

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Question Number: 1-4

Output Number: 4-1

Date: 9/06/2026

From: J Davis

To: Hon Lia Finocchiaro

Portfolio: Chief Minister

Agency: Officer of the Integrity and Ethics Commissioner

Subject: Recommendations made to NT Police as a result of complaints

QUESTION:

Can you provide details of any recommendations made to NT Police as a result of complaints over the reporting period from the Ombudsman?

ANSWER:

In its oversight role, the Office of the Ombudsman (OO) provides comments and suggestions to the Northern Territory Police Professional Standards Command (PSC) on a case-by-case basis. While those comments and suggestions are not necessarily formally recorded in a separate register, both agencies retain all correspondence to support further or retrospective examination of each matter if required. These may include proposals for managerial intervention in relation to subject officers, as well as recommendations for training or retraining. Where these comments are adopted by the PSC, they are not formally recorded as OO recommendations.

On occasion, the OO will make separate formal recommendations that are recorded on OO systems and followed up as required. Except as discussed below, no such formal recommendations are recorded for the period from 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026.

Part of the rationale for the OO's investigation and tabled report on the use of police watchhouses for corrections purposes was several individual complaints. In that report, the Acting Ombudsman made 15 recommendations that applied to the Northern Territory Police Force. Those recommendations and the Northern Territory Police responses to each are recorded in the tabled report. Implementation is subject to continuing oversight by the OO.