	208,155	111,458	92,529	203,987
Anmatjere	192,715	104,232	296,947	205,446	97,416	302,862
Aputula	42,140	29,408	71,548	45,506	28,858	74,364
Areyonga	45,029	29,435	74,464	48,627	28,886	77,513
Arltarlpilta	48,851	18,650	67,501	52,754	19,948	72,702
Barunga Manyallaluk ¹	0	0	0	74,889	85,316	160,205
Belyuen	33,573	24,285	57,858	36,255	23,832	60,087
Binjari	31,127	12,651	43,778	33,613	12,518	46,131
Borrooloola	108,652	59,122	167,774	98,536	58,843	157,379
Coomalie	138,230	294,159	432,389	138,623	287,215	425,838
Cox Peninsula	19,130	42,431	61,561	18,492	41,658	60,150
Daguragu	96,730	68,438	165,168	103,820	93,522	197,342
Darwin	1,225,089	1,362,101	2,587,190	1,322,965	1,342,771	2,665,736
Elliot	62,921	41,048	103,969	65,406	40,877	106,283
Galiwinku	222,934	143,623	366,557	215,200	140,258	355,458
Gapuwiyak	146,353	155,727	302,080	145,383	152,820	298,203
Nyirrangkulung ²	40,492	54,658	95,150	32,892	51,746	84,638
Ikuntji	56,366	35,251	91,617	60,870	35,037	95,907
Imanpa	40,306	22,347	62,653	43,525	21,930	65,455
Jabiru	84,679	77,282	161,961	91,444	75,876	167,320
Jilkminggan	36,650	23,581	60,231	39,578	23,092	62,670
Kaltukatjara	65,128	89,754	154,882	69,283	85,504	154,787
Kardu Numida ³	0	0	0	305,207	176,652	481,859
Katherine	488,526	446,940	935,466	527,555	441,806	969,361
Kunbarllanjnja	221,877	430,190	652,067	209,036	396,072	605,108
Lajamanu	116,107	85,116	201,223	120,263	83,207	203,470
Litchfield	779,162	1,535,774	2,314,936	799,758	1,482,011	2,281,769
Ltyentye Purte	75,400	76,964	152,364	71,622	67,170	138,792
Maningrida	242,984	189,078	432,062	207,221	184,475	391,696
Marngarra	30,916	15,599	46,515	33,386	11,058	44,444
Mataranka	25,422	24,943	50,365	27,304	45,217	72,521

Council	Estimated Cash Entitlement 2003/2004			Actual Cash Entitlement 2002/2003		
	General Purpose	Roads	Total	General Purpose	Roads	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Milingimbi	115,806	42,208	158,014	108,968	41,420	150,388
Milyakburra	56,730	18,299	75,029	61,262	17,983	79,245
Minjilang	47,740	66,946	114,686	51,554	65,674	117,228
Naiyu Nambiyu	81,890	140,854	222,744	67,714	137,284	204,998
Nganmarriyanga	62,007	58,259	120,266	60,428	49,208	109,636
Ntaria	76,038	70,944	146,982	75,873	81,874	157,747
Numbulwar	160,595	131,257	291,852	154,315	128,808	283,123
Nyirranggulong	211,450	240,680	452,130	0	0	0
Nyirripi	64,909	82,786	147,695	70,095	93,068	163,163
Palmerston	819,416	434,150	1,253,566	791,063	412,931	1,203,994
Papunya	51,817	41,505	93,322	55,956	40,816	96,772
Peppimenarti	75,752	130,202	205,954	81,804	122,866	204,670
Pine Creek	41,208	108,512	149,720	39,730	107,896	147,626
Ramingining	107,258	101,315	208,573	96,605	99,315	195,920
Tapatjatjaka	36,311	20,600	56,911	39,212	20,209	59,421
Tennant Creek	310,190	163,722	473,912	315,694	161,886	477,580
Thamarrura	355,200	185,367	540,567	0	0	0
Timber Creek	44,407	88,327	132,734	47,877	79,231	127,108
Tiwi Island	433,015	592,117	1,025,132	378,287	578,176	956,463
Umbakumba	87,589	121,333	208,922	75,036	97,803	172,839
Urapuntja	143,197	74,813	218,010	136,867	73,222	210,089
Walangeri Ngumpinku	66,154	48,683	114,837	71,439	47,370	118,809
Wallace Rockhole	34,358	15,583	49,941	37,103	15,418	52,521
Walungurru	76,629	98,789	175,418	79,265	94,794	174,059
Warruwi	60,307	82,672	142,979	65,126	81,129	146,255
Watiyawanu	44,089	27,182	71,271	47,611	24,474	72,085
Wugularr ⁴	0	0	0	85,992	133,943	219,935
Yirkkala	100,979	53,441	154,420	94,532	49,927	144,459
Yuelamu	49,560	56,943	106,503	53,520	55,852	109,372
Yuendumu	223,045	259,079	482,124	239,489	254,305	493,794
Yugul Mangi	250,821	166,204	417,025	251,219	163,102	414,321
Trust Account	N/A	753,493	753,493	N/A	696,507	696,507
TOTALS	\$10,387,934	\$10,903,571	\$21,291,505	\$10,438,341	\$10,573,315	\$21,011,656

1 Now part of the Nyirranggulong Mardruk Ngadberre Regional Council

2 An additional allocation is being made to the Nyirranggulong Mardruk Ngadberre Regional Council for agreeing to provide local government services to the community of Bulman as the local governing body status of Gulin Gulin has been revoked

3 Now Thamurrurr Community Government Council

4 Now part of the Nyirranggulong Mardruk Ngadberre Regional Council.

SCHEDULES



Schedule 1

Population (Including Related Service Populations)

Community	Calculated Population			3 Year Ave.Pop	Outstation Population	Adjusted Population	Tourist Population	Total Population
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04					
Aherrenge	330	285	360	325	221	221	0	546
Ali Curung	500	500	500	500	20	0	0	500
Alice Springs	28,740	29,033	28,178	28,650	0	0	1,904	30,554
Alpurrurulam	700	700	700	700	0	0	0	700
Amoonguna	275	275	275	275	20	0	0	275
Angurugu	850	870	820	847	86	28	0	875
Anmatjere	1,600	1,628	1,370	1,533	0	0	11	1,544
Aputula	200	200	200	200	12	12	3	215
Areyonga	258	258	230	249	0	0	0	249
Arltarlpilta	242	250	264	252	0	0	1	253
Belyuen	280	280	242	267	0	0	0	267
Binjari	295	264	263	274	0	0	0	274
Borrooloola	810	732	728	757	443	177	2	936
Coomalie	1,602	1,620	1,630	1,617	0	0	50	1,667
Cox Peninsula	259	284	318	287	0	0	2	289
Daguragu	720	766	715	734	33	22	0	756
Darwin	72,960	74,455	72,142	73,186	0	0	670	73,856
Elliott	542	547	596	562	12	11	12	585
Galiwinku	1,687	1,700	1,720	1,702	360	90	0	1,792
Gapuwiyak	990	902	902	931	250	100	0	1,031
Nyirrangkulung ¹	154	154	149	152	0	0	0	153
Ikuntji	156	123	127	135	40	13	0	149
Imanpa	162	174	194	177	6	6	0	183
Jabiru	1,950	1,950	1,775	1,892	0	0	274	2,166
Jilkminggan	202	253	220	225	18	18	0	243
Kaltukatjara	323	323	400	349	0	0	0	349
Katherine	9,959	10,400	10,032	10,130	0	0	279	10,410
Kunbarlanjnja	1,133	1,140	1,170	1,148	0	0	0	1,148
Lajamanu	1,020	990	907	972	0	0	0	972
Litchfield	15,761	15,871	16,086	15,906	0	0	205	16,111
Ltyentye Purte	600	600	600	600	0	0	0	600
Maningrida	2,012	2,080	2,140	2,077	24	12	2	2,092
Marn Garr	306	315	317	313	45	0	0	313
Mataranka	302	302	302	302	0	0	89	391
Milingimbi	840	920	920	893	160	0	0	893

