



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

No. 300

WRITTEN QUESTION

J Davis to the Minister for Police, Hon Lia Finocchiaro MLA:

Community Safety Plans and Crime Prevention

1. How many police stations in the Northern Territory are responsible for developing a Community Safety Plan with their local community, and how many of those stations currently have a plan that is in force?
 - a. Please provide, in table form, each station, whether a current plan is in force, and the date the plan was last reviewed.
 - b. How many Community Safety Plan meetings were held at each station in 2025–26?
 - c. If meetings are not recorded centrally, in which system or record are they recorded, and in what format?
2. What is the current policing model or operational philosophy that guides the Northern Territory Police Force?
 - a. In which document is it set out, what is its date, and will the Minister provide a copy?
 - b. When was it last reviewed or amended, and on whose initiative?
 - c. To what extent is that model set by the Force itself and to what extent by direction of the Northern Territory Government? Please identify any direction, written or otherwise, given by a Minister or by Cabinet in relation to it since 1 September 2024.
3. Budget Paper No. 3 for 2026–27 reports total offences per 100,000 population at 28,445 for 2025–26 against a target of no more than 24,909, and attributes the variation to factors including “legislative changes such as the reclassification of nuisance public drinking and breach of bail offences, along with expanding wandering powers, which have added to recorded volumes”. The target for 2026–27 is unchanged at no more than 24,909.

- a. How many of the offences recorded in 2025–26 were offences of nuisance public drinking or breach of bail, and how does that compare with each of the two preceding years?
 - b. How many offences were recorded as a result of the exercise of wandering powers in 2025–26?
 - c. Was the effect of those legislative changes on recorded offence volumes estimated before they were made? If so, what was the estimate and in which document does it appear.
 - d. Given the Force attributes the variation to those changes, on what basis is the 2026–27 target retained unchanged?
4. Budget Paper No. 3 for 2026–27 lowers three Northern Territory Police Force targets following results well below the previous targets: crimes against the person cleared up within 30 days, from at least 85 per cent to at least 75 per cent against a 2025–26 result of 62 per cent; crimes against property cleared up within 30 days, from at least 85 per cent to at least 75 per cent against a result of 41 per cent; and diversion events for youth who have been apprehended, from at least 45 per cent to at least 30 per cent against a result of 27 per cent.
- a. Who decided to lower each of those targets, on what date, and in which document is that decision recorded?
 - b. For the two clearance measures, the stated reason includes “benchmarking against other jurisdictions”. Which jurisdictions were used, what were their comparable rates, and can the benchmarking be provided?
 - c. For diversion events for apprehended youth, what reason was given for lowering the target, and was any assessment made of the effect on the number of young people entering the criminal justice system rather than a diversion program?
 - d. What was the result for each of those three measures in each of the three years to 2025–26?
 - e. Will performance against the former targets continue to be reported so that results remain comparable across years and, if not, why not?
 - f. The same pattern appears in other agency statements in Budget Paper No. 3 — Aboriginal preschool student enrolments lowered from 1,200 to 1,150 against a result of 1,145; total preschool enrolments from 2,800 to 2,700 against 2,746; Aboriginal primary and secondary enrolments from 13,200 to 13,100 against 12,985; and the fines and penalties collection rate from at least 85 per cent to at least 80 per cent against 78.5 per cent. Is there a whole-

of-government instruction, guideline or practice governing when a performance target may be revised toward a result that did not meet it, and in which document is it recorded?

5. The answer to Written Question No. 133 of the 15th Assembly, which sought a breakdown of the budgets for community safety, crime prevention and safer roads, stated that all work police do is for the purpose of community safety and referred the member to Budget Paper No. 3. Please identify by NAME each discrete program, initiative or activity funded through the Northern Territory Police Force in 2026–27 whose stated purpose is crime prevention or early intervention, and for each: the amount appropriated, and the output group or cost centre against which it is recorded.
 - a. How does the total of those amounts compare with each of the two preceding years?
 - b. What evaluation has been undertaken of the effectiveness of each, and on what dates?
 - c. Will those evaluations be provided to the Assembly?
 - d. If discrete crime prevention activities are not separately costed, in which system is expenditure against them recorded, and at what level of disaggregation?