

The Hon Michael Gunner MLA  
Chief Minister  
Northern Territory Government  
Via [chief.minister@nt.gov.au](mailto:chief.minister@nt.gov.au)

Dear Chief Minister

**Re: Assessment of the Budget Impact of Territory Labor's 2020 Election Commitments**

I have assessed the budget impact of the Territory Labor Government's 2020 election commitments.

The 2019-20 Mid-Year Report published operating and fiscal deficits across the forward estimates period. The COVID-19 Financial Report, released on 29 July 2020, showed a significant worsening in the 2020-21 fiscal outlook, resulting from the ongoing economic impact of COVID-19. These reports highlight that there is no unallocated capacity within the current budget and forward estimates to fund new policy decisions without worsening the budget outcome.

Your letter states that the Territory Labor Government has made no election announcements that require additional funding outside of existing Government decisions that are already contained in the Northern Territory COVID-19 Financial Report.

I have reviewed the Government's decisions, as well as public announcements made throughout the election campaign to date. I can confirm that, based on the information available to me, the Territory Labor Government election commitments are included in the budget update provided in the COVID-19 Financial Report. On this basis, they are not expected to worsen the 2020-21 preliminary budget estimate.

Yours sincerely



CRAIG GRAHAM  
Under Treasurer

19 August 2020