Community	Calculated Population			3 Year Ave.Pop	Outstation Population	Adjusted Population	Tourist Population	Total Population
	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04					
Milyakburra	190	210	220	207	0	0	0	207
Minjilang	253	206	269	243	31	0	0	243
Naiyu Nambiyu	448	455	465	456	0	0	33	489
Nganmariyanga	430	457	486	458	0	0	0	458
Ntaria	600	615	650	622	0	0	30	652
Numbulwar	1,205	1,205	1,210	1,207	0	0	0	1,207
Nyirripi	315	315	315	315	50	0	0	315
Nyirranglung ²	1,266	1,130	1,105	1,167	0	0	1	1,168
Palmerston	23,510	24,544	20,788	22,947	0	0	0	22,947
Papunya	340	340	340	340	100	50	0	390
Peppimenarti	215	230	230	225	86	0	0	225
Pine Creek	549	630	538	572	0	0	21	593
Ramingining	640	675	675	663	244	81	0	744
Tapatjatjaka	234	261	271	255	98	32	0	288
Tennant Creek	3,963	4,030	3,286	3,760	0	0	279	4,039
Thamarrurr	2,215	2,452	2,550	2,406	0	0	0	2,406
Timber Creek	286	300	295	294	0	0	12	306
Tiwi Island	2,365	2,373	2,373	2,370	0	0	1	2,372
Umbakumba	452	441	443	445	67	67	0	512
Urapuntja	880	945	865	897	0	0	0	897
Walangeri Ngumpinku	490	485	489	488	0	0	0	488
Wallace Rockhole	160	160	160	160	0	0	14	174
Walungurru	450	450	450	450	56	0	0	450
Warruwi	369	369	371	370	38	19	0	389
Watiyawanu	250	250	280	260	65	0	0	260
Yirkala	870	890	900	887	700	140	1	1,027
Yuelamu	243	280	273	265	56	18	0	284
Yuendumu ³	1,130	1,150	1,150	1,143	200	200	1	1,344
Yugul Mangi	1,575	1,586	1,585	1,582	0	0	0	1,582
TOTALS	194,613	198,578	190,524	194,572	3,541	1,318	3,903	199,793

1 This population figure represents the population of the community of Bulman.

2 Population figures for 2001/02 & 2002/03 are Barunga and Wugular combined.

3 Population figures for Willowra are included with Yuendumu.



Schedule 2

Northern Territory Grants Commission Disability Factors and Key Drivers 2003/2004

Community	Isolation		Dispersion	ATSI People	Growth Factor	Pop. >15	Per Capita Income
	Admin.	Works					
Aherrenge	1.35	1.40	1.25	1.95	1.06	230	6,400
Ali Curung	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.96	1.00	400	6,400
Alice Springs	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.20	1.00	19,975	20,600
Alpurrurulam	1.35	1.40	1.00	1.97	1.00	570	6,400
Amoonguna	1.05	1.05	1.00	1.99	1.00	239	6,400
Angurugu	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.96	1.00	634	6,400
Anmatjere	1.20	1.20	1.50	1.95	1.00	1,102	6,400
Aputula	1.35	1.40	1.00	1.92	1.00	180	6,400
Areyonga	1.35	1.40	1.00	1.96	1.00	160	6,400
Arltarlpilta	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.99	1.04	197	6,400
Belyuen	1.10	1.25	1.00	1.99	1.00	161	6,400
Binjari	1.10	1.10	1.00	2.00	1.00	141	6,400
Borrooloola	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.82	1.00	434	8,000
Coomalie	1.10	1.10	1.25	1.23	1.01	1,267	17,200
Cox Peninsula	1.10	1.25	1.00	1.10	1.11	262	14,300
Daguragu	1.30	1.30	1.10	1.89	1.00	393	6,400
Darwin	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.09	1.00	56,898	21,800
Elliott	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.89	1.05	381	8,900
Galiwinku	1.30	1.35	1.00	1.97	1.01	935	6,400
Gapuwiyak	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.98	1.00	496	6,400
Gulin Gulin	1.35	1.35	1.10	1.99	1.00	86	6,400
Ikuntji	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.92	1.00	121	6,400
Imanpa	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.96	1.09	115	6,400
Jabiru	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.10	1.00	1,438	21,800
Jilkminggan	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.98	1.06	175	6,400
Kaltukatjara	1.45	1.45	1.00	1.90	1.12	307	6,400
Katherine	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.20	1.00	7,524	20,100
Kunbarllanjnja	1.20	1.25	1.00	1.95	1.02	735	6,400
Lajamanu	1.35	1.35	1.00	1.95	1.00	635	6,400
Litchfield	1.00	1.05	1.15	1.06	1.01	11,889	19,000
Ltyentye Purte	1.20	1.20	1.00	1.94	1.00	368	6,400
Maningrida	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.96	1.03	1,819	6,400
Mamgarr	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.96	1.02	187	6,400
Mataranka	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.30	1.00	229	16,600
Milingimbi	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.97	1.05	700	6,400

Community	Isolation		Dispersion	ATSI People	Growth Factor	Pop. >15	Per Capita Income
	Admin.	Works					
Milyakburra	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.94	1.08	160	6,400
Minjilang	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.95	1.06	105	6,400
Naiyu Nambiyu	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.96	1.02	280	6,400
Nganmariyanga	1.35	1.35	1.00	1.96	1.06	334	6,400
Ntaria	1.20	1.15	1.00	1.90	1.04	370	6,400
Numbulwar	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.98	1.00	751	6,400
Nyirripi	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.97	1.00	180	6,400
Nyirranggulung	1.15	1.20	1.50	1.97	1.00	599	6,400
Palmerston	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.13	1.00	13,928	17,800
Papunya	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.90	1.00	175	6,400
Peppimenarti	1.35	1.35	1.00	1.97	1.03	161	6,400
Pine Creek	1.10	1.10	1.00	1.25	1.00	443	17,800
Ramingining	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.97	1.03	497	6,400
Tapatjatjaka	1.30	1.30	1.00	1.93	1.08	227	6,400
Tennant Creek	1.20	1.20	1.00	1.53	1.00	2,161	17,800
Thamarrurr	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.96	1.07	1,450	6,400
Timber Creek	1.25	1.25	1.10	1.63	1.02	197	14,300
Tiwi Island	1.15	1.30	1.50	1.92	1.00	1,785	6,400
Umbakumba	1.30	1.35	1.00	1.98	1.00	365	6,400
Urapuntja	1.35	1.40	1.50	1.98	1.00	570	6,400
Walangeri Ngumpinku	1.30	1.30	1.25	1.97	1.00	327	6,400
Wallace Rockhole	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.98	1.00	105	6,400
Walungurru	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.96	1.00	280	6,400
Warruwi	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.96	1.00	270	6,400
Watiyawanu	1.40	1.40	1.00	1.97	1.06	206	6,400
Yirkala	1.15	1.15	1.00	1.96	1.02	680	6,400
Yuelamu	1.30	1.35	1.10	1.96	1.06	186	6,400
Yuendumu ¹	1.30	1.35	1.25	1.97	1.01	850	6,400
Yugul Mangi	1.30	1.30	1.50	1.92	1.00	1,175	6,400

¹ Population figures >15 for Willowra are included in Yuendumu.

