

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Health:

#### **Alcohol and Other Drugs**

Page 81 of the Department of Health Annual Report shows the actual number of assessments undertaken in NTG treatment services as being 195 in 2016-17. The key performance indicator (KPI) for 2017-18 was then set at 585 assessments and yet the actual number for 2017-18 was 222. The KPI for 2018-19 is again set at 585 assessments.

Please explain why the KPI was set at 585 assessments two years in a row when the actual number of assessments is less than half that.

What was/is the reason for the anticipated increase in Alcohol and Other Drugs assessments undertaken and why did this not eventuate in 2017-18?

Will this also be the case in 2018-19?

#### **Response**

The performance indicator for 2017-18 was set at 585 in anticipation of the effect of the re-introduction of the Banned Drinker Register, with its emphasis on providing increased access to treatment services. It took some time for the new service model to take effect with the community.

The six month evaluation of the Banned Drinker Register identified a number of improvements to the service system to increase referrals for assessment which have been progressively implemented.

The twelve month evaluation of the Banned Drinker Register showed an increasing number of treatment episodes, and current indications are that the key performance indicator will be achieved.