Northern Territory of Australia
Legislative Assembly

Minutes of Proceedings

Meeting Number 46
Wednesday 11 March 2026

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1. MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Assembly met at 10.00 am. The Speaker, the Honourable Robyn Lambley, took the Chair, read the prayer and delivered the acknowledgement of country on behalf of the Assembly.

2. MOTION: LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Pursuant to Standing Order 224, Mr Edgington moved that a leave of absence for today be granted to Mrs Hersey due to illness and the ongoing emergency in Katherine.

Question put and passed.

3. BAIL AMENDMENT BILL 2026 (SERIAL 52)

Order of the day read for moving the second reading of the Bail Amendment Bill 2026 (Serial 52).

Ms Boothby (Attorney-General) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr Paech, Mr Howe, Mr Kerle, J Davis, Mr Yan, Mr O'Gallagher, Mr Edgington.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Sanderson Middle School present in the gallery.

Ms Boothby (in reply).

Ms Boothby, by leave, moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: 2026—THE YEAR AHEAD

Order of the day read for the resumption of debate on the question that the statement be noted.

Mr Burgoyne.

Visitors: On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed students and teachers from Sanderson Middle School present in the gallery.

Debate interrupted.

Suspension of Meeting: The meeting of the Assembly was suspended between 12 noon and 2.00 pm.

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5. VISITORS

On behalf of all members, the Speaker welcomed the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC, President of the South Australian Legislative Council; the Hon. Matthew Guy MP, Member for Bulleen; and the Hon. David Hodgett MP, Member for Croydon present in the gallery.

6. NOTICES

The following notices were given:

1. Mr Young will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:

   Acknowledges the vital contribution emergency service workers and volunteer units make to the Northern Territory and communities.

2. Mr Paech will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:

   1. Recognises the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle and affirms its importance in ensuring children are raised safely within family, culture and community wherever possible;
   2. Embed the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle to the standard of active efforts in legislation;
   3. Calls on the Northern Territory Government to provide adequate, ongoing and sustainable funding to properly support kinship carers and foster carers, recognising the critical role they play in caring for vulnerable children;
   4. Calls on the Northern Territory Government to mandate priority access to public housing for kinship carers and for families and individuals fleeing domestic and family violence, to ensure safe, stable and appropriate accommodation; and
   5. Calls on the Northern Territory Government to ensure that Territory parents/carers have access to fully funded, full-time early childhood education and care services, including permanent childcare centres where communities identify the need.

3. Ms Uibo will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:
   1. Notes that Territorians are facing escalating cost-of-living pressures, including record rents, rising power bills, high interest rates and unaffordable airfares, with housing and energy costs consuming an increasing share of household incomes;
   2. Acknowledges the CLP Government's failure to deliver promised fuel price reforms, its inaction on airfares, and warnings from local governments that cost-shifting will drive up council rates; and
   3. Condemns the CLP Government's failure to provide meaningful cost-of-living relief and calls on it to immediately deliver action on power prices, fuel pricing transparency, airfares and direct support for families, renters, seniors and young Territorians.

4. Mr Paech will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:
   1. Acknowledge the importance of supporting the safe and healthy development of children's mental wellbeing so they have the best opportunities in life;
   2. Recognises the role of healthy and respectful relationship education, especially for children who are disengaged from school or who have child protection or youth justice involvement, or who have unmet learning or disability needs; and
   3. Condemns the CLP Government's failure to address children's poor mental health outcomes, the rates of child self-harm and/or suicide and the barriers to seeking support.

5. Mr Young will move on the next General Business day:

   That this Assembly:
   1. Recognises that the Northern Territory is experiencing acute housing shortages across urban, regional and remote communities, with safe and affordable housing essential to economic and social stability;
   2. Notes that the CLP Government has cut the forward infrastructure pipeline, abandoned National Housing Accord targets, reduced public housing maintenance and failed to present a coordinated housing plan; and
   3. Condemns the CLP Government's failure to increase housing supply and protect renters, and calls on it to commit to a comprehensive housing strategy including social and affordable housing, restored infrastructure investment, public housing maintenance and renters reforms.

7. PETITION

Petition Number 20: Mr Young presented Petition Number 20 from 161 petitioners, not conforming with Standing Orders, calling for the immediate pause on the closure of the Pine Creek Police Station (Paper 620).

Petition read.

Mr Young moved that Petition Number 20 be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Question put and passed.

8. QUESTIONS

2.06 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.10 Mr Howe to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.14 Mr Young to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.17 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.22 Mr Kerle to Mr Edgington
2.26 Mr Mackay to Mr Maley
2.30 Ms Uibo to Mrs Finocchiaro
2.31 Mrs Zio to Mr Yan
2.35 Mr Paech to the Speaker
2.39 Mr Patel to Ms Boothby
2.43 J Davis to Ms Boothby
2.47 J Davis to Ms Boothby – Supplementary
2.47 Dr Rahman to Mr Yan
2.51 Mr Paech to Ms Boothby
2.55 Mr O'Gallagher to Ms Cahill
2.59 Mr Paech to Ms Boothby
3.03 Mrs Carlson to Mr Charls

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) asked that further questions be placed on the Written Question Paper.

Mr Burgoyne (Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment) gave a supplementary answer to a question asked on a previous day during Question Time from J Davis.