SCHEDULES



Schedule 3

Councils Local Road Lengths

Community	Kerbed	Sealed	Gravel	Formed	Unformed	Total Klms.	Council Area (sq Klms.)
Aherrenge	0	2.50	0	38.50	1.50	42.50	0
Ali Curung	0	7.35	0	9.00	134.00	150.35	0
Alice Springs	167.90	63.40	16.60	2.30	0	250.20	327.00
Alpurrurulam	0	3.34	12.70	4.00	13.00	33.04	100.00
Amoonguna	0	3.50	0	3.20	0	6.70	0
Angurugu	8.00	14.00	1.00	0	79.00	102.00	2.00
Anmatjere	0.30	19.20	0	65.20	114.90	199.60	3,631.00
Aputula	0	2.50	0	31.90	32.10	66.50	0
Areyonga	0	1.30	9.10	12.00	15.00	37.40	0
Arltarlpilta	0	3.50	0	1.00	38.00	42.50	12.13
Belyuen	0	2.35	0	14.00	67.70	84.05	40.91
Binjari	0	4.40	0	0	0.61	5.01	2.82
Borrooloola	1.66	10.77	9	0.80	1.50	23.73	12.56
Coomalie	2.56	34.49	124.71	23.85	0	185.61	1,500.00
Cox Peninsular	1.23	11.50	0	0.24	0.20	13.17	5.62
Daguragu	0	16.80	5.50	0	14.00	36.30	43.20
Darwin	443.00	25.00	0	0	0	468.00	144.00
Elliott	6.10	1.65	3.00	1.00	35.00	46.75	3.12
Galiwinku	2.80	5.80	21.40	67.50	251.00	348.50	0
Gapuwiyak	1.50	3.50	47.50	10.00	315.50	378.00	0
Gulin Gulin ¹	0	3.50	24.03	0	1.70	29.23	0
Ikuntji	0	1.90	0	22.00	101.00	124.90	0
Imanpa	0	2.30	7.70	3.30	6.50	19.80	0
Jabiru	21.80	7.07	0	0	0	28.87	13.00
Jilkminggan	0	2.50	10.50	0	3.00	16.00	6.10
Kaltukatjara	0	4.80	1.40	20.00	317.00	343.20	0
Katherine	55.69	97.67	1.90	0	16.93	172.19	528.00
Kunbarlanjnja	0	19.67	176.05	15.00	461.00	671.72	530.00
Lajamanu	0	3.40	12.20	4.00	285.80	305.40	7,313.00
LGANT	0	7.60	183.56	566.99	1438.84	2196.99	0
Litchfield	17.12	423.00	248.90	0	0	689.02	3,100.00
Ltyentye Purte	0	8.00	23.37	10.00	75.70	117.07	1,242.00
Maningrida	1.00	8.00	73.00	15.00	213.00	310.00	0
Marngarr	0	4.70	0.05	1.83	5.56	12.14	2.70



SCHEDULES

Community	Kerbed	Sealed	Gravel	Formed	Unformed	Total Klms.	Council Area (sq Klms.)
Mataranka	1.07	4.85	3.45	2.10	3.05	14.52	233.00
Milingimbi	0.10	6.89	5.95	5.90	17.75	36.59	0
Milyakburra	0	0	0	28.00	24.00	52.00	0
Minjilang	3.00	3.00	17.00	8.70	41.70	73.40	0
Naiyu Nambiyu	0	8.90	60.10	35.70	0	104.70	42.60
Nganmariyanga	0	4.00	8.80	13.00	132.20	158.00	0
Ntaria	0	3.10	0.80	69.00	232.50	305.40	0
Numbulwar	0	6.00	29.00	30.00	237.40	302.40	4,500.00
Nyirrangulung	0	10.10	100.90	55.00	197.30	363.30	28,700.00
Nyirripi	0	4.00	0	16.00	305.00	325.00	0
Palmerston	151.34	9.92	0.33	0	0	161.59	56.00
Papunya	0	4.60	0	0	154.00	158.60	0
Peppimenarti	0	2.00	56.00	54.50	7.00	119.50	0
Pine Creek	4.70	13.60	36.10	2.70	2.80	59.90	400.00
Ramingining	0	3.00	43.30	5.80	93.00	145.10	0
Tapatjatjaka	0	2.84	1.40	0	51.30	55.54	12.14
Tennant Creek	36.70	11.20	0	8.50	0	56.40	25.00
Thamarrurr	4.70	10.30	39.70	46.20	184.30	285.20	3,450.00
Timber Creek	0.35	7.77	37.82	0	2.30	48.24	16.12
Tiwi Island	3.23	27.55	187.55	210.10	477.00	905.43	2,115.00
Umbakumba	4.40	0	48.9	0	94.00	147.30	0
Urapuntja	0	0	0	71.50	233.00	304.50	0
Walangeri Ngumpinku	0	3.68	3.40	70.75	4.07	81.90	386.00
Wallace Rockhole	0	2.40	0	18.50	1.80	22.70	5.15
Walungurru	0	4.90	2.50	39.00	287.00	333.40	0
Warruwi	1.00	4.00	32.00	0	30.00	67.00	0
Watiyawanu	0	3.00	0	8.50	68.40	79.90	78.00
Yirkala	0.85	12.50	4.00	6.75	30.00	54.10	0
Yuelamu	0	2.10	3.50	40.00	148.00	193.60	0
Yuendumu ²	2.00	12.20	2.62	178.80	711.50	907.12	22,142.00
Yugul Mangi	3.70	5.90	60.50	43.00	62.10	175.20	12,269.00
TOTALS	809.25	1,025.26	1,798.79	2,010.61	7,871.51	13,653.97	

1 Population figures >15 for Willowra are included with Yuendumu

2 Funding for the Willowra roads is paid to Yuendumu.



Schedule 4

Calculation of the Standard Deficit

Community	Total Population	Standardised Expenditure Total \$	Standardised Revenue Total \$	Standard Deficit \$
Aherrenge	546	1,035,457	168,416	867,041
Ali Curung	500	827,353	205,163	622,190
Alice Springs	30,554	29,475,885	18,030,754	11,445,131
Alpurrurulam	700	1,156,155	284,549	871,605
Amoonguna	275	357,371	115,323	242,048
Angurugu	875	1,619,745	352,389	1,267,355
Anmatjere	1,544	2,903,703	725,615	2,178,088
Aputula	215	460,087	112,791	347,296
Areyonga	249	492,859	114,712	378,147
Arltarlpilta	253	529,112	153,323	375,789
Belyuen	267	430,032	124,620	305,412
Binjari	274	379,928	145,823	234,105
Borrooloola	936	1,517,822	290,488	1,227,334
Coomalie	1,667	2,807,498	1,245,524	1,561,974
Cox Peninsula	289	448,908	232,767	216,141
Daguragu	756	1,282,257	281,669	1,000,589
Darwin	73,856	63,728,185	54,191,160	9,537,024
Elliott	585	980,092	269,020	711,072
Galiwinku	1,792	3,011,979	493,250	2,518,729
Gapuwiyak	1,031	1,955,492	301,816	1,653,676
Gulin Gulin	153	524,180	66,979	457,201
Ikuntji	149	432,670	106,383	326,287
Imanpa	183	407,622	85,168	322,454
Jabiru	2,166	2,235,657	1,379,956	855,701
Jilkminggan	243	425,495	116,404	309,090
Kaltukatjara	349	915,857	179,791	736,066
Katherine	10,410	11,183,697	6,680,229	4,503,468
Kunbarlanjnja	1,148	3,012,588	505,979	2,506,609
Lajamanu	972	1,670,691	358,586	1,312,106
Litchfield	16,111	18,940,624	10,135,800	8,804,824
Ltyentye Purte	600	1,079,943	228,110	851,833
Manningrida	2,092	3,478,453	734,266	2,744,187
Marn Garr	313	442,084	154,570	287,515
Mataranka	391	456,873	241,751	215,122

