

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Territory Families:

**Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers**

1. **Between 1 July 2018 and 31 September 2018, how many youths were managed by the Youth Outreach and Re-engagement Officers?**

**Of those managed by Youth Outreach and Re-engagement Officers during the above time period:**

- a) **How many of these have offended/re-offended while/since being case-managed?**
- b) **How many have spent nights at Bail Accommodation? How many nights?**
- c) **How many have breached bail while/since being case-managed?**
- d) **How many have entered detention while/since being case-managed, either on remand or sentenced?**
- e) **How many have breached Electronic Monitoring conditions? Please break down for technical and substantive breaches.**

**ANSWER**

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 September 2018, there was a total of 302 clients managed by Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers. Of those, 108 were voluntary clients and 194 were statutory clients.

In relation to sub questions 1a) through to 1e) the following constraints are provided:

Data relating to the interactions requested are recorded across multiple systems in databases under the control of multiple agencies. At this time there is no link between these datasets.

The issue of unlinked data is associated with a number of recommendations made by the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory including: tracking the outcomes of clients referred to diversion plans (41.4); develop compatibility between youth justice and child protection information systems (35.7, 41.5); and the development of recidivism measures (41.2, 41.3). All recommendations are being considered as part of the Whole of Government response to the Royal Commission.

A manual process is required to report such data and with separate data systems located across agencies, data for this time period is unable to be validated and replicated. Annual reporting for key data is undertaken as part of the Annual Report and Estimates process.

As part of Territory Families reform in this area, a public tender has just been released for the \$66.9 million Client Management System Alignment Program (CMSA) which will store all information about a client. The new system will increase information sharing between agencies and improve report keeping and reporting.

In the meantime, the following information can be provided from Territory Families' data system:

- b) 30 young people have spent nights at Bail Accommodation during this period. This is a total of 762 bed nights.
- d) 40 young people have entered detention while/since being case managed, either on remand or sentenced.
- e) 45 young people have breached their Electronic Monitoring conditions. Territory Families receives notification about all breaches, however the record keeping system does not differentiate between technical and substantive breaches and as such this breakdown cannot be provided.

**2. Between 1 July 2018 and 31 September 2018, how many new Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers (YOREOs) have been recruited?**

**ANSWER**

One new Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officer has been recruited in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2018.

**3. Between 1 July 2018 and 31 September 2018, how many school visits were undertaken? Please list by school.**

**ANSWER**

While Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers visit schools, and Department of Education staff visit Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Teams, no data is recorded that captures the number of times school visits occur.

Nevertheless, directors and managers attend weekly and fortnightly interagency meetings that include Department of Education representatives.

Operationally, Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Teams consider advice provided by Department of Education detention and regionally-based schools, Courts Officers, and Enrolment and Attendance or Re-Engagement Centre staff.

Assessments, planning and case management by Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Teams, consider an individual young person's risks, needs and protective factors relevant to school engagement and attendance.

Case work will depend on a young person's:

- age and legal requirements under the *Education Act*;
- whether there is an identified (criminogenic) risk; and
- specific Court ordered conditions relating to participation in education, training and employment.

**4. Is the original recruit to the Senior YOREO position in Groote Eylandt still in the role?**

**ANSWER**

The first Senior Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officer in Groote Eylandt was an existing staff member from the Palmerston Office who was temporarily appointed while recruitment was undertaken. This staff member is currently based in Nhulunbuy as Acting Team Leader for the Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Team in the Arnhem Region, with supervision responsibilities of the incumbent in Groote Eylandt.

**5. Between 1 July 2018 and 31 September 2018, how many Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers have separated, either through retirement, permanent transfer, resignation or termination?**

**ANSWER**

One Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officer has separated in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2018. This person resigned to move to South Australia for family reasons.

**6. As at 18 October 2018, please list the locations where Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers are stationed. How many Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers are located at each station?**

**ANSWER**

As at 31 October 2018, the locations where Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Teams are stationed are as follows:

<b>Table 2: Breakdown of Youth Outreach and Re-Engagement Officers by location as at 31 October 2018</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>FTE*</b>
Darwin/Palmerston	19
Alice Springs	12.48
Katherine	6
Tennant Creek	4
Nhulunbuy	5
Groote Eylandt	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.48</b>

\*Includes: Team Leaders, Courts Officers, Managers, Administration and Directors as well as YOREOs, Senior YOREOs and Advanced Practitioners.