

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services:

**Youth Diversion**

1. How many youths have been given a verbal warning under section 39(2)(a) of the Youth Justice Act in the past 12 months?
2. How many youths have been given a written warning under section 39(2)(b) of the Youth Justice Act in the past 12 months?
3. Of the youths given a written or verbal warning in Questions (1) and (2) above, how many of those youths were given multiple verbal or written warnings in the past 12 months?
4. How many youths have been referred for youth justice conferencing in the past 12 months?
  - a. How many successfully completed the conference?
  - b. How many of these were charged with an offence following the conference?
  - c. How many were referred for diversion one or more times following a conference?
5. How many youths have been referred for diversion in the past 12 months?
  - a. How many successfully completed the diversion program?
  - b. How many of these were charged with an offence during the course of the diversion program or at any point afterwards?

**ANSWERS:** (Note the data was collated from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, and extracted from PROMIS on 9 October 2019)

1. A total of 62 verbal warnings were given during the period.
2. A total of 362 written warnings have been issued during the period.
3. A total of 53 youths received more than one (written or verbal warning) during the period.
4. A total of 281 youth justice conferences were convened in the period involving 233 youths:
  - a. 281 conferences were completed.
  - b. 61 youths reoffended following a conference.
  - c. Police can review an individual youth's case at the time of offending and can track an individual's progress following a conference.  
  
Total annual numbers require manual calculation until the new PROMIS system is in place.
5. There were a total of 2,039 youth diversions considerations during the period. These considerations were made in relation to 1,124 individual youths.
  - a. There were 720 youth diversion activities (youth justice conferences, verbal and written warnings, and drug diversions). There were also 137 matters to be referred for diversion – but were pending assessment or referral to the court.  
  
586 individual youths were diverted, and a further 73 remain under consideration.  
  
465 were not eligible for diversion and were referred to court.
  - b. 168 youths reoffended following the commencement of their first diversion during the year (including those still under consideration).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This measure considers all diversion considerations and actions following an initial diversion event. Considerations include: is the youth eligible/ suitable for diversion/ the age of the youth/ criminal history of the youth/ is this the youth's first diversion or has the youth participated in diversion prior).