SCHEDULES

Community	Total Population	Standardised Expenditure Total \$	Standardised Revenue Total \$	Standard Deficit \$
Milingimbi	893	1,615,898	307,612	1,308,286
Milyakburra	207	472,551	106,341	366,210
Minjilang	243	654,265	195,008	459,257
Naiyiyu Nambiyu	489	1,145,061	220,296	924,764
Nganmariyanga	458	898,348	197,775	700,573
Ntaria	652	1,057,658	198,489	859,169
Numbulwar	1,207	2,244,922	430,521	1,814,401
Nyirripi	315	770,906	143,269	627,637
Nyirranggulung	1,168	2,837,480	450,173	2,387,307
Palmerston	22,947	20,125,722	10,868,010	9,257,712
Papunya	390	666,305	125,438	540,868
Peppimenarti	225	867,236	176,239	690,997
Pine Creek	593	927,322	461,754	465,569
Ramingining	744	1,477,252	265,721	1,211,531
Tapatjatjaka	288	494,225	174,412	319,813
Tennant Creek	4,039	5,211,601	1,706,466	3,505,135
Thamarrurr	2,406	4,701,773	690,170	4,011,602
Timber Creek	306	701,648	233,133	468,515
Tiwi Island	2,372	6,143,603	1,252,859	4,890,745
Umbakumba	512	1,205,012	215,795	989,217
Urapuntja	897	1,955,425	337,624	1,617,800
Walangeri Ngumpinku	488	940,708	263,092	677,616
Wallace Rockhole	174	357,618	99,822	257,797
Walungurru	450	1,051,806	185,858	865,949
Warruwi	389	858,632	177,159	681,472
Watiyawanu	260	527,961	141,756	386,205
Yirrkala	1,027	1,446,967	306,201	1,140,766
Yuelamu	284	656,901	127,783	529,119
Yuendumu	1,344	3,068,076	586,661	2,481,416
Yugul Mangi	1,582	3,534,050	699,891	2,834,159
TOTALS	199,793	\$229,223,284	\$120,158,471	\$109,064,813

SCHEDULES



Schedule 5

Standardised Expenditure

Community	Amenity	Administration	Human Services	Library	Recreation	Transport	Standardised Expenditure Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aherrenge	195,462	414,753	161,719	–	164,189	99,335	1,035,457
Ali Curung	120,231	282,784	129,611	–	126,243	168,484	827,353
Alice Springs	6,171,597	8,887,139	4,073,312	1,429,909	6,480,225	2,433,703	29,475,885
Alpururulam	188,540	429,793	196,990	–	197,969	142,863	1,156,155
Amoonguna	55,547	146,265	60,797	–	58,324	36,438	357,371
Angurugu	218,866	514,775	235,941	90,212	229,811	330,140	1,619,745
Anmatjere	534,621	1,251,019	382,260	–	374,238	361,565	2,903,703
Aputula	58,017	181,440	59,079	–	60,919	100,631	460,087
Areyonga	66,973	185,220	69,619	–	70,322	100,724	492,859
Arltarlpilta	86,007	235,417	72,412	–	69,468	65,808	529,112
Belyuen	64,283	153,230	61,916	–	67,498	83,105	430,032
Binjari	57,980	154,000	63,779	–	60,880	43,289	379,928
Borroloola	234,021	511,104	234,258	91,230	245,724	201,486	1,517,822
Coomalie	444,861	648,306	239,784	81,769	373,686	1,019,092	2,807,498
Cox Peninsula	77,022	84,700	41,007	–	80,873	165,306	448,908
Daguragu	207,935	471,598	196,501	–	198,485	207,738	1,282,257
Darwin	14,207,527	18,583,526	8,517,533	2,846,920	14,918,014	4,654,664	63,728,185
Elliott	147,568	318,929	153,399	56,794	154,947	148,455	980,092
Galiwinku	470,032	1,059,690	490,424	–	493,537	498,295	3,011,979
Gapuwiyak	257,950	612,892	280,912	–	270,850	532,889	1,955,492
Gulin Gulin	43,588	206,861	43,371	–	41,607	188,754	524,180
Ikuntji	40,028	188,160	42,271	–	42,030	120,181	432,670
Imanpa	48,076	171,500	51,826	–	50,480	85,740	407,622
Jabiru	479,099	632,413	289,859	66,811	503,057	264,418	2,235,657
Jilkminggan	57,054	159,390	62,133	–	59,907	87,011	425,495
Kaltukatjara	108,955	221,961	113,859	–	114,403	356,679	915,857
Katherine	2,212,573	3,172,008	1,460,319	480,671	2,323,219	1,534,906	11,183,697
Kunbarllanjna	280,473	619,985	288,779	–	294,499	1,528,851	3,012,588
Lajamanu	252,526	590,913	270,838	–	265,154	291,261	1,670,691
Litchfield	3,780,876	4,533,752	1,825,493	–	3,452,130	5,348,374	18,940,624
Ltyentye Purte	138,585	322,627	147,872	53,592	145,515	271,752	1,079,943
Maningrida	518,701	1,182,938	559,167	–	544,640	673,007	3,478,453
Margarr	70,437	162,759	75,932	–	73,960	58,996	442,084

SCHEDULES

Community	Amenity	Administration	Human Services	Library	Recreation	Transport	Standardised Expenditure Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Mataranka	86,499	134,939	61,848	18,265	90,824	64,498	456,873
Milingimbi	252,056	567,335	272,413	106,177	264,661	153,255	1,615,898
Milyakburra	64,193	203,700	68,495	–	67,403	68,760	472,551
Minjilang	69,316	191,100	74,343	–	72,783	246,724	654,265
Naiyu Nambiyu	119,766	276,493	129,110	–	125,755	493,936	1,145,061
Nganmarriyanga	126,446	279,459	136,172	–	132,770	223,500	898,348
Ntaria	150,101	343,060	163,677	–	157,607	243,214	1,057,658
Numbulwar	325,687	772,233	354,678	–	341,974	450,350	2,244,922
Nyirripi	90,894	214,875	98,486	–	95,440	271,211	770,906
Nyirranggulung	404,399	916,170	279,944	115,423	283,081	838,463	2,837,480
Palmerston	4,414,359	5,959,411	2,731,424	886,777	4,635,112	1,498,639	20,125,722
Papunya	97,540	222,392	101,930	–	102,417	142,026	666,305
Peppimenarti	60,493	186,165	65,545	20,879	63,518	470,637	867,236
Pine Creek	125,552	188,187	86,318	25,170	131,831	370,265	927,322
Ramingining	191,145	439,841	207,108	79,602	200,703	358,854	1,477,252
Tapatjatjaka	77,503	175,630	82,271	–	81,379	77,442	494,225
Tennant Creek	932,402	1,711,898	784,628	265,265	979,030	538,379	5,211,601
Thamarrurr	695,594	1,524,053	749,861	303,326	730,379	698,561	4,701,773
Timber Creek	82,134	158,103	66,940	–	78,401	316,069	701,648
Tiwi Island	891,178	1,813,298	555,006	229,709	623,829	2,030,584	6,143,603
Umbakumba	133,073	304,472	139,551	51,857	139,727	436,332	1,205,012
Urapuntja	362,253	829,978	253,607	–	253,579	256,008	1,955,425
Walangeri Ngumpinku	152,661	360,892	132,328	–	128,236	166,590	940,708
Wallace Rockhole	41,768	173,250	45,486	–	43,857	53,258	357,618
Walungurru	129,853	305,416	139,984	–	136,347	340,207	1,051,806
Warruwi	105,003	246,300	113,194	–	110,253	283,882	858,632
Watiyawanu	74,225	193,060	80,424	–	77,937	102,316	527,961
Yirrkala	231,149	534,518	249,182	–	242,708	189,408	1,446,967
Yuelamu	86,240	196,196	81,387	–	82,321	210,757	656,901
Yuendumu	440,272	993,468	367,499	–	369,832	897,005	3,068,076
Yugul Mangi	595,454	1,367,587	419,205	163,924	416,821	571,059	3,534,050
TOTALS	\$43,505,219	\$69,075,324	\$30,045,014	\$7,464,281	\$43,867,319	\$35,266,127	\$229,223,284