9. MOTION: PARLIAMENTARY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

J Davis, pursuant to notice, moved:

That this Assembly:

- Notes the importance of safe, respectful and professional parliamentary workplaces;
- Acknowledges that all members have a responsibility to model integrity, dignity and respectful conduct in every setting connected to their role;
- Recognises that bullying, harassment, discrimination, intimidation and misuse of authority have no place in the Northern Territory Parliament, including towards Department of the Legislative Assembly staff;
- Supports the amendment of the *Legislative Assembly (Members' Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards) Act 2008* to include a clear Behaviour Code for Members, with independent oversight, confidential complaint handling, and a range of proportionate sanctions; and
- Calls on the Government to implement such a Behaviour Code as a priority to ensure parliamentary standards reflect community expectations and is consistent with best practice across the Commonwealth.

Mr Maley moved that the motion be amended by:

Inserting the word '*and*' after '*their role;*' and deleting all words after '*Legislative Assembly staff*'.

Mr Maley moved that the question be put.

Question, that the question be put, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Howe
Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher
Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio

Noes 6

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	Mr Paech
Ms Uibo	Mr Young		

Motion passed.

Question, that the amendment be agreed to, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Howe
Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher
Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio

Noes 6

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Guyula	Mr Paech
Ms Uibo	Mr Young		

Amendment agreed to.

Question, that the motion as amended be agreed to, put and passed.

10. MOTION: FUEL PRICE DISCLOSURE

Ms Uibo, pursuant to notice, moved:

That this Assembly:

1. Notes that in 2022 the Member for Spillett introduced the Fuel Price Disclosure Bill, stating it would drive down fuel prices and ease cost-of-living pressures for Territorians.
2. Notes that Territorians continue to face some of the highest fuel prices in the nation and that cost-of-living pressures remain a major concern for families, businesses and regional communities.
3. Calls on the CLP Government to honour its commitment to Territorians by introducing and passing the Fuel Price Disclosure Bill during this term of Parliament.

Paper tabled: Ms Uibo, by leave, tabled: Copy of Explanatory Statement, Fuel Price Disclosure Bill 2022, as tabled by Member for Spillett in August 2022 (Paper 621).

Mr Yan moved that the motion be amended by:

Omitting all words after 'That this Assembly' and inserting:

- Acknowledges that the CLP Government is committed to ensuring Territorians are treated fairly at the petrol bowser and that fuel pricing transparency and competition remain critical issues for the Territory.
- Notes the Treasurer has written to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and local retailers seeking closer scrutiny of fuel pricing behaviour affecting Territorians.
- Calls on the Albanese Government to strengthen the powers of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission so it can take stronger action where anti-competitive behaviour or price exploitation occurs.

- Notes that on 30 November 2022 the Member for Arnhem stated "I am happy to make a contribution and speak against the bill" when debating the Fuel Price Disclosure Bill.
- Condemns the contradictory, divisive and bizarre policy positions of the Labor Party when it comes to fuel prices.

Papers tabled: Mr Yan tabled:

1. Letter to the Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, concerning fuel pricing behaviour, dated 6 March 2026, from Mr Bill Yan, Treasurer (Paper 622).
2. Letter to Fuel Retailers, concerning fuel pricing behaviour, dated 11 March 2026, from Mr Bill Yan, Treasurer (Paper 623).

Mr Paech.

Paper tabled: Mr Paech, by leave, tabled: Image, Member for Namatjira showing the MyFuel NT mobile app (Paper 624).

Speaker's Statement: The Deputy Speaker advised members of the provisions of Standing Order 69.

Mr Patel, Mr Guyula, Mrs Zio, Mr Kerle, Mr Brown, Ms Boothby.

Paper tabled: Ms Boothby tabled: Copy of *Northern Territory of Australia Price Exploration Prevention Act 1949* as in force at 1 May 2016 (Paper 625).

Mr Young, Mr Maley, Mr Edgington, J Davis.

Question, that the amendment be agreed to, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 16

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Howe
Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher
Mr Patel	Dr Rahman	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio

Noes 5

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Paech	Ms Uibo
Mr Young			

Amendment agreed to.

Ms Uibo (in reply).

Question, that the motion as amended be agreed to, put and the Assembly divided:

Ayes 15

Ms Boothby	Mr Burgoyne	Ms Cahill	Mrs Carlson
Mr Charls	Mr Edgington	Mrs Finocchiaro	Mr Howe
Mr Kerle	Mr Mackay	Mr Maley	Mr O'Gallagher
Mr Patel	Mr Yan	Mrs Zio	

Noes 5

Mr Brown	J Davis	Mr Paech	Ms Uibo
Mr Young			

Motion, as amended, passed.

11. PAPER TABLED

Mr O'Gallagher (Chair of the Standing Orders Committee) tabled: Report, Review of Standing Orders Phase 1, Standing Orders Committee, March 2026 (Paper 626) and Associated Minutes of Proceedings (Paper 627) and made a statement.

Mr O'Gallagher moved that the report be adopted, commencing from 21 July 2026.

Question put and passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr Edgington (Leader of Government Business) moved that the Assembly do now adjourn.

Mr Kerle.

Paper tabled: Mr Kerle, by leave, tabled: Image, Stanley Eustace (Paper 628).

Ms Uibo, Mrs Finocchiaro, Mr Brown, Mr Howe, Mr Charls, Mr Edgington, J Davis, Mr Paech, Mr Burgoyne, Mr Young, Ms Boothby.

Question put and passed.

The Assembly adjourned at 8.23 pm until Thursday 12 March 2026 at 10.00 am.

DEEMED PAPER

Pursuant to Standing Order 239 the following paper was deemed tabled:

Land Development Corporation Act 2003

Direction to Land Development Corporation, dated 21 January 2026, *Land Development Corporation Act 2003* (Paper 619)

ATTENDANCE

All members attended the meeting, except Mrs Hersey on leave.

RUSSELL KEITH
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly