

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs. Finocchiaro to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice:

**Licensing NT**

1. How many off-premises liquor license applications are currently in process?
2. How many complaints are currently in process, what is the nature of those complaints and what is the timeline for conclusion of the complaints?
3. How many complaints have been forwarded to the new Commission for determination pursuant to section 50 of the *Liquor Act*?
4. In the past 6 months how many complaints have been made to the Director-General, how many resulted in disciplinary action being taken and what were those disciplinary actions that were taken?
5. Does the Endeavour Drinks Group (Dan Murphy's) currently have a pending application with the Commission?
6. How many off-premises licenses are their currently in the Territory? How many in Darwin, Palmerston and Alice Springs?

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ANSWERS

1. There are no current applications which have been lodged pursuant to section 26 of the *Liquor Act* (the Act).  
  
There is one application lodged pursuant to section 46A of the Act.  
  
Two applications have been lodged pursuant to section 41 of the Act.
2. There are presently 43 complaints which are at various stages of the complaint process established by section 68 of the Act. The nature of these matters is summarised as follows:
  - 18 matters contrary to section 121 of the Act. Two of these matters have been referred to the Liquor Commission under section 50(e) of the Act;
  - seven matters relate to allegations that a licensed premises has been used in a way which has caused annoyance or disturbance to persons residing in the neighborhood of the premises (noise), contrary to the conditions of the liquor licence;

- four matters contrary to section 31A of the Act and licence conditions. One of these matters has been referred to the Liquor Commission under section 50(e) of the Act;
- three matters contrary to section 102 of the Act;
- three matters relate to allegations that licensees have failed to exclude organised motorcycle club gang members from the premises contrary to the conditions of their liquor licence;
- two matters contrary to section 115 of the Act;
- two matters contrary to section 106B of the Act;
- one matter relates to an allegation that a licensee acted contrary to the liquor licence by not employing licensed crowd controllers;
- one matter contrary to section 119 of the Act;
- one matter relates to an allegation that a licensed crowd controller used excessive force against a patron of the premises; and
- one matter relates to an allegation that a licensee acted contrary to the conditions of the liquor licence in relation to advertising.

Specific time-frames for the finalisation of complaints cannot be provided as inquiries and investigations required to be undertaken will be dependent upon and will vary according to the nature and complexity of a matter.

3. The Director-General of Licensing has referred seven complaint matters to the Commission pursuant to section 50 of the Act.
4. Between 1 March 2018 and 31 August 2018, 25 complaints were made pursuant to section 68 of the Act. Each of those matters is subject to ongoing inquiries and/or further investigation in accordance with the requirements under the Act.
5. The Liquor Commission is an independent office.
6. There are 251 licences which allow for the sale of liquor for consumption away from the licensed premises.

Alice Springs	30
Barkly Region	7
Central Region	8
Daly	3
Darwin City	92
Darwin Rural	37
East Arnhem land	8
Katherine	12

Katherine Region	20
Palmerston	17
Tennant Creek	8
Tiwi Islands	1
West Arnhem land	8