Schedule 6

National Distribution and Shares of Financial Assistance Grants 2003/2004

State/ Territory	General Purpose \$	Share %	Local Road Component \$	Share %	Total \$	Share %
NSW	353,244,096	33.67	135,047,662	29.01	488,291,758	32.24
Vic	259,959,777	24.78	95,963,227	20.62	355,923,004	23.50
Qld	199,231,385	18.99	87,212,159	18.74	286,443,544	18.91
WA	102,996,972	9.82	71,171,157	15.29	174,168,129	11.50
SA	80,942,269	7.72	25,580,767	5.50	106,523,036	7.03
Tas	25,185,104	2.40	24,666,659	5.30	49,851,763	3.29
NT	10,387,934	0.99	10,903,571	2.34	21,291,505	1.41
ACT	17,049,197	1.63	14,925,519	3.21	31,974,716	2.11
TOTALS	\$1,048,996,734	100%	\$465,470,721	100%	\$1,514,467,455	100%



Schedule 7

Visits to Local Governing Bodies

Council Visits 2002/2003

	Date of Visit
Wallace Rockhole Community Government Council	10 September 2002
Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council	11 September 2002
Aputula Housing Association Incorporated	11 September 2002
Imanpa Community Incorporated	12 September 2002
Areyonga Community Incorporated	13 September 2002
Kaltukatjara Community Council Aboriginal Corporation	13 November 2002
Walungurru Council Aboriginal Corporation	13 November 2002
Watiyawanu Community Government Council	14 November 2002
Papunya Community Council Incorporated	14 November 2002
Ikuntji Community Council Incorporated	15 November 2002
Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council	25 February 2003
Ali Curung Council Incorporated	26 February 2003
Marngarr Community Government Council	28 April 2003
Yirrkala Dhanbul Community Association Incorporated	28 April 2003
Umbakumba Community Government Council	29 April 2003
Angurugu Community Government Council	29 April 2003
Raminginging Community Council Incorporated	30 April 2003
Wugular Community Government Council	07 May 2003
Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council Aboriginal Corporation	07 May 2003
Barunga Manyallaluk Community Government Council	08 May 2003

Council Visits 2001/2002

	Date of Visit
Jabiru Town Council	17 September 2001
Waruwi Community Council	17 September 2001
Minjilang Community Incorporated	17 September 2001
Kunbarllanjnja Community Government Council	18 September 2001
Jilkminggan Community Government Council	07 November 2001
Mataranka Community Government Council	07 November 2001
Pine Creek Community Government Council	08 November 2001
Coomalie Community Government Council	08 November 2001
Belyuen Community Government Council	09 November 2001
Cox Peninsula Community Government Council	09 November 2001
Anmatjere Community Government Council	11 March 2002
Numbulwar Numburindi Community Government Council	14 March 2002
Milyakburra Community Council Incorporated	14 March 2002
Galiwinku Community Incorporated	15 March 2002
Milingimbi Community Incorporated	15 March 2002
Binjari Community Government Council	29 April 2002
Kardu Numida Incorporated	30 April 2002
Nganmarriyanga Community Incorporated	30 April 2002
Peppimenarti Community Council Incorporated	01 May 2002
Nauiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council	01 May 2002





Visits to Local Governing Bodies continued

Council Visits 2000/2001

	Date of Visit
Gapuwiyak Community Incorporated	04 October 2000
Maningrida Council Incorporated	05 October 2000
Nyirripi Community Incorporated	05 December 2000
Yuendumu Community Government Council	05 December 2000
Yuelamu Community Incorporated	05 December 2000
Anmatjere Community Government Council	06 December 2000
Willowra Council Incorporated	06 December 2000
Arltarlpilta Community Government Council	07 December 2000
Aputula Housing Association Incorporated	02 April 2001
Ltyentye Purte Community Government Council	03 April 2001
Amoonguna Community Incorporated	03 April 2001
Urapuntja Council Aboriginal Corporation	04 April 2001
Aherrenge Community Council Incorporated	04 April 2001
Elliot Community Government Council	01 May 2001
Lajamanu Community Government Council	02 May 2001
Daguragu Community Government Council	02 May 2001
Timber Creek Community Government Council	03 May 2001
Walangeri Ngumpinku Community Government Council	03 May 2001

Council Visits 1999/2000

	Date of Visit
Ali Curung Council Association Inc.	09 November 1999
Ntaria Council (Hermannsburg) Inc.	10 November 1999
Areyonga Community Inc.	10 November 1999
Imanpa Community Inc.	11 November 1999
Tapatjatjaka Community Government Council	11 November 1999
Wallace Rockhole Community Government Council	12 November 1999
Nguiu Community Government Council	24 May 2000
Pirlangimpi Community Government Council	24 May 2000
Milikapiti Community Government Council	24 May 2000
Walangeri Ngumpinku Community Government Council	25 May 2000
Mataranka Community Government Council	25 May 2000
Wugularr Community Government Council	26 May 2000
Barunga Manyallaluk Community Government Council	26 May 2000
Ikuntji Community Council Inc.	29 May 2000
Watiyawanu Community Government Council	30 May 2000
Papunya Community Council Inc.	30 May 2000
Kaltukatjara Community Council Aboriginal Corp.	02 June 2000
Walungurru Council Aboriginal Corp.	02 June 2000
Alpurrurulam Community Government Council	06 June 2000
Yugal Mangi Community Government Council	06 June 2000
Borroloola Community Government Council	07 June 2000
Umbakumba Community Council Inc.	07 June 2000
Angurugu Community Government Council	07 June 2000
Marngarr Community Government Council	08 June 2000
Yirrkala Dhanbul Community Association Inc.	08 June 2000
Galiwinku Community Inc.	09 June 2000
Ramingining Community Inc.	09 June 2000

