

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

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

Courts and Tribunals

1. Are there any plans for an additional Supreme Court judge to be added in Alice Springs?
2. Funding for lower courts and tribunals is about \$706,000 lower than the budget for 2017-18; what accounts for that reduction?
3. Has there been a reduction in matters being considered?
4. How much of that funding is for NTCAT specifically and what is the increase in NTCAT matters expected for this financial year, as compared with last year?

Answers

1. No.
2. The 2017-18 Budget included \$1.24m in one-off stimulus funding which was not provided in 2018-19 combined with minor infrastructure program and related adjustments of \$0.13m. This was offset by the addition in 2018-19 of minor program, CPI and salary related parameter adjustments of \$0.67m.
3. There is an assumption that this question only relates to the Local Court. Yes there has been a reduction, but not consider to be significant, from 21 032 Court Lodgements in 2016-17 to 20 679 in 2017-18.
4. Northern Territory Civil Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) funding is \$3.284m. It is estimated that NTCAT matters may increase from 2325 in 2017-18 financial year to approximately 2790 this financial year.