

Northern Territory Submission to the Commonwealth Grants Commission 2021 Update New Issues: Commonwealth Payments

November 2020

Contents

1. Treatment of Commonwealth Payments Commenced in 2019-20	3
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The *Commonwealth Grants Commission 2021 Update New Issues: Commonwealth Payments 2020-2-S Staff Discussion Paper* released in October 2020, seeks states views on the Commonwealth Grants Commission's (the Commission) proposed treatment of Commonwealth payments which commenced in 2019-20, as detailed in Table A-1 of Attachment A to the paper. This includes the Commission's proposal to treat various Commonwealth payments introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, as having no impact on the assessment of state fiscal capacities, given these payments may be influenced by factors not assessed in the relevant expense categories settled as part of the 2020 Review process.

The Northern Territory has reviewed the Commission's proposed treatment of Commonwealth payments for the 2019-20 year contained in Table A-1, is comfortable with the Commission's proposals and has no further comment.

The Northern Territory also notes the provision of Table A-2 of Attachment A which details a list of new Commonwealth payments to commence in 2020-21 and supports the Commission's decision to consider the treatment of these payments as part of the process for relevant future year's updates.