

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

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Date: 10/06/2025

From: Mr Brian O’Gallagher

To: Hon Lia Finocchiaro

Portfolio: Chief Minister

Agency: Ombudsman's Office

Subject: **Complaints by Category**

QUESTION:

Could you give me a breakdown of the complaints by category if possible?

ANSWER:

The Judicial Commission Office does not categorise complaints it receives or complaints the Judicial Commission considers.

Under section 40 of the *Judicial Commission Act 2020* the Commission may receive a complaint about a matter relating to the behaviour or the physical or mental capacity of a judicial officer or an ordinary member of the NT Civil and Administrative Tribunal. This means that the Commission receives complaints in two broad categories:

1. complaints regarding the behaviour of a judicial officer or a member of NTCAT; and
2. complaints regarding the physical or mental capacity of a judicial officer or a member of NTCAT.

Many of the complaints received relate either directly or indirectly to the outcome of court proceedings or assert legal or factual error on the part of the judicial officer. Section 44 of the *Judicial Commission Act* provides that a complaint may be dismissed on a number of grounds, including that the matter should more properly be the subject of an appeal in the ordinary course rather than dealt with as a complaint regarding the behaviour of a judicial officer or a member of NTCAT.

The Office has reviewed the complaints received during the reporting period and all complaints received in that time were complaints regarding the behaviour of a judicial officer or an ordinary member of NTCAT.