

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

31/07/1995

51. **Sexual Assault Services**

Ms. HICKEY to MINISTER for POLICE FIRE and EMERGENCY SERVICES

QUESTION

1. From the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995, how many:
 - (a) sexual assaults were reported in the Alice Springs district; and
 - (b) arrests were made in response to those reports.
2. From the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995, how many:
 - (a) sexual assaults were reported in the Barkly district; and
 - (b) arrests were made in response to those reports.
3. From the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995, how many:
 - (a) sexual assaults were reported in the Katherine district; and
 - (b) arrests were made in response to those reports.
4. From the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995, how many:
 - (a) sexual assaults were reported in the Darwin district; and
 - (b) arrests were made in response to those reports.
5. From the period 1 January 1995 to 30 June 1995, how many:
 - (a) sexual assaults were reported in the Nhulunbuy district; and
 - (b) arrests were made in response to those reports.
6. What training is provided to Police Officers to assist them in effectively working with victims of sexual assault.
7. Are Police Officers specialising in the work referred to in question 6 designated to work in this area; if so:
 - (a) in which of the above districts are these Police Officers based; and
 - (b) how many Police Officers are based in each centre.

ANSWER

Answered on 10/10/95

No offence of "Sexual Assault" exists within the Northern Territory.

Therefore, the questions have been answered in the context of offences against section 192 of the Criminal Code; "Sexual Intercourse and Gross Indecency Without Consent".

1. Alice Springs District
 - (a) 17 Reports
 - (b) 11 Arrests

2. Barkly District
 - (a) 1 Report
 - (b) No Arrests

3. Katherine District
 - (a) 10 Reports
 - (b) 8 Arrests

4. Darwin District
 - (a) 54 Reports
 - (b) 23 Arrests
4 Persons did not wish to proceed with complaints
5 Unsubstantiated
3 Complaints withdrawn by complainants
3 Offender known, investigations continuing
16 Offenders outstanding

5. Nhulunbuy District
 - (a) 5 Reports
 - (b) 4 Arrests

6. During Induction Training all recruits receive training in the offences relating to Sexual Intercourse and Gross Indecency Without Consent, section 192 of the Criminal Code. Such training includes addressing the needs of victims and awareness of community support groups as well as the role of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC).

Specialist and ongoing in-service training is available to all members as part of:

 - the Detectives Development Program;
 - the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Course; and
 - courses conducted by Territory Health Services in sexual assault and child abuse matters.

7. Whilst the recently formed NT Police Sexual Offences Unit in Darwin deals with serious sexual offence matters, the Unit provides an experienced investigative, training, networking and referral service for all members of the Police Force.

(a) Designated detectives operate from Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. These detectives have the appropriate training and experience and provide a service to all centres within their respective districts.

(b) There are:

14 detectives in Alice Springs;

2 detectives in Tennant Creek;

4 detectives in Katherine;

42 detectives based in Darwin, 5 of whom are attached to the Sexual Offences unit.

There are no detectives in Nhulunbuy. Serious matters are attended to by detectives from Darwin.