

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms J Carney

to Minister for Justice and Attorney-General

Court Services Budget

1. Please explain, what has happened to the Court Services Budget given the following:
 - (a) the budget in 04/05 was \$24,672,000;
 - (b) the estimate for 04/05 was \$26,639,000;
 - (c) this year's budget is \$25,505,000; and
 - (d) how much has actually been spent by the 30th June 2005?

2. There has been an increase of less than \$1m. Why has there been an increase?

ANSWER

1. The amount actually spent by 30 June 2005 was \$27,276,000. The budget of \$24,672,000 was the original budget. The difference is a combination of unexpected legal costs and other activity driven operational costs plus back pay and pay increases to the judiciary and the magistracy.

2. The increase consists of:
 - Parameters;
 - Volatile Substance Abuse funding; and
 - Internal adjustments reflecting charges in Department of Justice corporate arrangements which will have a nil net effect.