Visits to Local Governing Bodies continued

Council Visits 1998/1999

Date of Visit

Amoonguna Community Inc	03 November 1998
Ltyentye Purte Community Government Council	03 November 1998
Aherrenge Community Council Inc	04 November 1998
Urapuntja Council Aboriginal Corporation	04 November 1998
Anmatjere Community Government Council	05 November 1998
Binjari Community Government Council	01 March 1999
Jilkminggan Community Government Council	01 March 1999
Coomalie Community Government Council	02 March 1999
Pine Creek Community Government Council	02 March 1999
Minjilang Community Inc	03 March 1999
Warruwi Community Inc	03 March 1999
Belyuen Community Government Council	04 March 1999
Cox Peninsula Community Government Council	04 March 1999
Kardu Numida Council Inc	27 May 1999
Nganmariyanga Community Inc	27 May 1999
Naiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council	28 May 1999
Peppimenarti Community Council Association Inc	28 May 1999
Milyakburra Community Council Inc	31 May 1999
Numbulwar Numburindi Community Government Council	31 May 1999
Milingimbi Community Inc	01 June 1999

Public Hearings 2002/2003

Date of Hearing

Alice Springs	12 November 2002
Tennant Creek	26 February 2003
Katherine	06 May 2003

Public Hearings 2001/2002

Date of Hearing

Alice Springs	11 March 2002
Katherine	29 April 2002
Palmerston	02 May 2002

Public Hearings 2000/2001

Date of Hearing

Alice Springs	02 April 2001
Litchfield	30 April 2001
Tennant Creek	01 May 2001

Public Hearings 1999/2000

Date of Hearing

Alice Springs	06 March 2000
Darwin	23 May 2000
Katherine	05 June 2000
Tennant Creek	05 June 2000

Public Hearings 1998/1999

Date of Hearing

Alice Springs	24 May 1999
Katherine	25 May 1999
Palmerston	26 May 1999



Appendix A

National Principles for the Allocation of General Purpose and Local Road Grants

- A. The national principles relating to the allocation of general purpose grants payable under section 6 of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the act) among local governing bodies are as follows:
1. **Horizontal Equalisation**
General purpose grants will be allocated to all local governing bodies, as far as practicable, on a full horizontal equalisation basis as defined by the Act. This is a basis that ensures that each local governing body in the State/Territory is able to function, by reasonable effort, at a standard not lower than the average standard of other local governing bodies in the State. It takes account of differences in the expenditure required by those local governing bodies in the performance of their functions and in the capacity of those local governing bodies to raise revenue.
 2. **Effort Neutrality**
An effort or policy neutral approach will be used in assessing expenditure requirements and revenue raising capacity of each local governing body. This means as far as possible, policies of individual local governing bodies in terms of expenditure and revenue effort will not affect the grant determination.
 3. **Minimum Grant**
The minimum general purpose grant allocation for a local governing body in a year will not be less than the amount to which the local governing body would be eligible to receive if 30% of the total amount of general purpose grants to which the state/territory is entitled under section 9 of the act in respect of the year were allocated among local governing bodies in the State/Territory on a per capita basis.
 4. **Other Grant Support**
Other relevant grant support provided to local governing bodies to meet any of the expenditure needs assessed should be taken into account using an inclusion approach.
 5. **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders**
Financial assistance shall be allocated to councils in a way, which recognises the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders within their boundaries.
- B. The National Principle relating to the allocation of the amounts payable under Section 12 of the Act (the identified road component of the financial assistance grants) among local governing bodies is as follows:
1. **Identified Road Component**
The identified road component of the financial assistance grants should be allocated to local governing bodies as far as practicable on the basis of the relative needs of each local governing body for roads expenditure and to preserve its road assets. In assessing road needs, relevant considerations include length, type and usage of roads in each local governing area.

Appendix B

Methodology and Formula Factors

Methodology

The Northern Territory Grants Commission amended its methodology in 1996 to apply the National Principles for the distribution of financial assistance grants to local governing bodies. Details regarding these National Principles are at **Appendix A**. The methodology used by the Commission in making its assessments for 2003/2004 conforms with the requirements of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*. Wherever possible, it has followed horizontal equalisation principles as set out in section 6 (3) of the act, and as embodied in the national distribution principles.

In assessing relative expenditure and revenue needs, the Commission utilised the “balanced budget approach”. Using this approach, the Commission assesses the total standardised expenditure needs for each local governing body, and then deducts the assessed revenue raising capacity to arrive at the standardised deficit. The deficit represents the funding required to enable each local governing body to deliver an average level of services when an average revenue raising effort is made.

The methodology used by the Commission calculates standards and applies disability factors and weightings to assess each local governing body’s revenue raising capacity and expenditure requirements.

The assessed revenue raising capacity and assessed expenditure requirements are the Commission’s measures of each local governing body’s ability to function at the average standard.

The calculation of standardised expenditure and revenue needs took into account population changes. These cover both increases as well as decreases where they occurred. In order to smooth the effect of these variations, the Commission adopts a three-year average of its calculated core community populations.

Revenue Raising Capacity

As the ownership of the land on which many communities are located is vested in Land Trusts established pursuant to the commonwealth *Aboriginal Lands Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*, it is not feasible to use a land valuation system to assess revenue raising capacity.

The method of calculating revenue raising capacity is achieved through the use of personal income statistics, obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. This allows the determination of a council’s theoretical gross income. In addition, councils, which are recipients of the Northern

territory operational subsidy, have 50% of this revenue taken into account. The Commission considers that given the unique circumstances within the Northern Territory, this approach provides a reasonable indication of a council’s revenue raising capacity.

Expenditure Needs and Disability Factors

The assessment of expenditure needs calculates standards in each category with disability factors applied as appropriate.

There are six expenditure categories taken into account by the Commission. For the 2003/2004 year’s allocation, the total standardised expenditure needs for each local governing body is adjusted by a combination of various disability factors. In arriving at these factors the Commission took into account the factors of distance, isolation, geographic location, dispersion, external access, growth and communications, which would influence costs of service delivery by individual councils. The disability factors used by the Commission for 2003/2004 are shown at **Schedule 2**.

Population Estimates

In making its assessments, the Commission has used population data supplied by the councils in their annual returns.

In assessing the needs of communities, the Commission took into account local resident population and included a factor for those in outstations dependent on the relative council for local government services.

In addition the Commission took into account interstate and overseas tourist visitors to communities that impact on the provision of local government services.

The population figures, incorporating the three year average, outstation and tourist populations for all 65 local governing bodies are shown at **Schedule 1**.



Formula

1. Revenue Component

All councils:

Assessed Revenue Raising Capacity = Gross Income/state Income X \$110,340,000

Assessed Revenue = Assessed Rates + 50% Operational Subsidy

Where

Gross Income = Community Gross Income

Community Gross Income = Population >15 X Per Capita Income

State Income = Total NT Gross Income

Operational Subsidy = NT Operational Subsidy 2002/2003

\$110,340,000 = Total Local Government Rate Revenue

(D) Libraries (\$7,687,000)

The population figure used for these calculations is the sum of the populations in those centres that are in receipt of library services.

Community population/Territory population x NT library expenditure x (isolation administration x Aboriginality x growth) – NT Library Grants

(E) Recreation (\$40,356,000)

Community population/Territory population x NT Recreation expenditure x (isolation works x growth) – NT recreation grants

(F) Transport (\$38,434,000)

This category is calculated on weighted road lengths by surface type. The summing of these figures determines a council's road factor.

The road factor equation is:

Community road factor/NT road factor x NT roads expenditure.

2. Expenditure Components

Total local government expenditure of \$192,171,000 is apportioned over each expenditure component.

(A) Amenity (\$38,434,000)

Community population/Territory population x NT amenity expenditure x (isolation works x dispersion x growth) – amenity grants

(B) General Administration (\$46,121,000)

Community population/Territory population x NT general administration expenditure x (isolation administration x dispersion x Aboriginality) – Administration Grants

A base level (\$70,000) of expenditure is applied to all councils.

