No. 94

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins to the Chief Minister:

Appropriation Bill – Ombudsman

Please provide copies of:

- All questions, which have been received from the public in relation to the Estimates process and consideration of the Appropriation Bill for the 2017/18 financial year; and

- The answers to those questions that were presented to the Estimates Committee.

Please provide the information requested below for Agencies and Government authorities for which you have responsibility, as at 31 March 2017.

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

Please accept apologies if questions are not under the correct Output. Where this is the case, it would be appreciated if you could indicate the appropriate Output in your response. Thank You.

OUTPUT GROUP: OMBUDSMAN OPERATIONS

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1. How many complaints is the Ombudsman currently investigating?

2. How many 'own motion' investigations is the Ombudsman undertaking?

3. Please advise the nature of these 'own motion' investigations.

4. Please advise when a report on each of these investigations is expected to be made available.

5. What services will be cut as a result of the shortfall in funding if any?

6. How many complaints has the Ombudsman received concerning government outsourced services delivered by private sector firms?

7. How many of these complaints have been resolved?

8. How many complaints have not been resolved because the Ombudsman did not have the necessary powers to investigate outsourced service delivery?

9. Has the Ombudsman requested, either verbally or in writing, that the *Ombudsman Act 2008* (NT) be amended to provide the Ombudsman with powers to investigate administrative actions of private sector firms contracted to deliver public sector services?

OUTPUT GROUP: CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

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Staffing

1. How many Full Time Equivalents are currently employed within this Agency, broken down by Output and Business Unit?

2. How many Full Time Equivalents have resigned, retired, taken a redundancy package or have been made redundant, or terminated? Please break down these numbers by Output and Business Unit.

3. What has happened to these positions? Has the work been reallocated to existing staff?

4. Are there any plans to fill these positions in the near future?