

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

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

Fines Recovery Unit

1. As at 29 March 2019, a total of \$12 742 808.54 was owing to the Northern Territory according to the online 'name and shame' list published by the Government. What is being done to recover the amounts owing?
 2. \$8 506 235.01 of the total amount as at 29 March 2019, was incurred across 2017-2019 (up until March) – how many were new fines in those years, and how many were accumulated fines?
 3. How many of those owing (from 2015 to 2019) are facing the seizure and sale of their assets?
-

ANSWERS

1. The *Fines and Penalties (Recovery) Act 2001* provides the Fines Recovery Unit (FRU) with hierarchical enforcement sanctions that can be used to recover the amounts owed.
 - The most effective sanctions used by the FRU include the suspension of driver licence and the cessation of business with the Motor Vehicle Registry for an individual or a body corporate.
 - The name and shame list is a sanction that was implemented in October 2015, publishing the details of an individual or body corporate that has outstanding debt.
 - Where the fine defaulter can be located and their financial circumstances determined then civil sanctions such as garnishee, property seizure and/or charge on land orders can be commenced against them.
2. It is not feasible for the FRU to commission the development of a report that would extract the data with any degree of accuracy.
3. None.