(C) Human Services (\$21,139,000)

Community population/Territory population x NT human services expenditure x (isolation administration x Aboriginality x growth) – Human Services Grants

3. Local Road Grant Funding

In order to determine the local road grant the Commission applies a weighting to each council by road length and surface type. These weightings are:

10 x Kerbed and Sealed road + 8 x Sealed road + 4 x Gravel road + 1 x Formed road + 0.4 x Unformed road + 2 x Cycle Paths.

Application of Disability Factors

Expenditure	Population	Isolation Admin	Isolation Works	Dispersion	Aboriginality	Roads
Amenity						
Admin						
Human Services						
Libraries						
Recreation						
Transport						



Appendix C

Declared Local Governing Bodies

Associations declared as Local Governing Bodies pursuant to section 4(2) of the Commonwealth's *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* and section 19 of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*. (See Northern Territory Government Gazette no. G31, 9 August 2000)

Schedule

Aherrenge Community Council Inc.	Milingimbi Community Inc.
Ali Curung Council Inc.	Milyakburra Community Council Inc.
Amoonguna Community Inc.	Minjilang Community Council Inc.
Aputula Housing Association Inc.	Nganmarriyanga Community Inc.
Areyonga Community Inc.	Ntaria Council (Hermannsberg) Inc.
Galiwinku Community Inc.	Nyirripi Community Inc.
Gapuwiyak Community Inc.	Papunya Community Council Inc.
Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council Aboriginal Corporation ¹	Peppimenarti Community Council Association Inc.
Ikuntji Community Council Inc.	Ramingining Community Inc.
Imanpa Community Inc.	Umbakumba Community Council Inc.
Jabiru Town Council	Urapuntja Council Aboriginal Corporation
Kaltukatjara Community Council Inc.	Walungurru Community Council (Aboriginal Corporation)
Kardu Numida Inc. ²	Waruwi Community Inc.
Local Government Association of the Northern Territory	Willowra Community Inc. ³
Maningrida Community Council Inc.	Yirrkala Dhanbul Community Association Inc.
	Yuelamu Community Inc.

1 Gulin Gulin and Weemol Community Council Aboriginal Corporation has been revoked as a local governing body as per The Northern Territory Government Gazette No. G41 dated 15 October 2003 and the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S305 dated Friday 8 August 2003.

2 Kardu Numida Inc. has been revoked as a local governing body as per The Northern Territory Government Gazette No. G27 dated 9 July 2003 and the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S305 dated Friday 8 August 2003.

3 Willowra Community Inc. has been revoked as a local governing body as per The Northern Territory Government Gazette No. G30 dated 1 August 2001 and the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. S334 dated Wednesday 15 August 2001.

Appendix D

The Australian Classification of Local Government (ACLG)

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Identifiers	Category
Urban (U)	Capital City (CC)			UCC
Population more than 20,000	Metropolitan developed (D)	Small (S)	Up to 30,000	UDS
	Part of an urban centre of more than 1,000,000 or population density more than 600/sq km	Medium (M)	30,001–70,000	UDM
		Large (L)	70,001–120,000	UDL
		Very large (V)	More than 120,000	UDV
Or				
Population density more than 30 persons per sq km	Regional Towns/City (R)	Small (S)	Up to 30,000	URS
	Part of an urban centre with Population less than 1,000,000 and predominantly urban in nature	Medium (M)	30,001–70,000	URM
		Large (L)	70,001–120,000	URL
		Very large (V)	More than 120,000	URV
Or				
90% or more of LGA population is urban	Fringe (F)	Small (S)	Up to 30,000	UFS
	A developing LGA on the margin of a developed or regional urban centre	Medium (M)	30,001–70,000	UFM
		Large (L)	70,001–120,000	UFL
		Very large (V)	More than 120,000	UFV
Rural (R)				
An LGA with population less than 20,000	Significant Growth (SG)	Not applicable		RSG
	Average annual population growth more than 3%, population more than 5,000 and not remote			
And				
Population density less than 30 persons per sq km	Agricultural (A)	Small (S)	Up to 2,000	RAS
		Medium (M)	2,001–5,000	RAM
		Large (L)	5,001–10,000	RAL
		Very large (V)	10,001–20,000	RAV
And				
Less than 90% of LGA population is urban	Remote (T)	Extra small (X)	Up to 400	RTX
		Small (S)	401–1,000	RTS
		Medium (M)	1,001–3,000	RTM
		Large (L)	3,001–20,000	RTL



Appendix E

Northern Territory Local Governments by Classification

Council Name	ACLG Classification	Council Name	ACLG Classification
Aherrenge	RTX	Margarr	RTX
Ali curung	RTS	Mataranka	RTX
Alice Springs (TC)	URS	Milingimbi	RTS
Alpurrurulam	RTS	Milyakburra	RTX
Amoonguna	RTX	Minjilang	RTX
Angurugu	RTS	Naiyu Nambiyu	RTS
Anmatjere	RTM	Nganmarriyanga	RTX
Aputula	RTX	Ntaria	RTS
Areyonga	RTX	Numbulwar	RTS
Arltarlpilta	RTX	Nyirranggulung	RTM
Belyuen	RTX	Nyirripi	RTX
Binjari	RTX	Palmerston City (C)	UFS
Borrooloola	RTS	Papunya	RTS
Coomalie	RTM	Peppimenarti	RTX
Cox Peninsula	RTX	Pine Creek	RTS
Daguragu	RTS	Ramingining	RTS
Darwin City (C)	UCC	Tapatjatjaka	RTX
Elliott	RTS	Thamarrurr	RTM
Galiwinku	RTM	Tennant Creek (TC)	URS
Gapuwiyak	RTS	Timber Creek	RTX
Ikuntji	RTX	Tiwi Island	RTM
Imanpa	RTX	Umbakumba	RTS
Jabiru (TC)	URS	Urapuntja	RTS
Jilkminggan	RTX	Walangeri Ngumpinku	RTX
Kaltukatjara	RTX	Wallace Rockhole	RTX
Katherine (TC)	URS	Walungurru	RTS
Kunbarllanjnja	RTS	Warruwi	RTX
Lajamanu	RTM	Watiyawanu	RTX
LGANT	ZZZ	Yirrkala	RTS
Litchfield (S)	RAV	Yuelamu	RTX
Ltyentye Purte	RTS	Yuendumu	RTM
Maningrida	RTM	Yugul Mangi	RTM

Appendix F

Commonwealth Inquiry into the Financial Positions of Local Government in Australia

Terms of Reference

The house of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance And Public Administration is requested to inquire into, and report upon, cost shifting onto Local Government By State Governments and the financial position of Local Government. This will include an examination of:

