

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins to the Chief Minister:

Annual Report – Office of the Ombudsman

1. The work the Office of the Ombudsman is doing with NT agencies in facilitating process improvements has undoubtedly contributed to the significant reduction in the number of approaches; however it is agreed there would be other factors. It is noted there is reference made in the report to a spike in Correctional Services approaches in 2014/15 arising from the transition to the new Darwin Correctional Centre. Can you please advise of any known reason for the increase in complex matters from 94 to 117?
2. Given the issues faced by Government agencies with the shortage of indigenous interpreters it is assumed the major investigation into use of indigenous interpreters by NT agencies as mentioned in the report is in relation to this matter. Are you able to confirm this? Can you please advise if this investigation was initiated by a complaint and if so, from what source?