

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

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

Legal Policy and Statistics

1. What consultation with service providers took place prior to the introduction of the *Domestic and Family Violence Amendment (Information Sharing) Bill 2017*?
2. Have there been any changes in the manner in which crime statistics are collected, reported or presented in the last fiscal year, including the manner in which they are presented on the crime statistics website?
3. Are the statistics presented on the 'Northern Territory crime statistics' website a direct reporting of police statistics on offences as has become the norm in other jurisdictions?

ANSWER

1. The Domestic and Family Violence Amendment (Information Sharing) Bill 2017 (the Bill) was developed following consultation that occurred in Alice Springs in August 2016, during which the leading non-government service providers in Alice Springs expressed strong support for the need for information sharing.

The Bill was introduced in November 2017 with the view that it be debated during the March 2018 Sittings of the Legislative Assembly. The decision was made that this 12 week period was sufficient for the purposes of the consultation which subsequently occurred in February/March 2018 in the main Northern Territory centres.
2. There have been no changes in the manner in which the NT crime statistics are reported or presented in the last fiscal year, nor in the manner in which they are presented on the crime statistics website.
3. The statistics represent counts of offences recorded by NT Police. The counts of offences have standard counting rules applied to them, and are then mapped to reporting regions (based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics) prior to reporting.