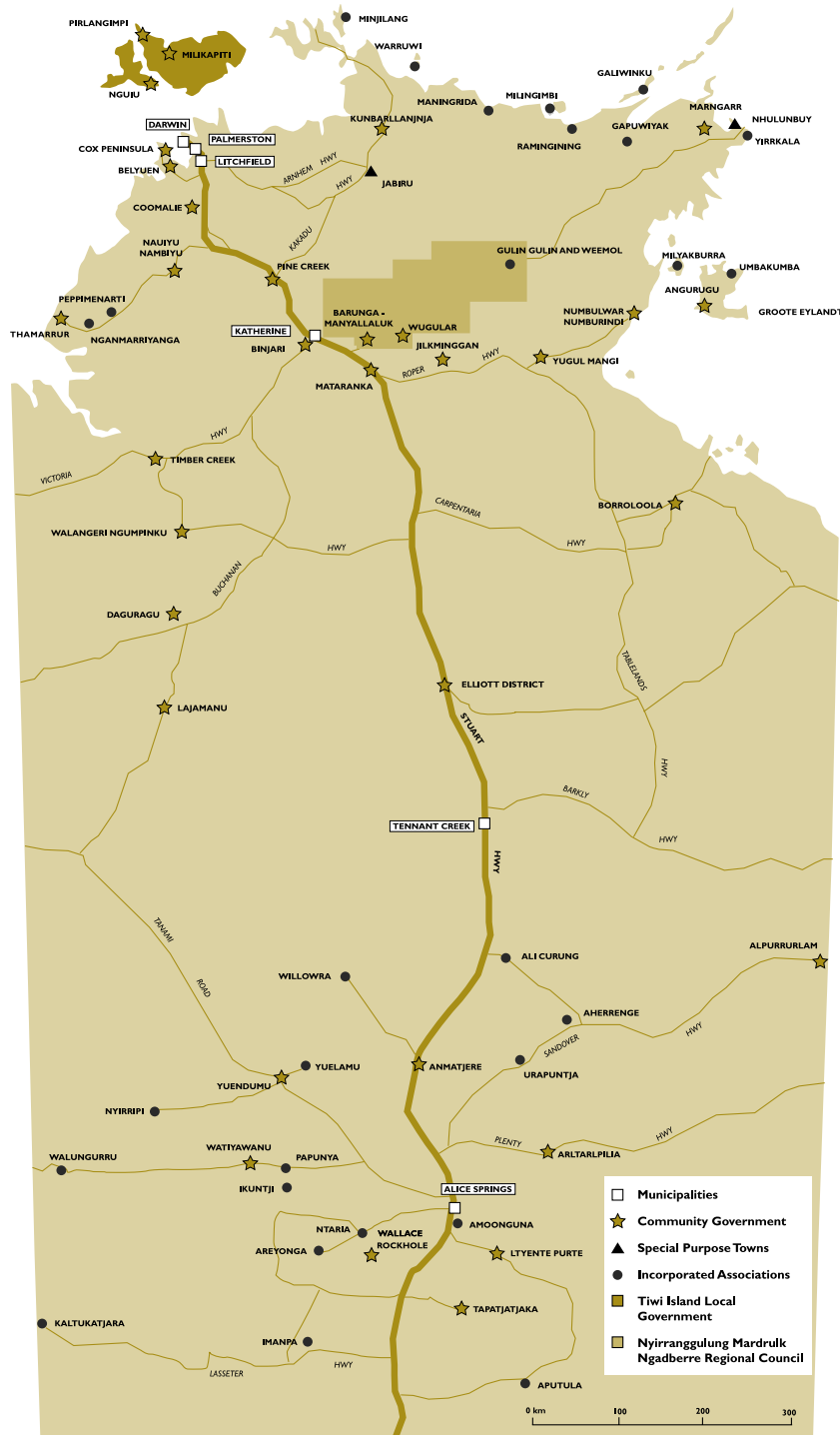
1. Local Government's current roles and responsibilities.
2. Current funding arrangements for Local Government, including allocation of funding from other levels of government and utilisation of alternative funding sources by Local Government.
3. The capacity of Local Government to meet existing obligations and to take on an enhanced role in developing opportunities at a regional level including opportunities for councils to work with other councils and pool funding to achieve regional outcomes.
4. Local Government expenditure and the impact on Local Government's financial capacity as a result of changes in the powers, functions and responsibilities between State and Local governments.
5. The scope for achieving a rationalisation of roles and responsibilities between the levels of government, better use of resources and better quality services to local communities.
6. The findings of the Commonwealth Grants Commission Review of the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995 of June 2001*, taking into account the views of interested parties as sought by the committee.

The inquiry is to be conducted on the basis that the outcomes will be budget neutral for the Commonwealth.



Appendix G

Northern Territory Local Governing Bodies



Appendix H

**Auditor-General's Report
to the Minister for Local Government
on the Northern Territory Grants Commission
for the year ended 30 June 2003**

Scope

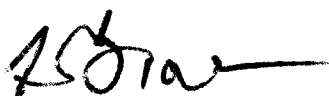
I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Northern Territory Grants Commission for the financial year ended 30 June 2003, comprising Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Performance including Statement by Accountable Officer, together with notes to and forming part of the financial statements. The Northern Territory Grants Commission is responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion upon it to the Minister for Local Government.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatements. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the requirements of the Local Government Grants Commission Act so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the financial position of the Northern Territory Grants Commission and the results of its operations.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Northern Territory Grants Commission as at 30 June 2003 and the results of its operations for the year ended on that date in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Local Government Grants Commission Act.



H M BLAKE
Auditor-General for the Northern Territory
Darwin, Northern Territory

16 October 2003



Northern Territory Grants Commission

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2003

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Assets	Nil	Nil
Liabilities	Nil	Nil

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2003

Income	Nil	Nil
Expenditure	Nil	Nil

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements are attached.

Statement by Accountable officer

In my opinion:

- (i) The accompanying Statement of Financial Performance presents fairly NT Grants Commission's transactions for the reporting year ended 30 June 2003.

The financial statements are based on proper accounts and records and are in agreement with the accounts and have been properly drawn up so as to present fairly the transactions of the NT Grants Commission for the reporting year ended 30 June 2003 and its financial position at that date.

- (ii) The accompanying Statement of Financial Position presents fairly the NT Grants Commission's state of affairs at the end of the reporting year; and
- (iii) The financial statements are in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

TED CLARK
Accountable Officer

9 October 2003

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2003.

- The Commission was established under the provision of the *Local Government Grants Commission Act*, which came into operation on 1 July 1986, in order to comply with the requirements of the then *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1986*.
- The Commission's activity is to make recommendations to the Minister for Local Government, in respect of the amounts of money to be allocated to local governing bodies from the money provided to the Territory under the *Commonwealth's Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*.

Funds for this purpose were appropriated to the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs. Allocations of Federal Assistance Grants and Road Grants recommended for distribution were:

	Recommendation for distribution in 2003/2004	Recommendation for distribution in 2002/2003
Federal Assistance Grants	\$10,387,934	\$10,438,341
Road Grants	\$10,903,571	\$10,573,315
Total	\$21,291,505	\$21,011,656

- The costs of operation of the Commission are met from the funds appropriated to the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs and were \$115,809 (2001/2002: \$85,993). An allowance has been made for the salary cost of administrative support provided by the Department of Community Development, Sport and Cultural Affairs.
- The Commission did not acquire any assets during the period covered by the financial statements.





NORTHERN TERRITORY GRANTS COMMISSION

Its role in funding of Local Government

The painting depicts the role of the Grants Commission as a transmitter of information, policy and funding recommendations. In the painting the members of the Grants Commission are depicted by the larger black horseshoe shapes. They are sitting facing the members of Local Government Councils, represented by the smaller black horseshoes in the north, south, east and west directions.

As can be seen the Grants Commission role is represented by two larger horseshoe shapes joined together. This representation shows the Grants Commission facing Councillors on the one hand, and the Northern Territory and Federal Governments (the centre circle with the white horseshoe shape) on the other. The smaller oblong shapes between the Commission and the Governments are provided by the artist to show the movement of the Commission visiting Councils and taking reports back to central government.

The larger oblong shapes between the Council groupings represent two areas of land. The upper ones depict native title area boundaries, and the lower ones depict Local Government area boundaries. The background is the “country” within which all of these events take place.

*Painting by Cr. Francis Kelly, Member of NT Grants Commission
Account above is based on a conversation with Cr. Kelly*

