

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 119**  
**Asked on 5 March 2014**

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services (MR DEMPSEY)—

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the Minister's comments that 'since October 2013 police have charged 654 criminal motorcycle gang members and associates with 1,458 offences', will the Minister advise—

- (1) How many of the 654 members or associates have had allegations made against them in court using the Vicious Lawless Association Disestablishment Act?
- (2) How many of the 654 members or associates have had the allegation of being a vicious lawless associate withdrawn at court, which enabled them to plead guilty and receive a lesser penalty than available under the Vicious Lawless Association Disestablishment Act?
- (3) How many of the 654 members or associated have been sentenced under the Vicious Lawless Association Disestablishment Act?
- (4) How many of the 654 were known members of criminal motorcycle gangs prior to September 2013 and how many are classed as associates?

**ANSWER:**

- (1) Of the 654 criminal motorcycle gang participants charged, 19 persons have been charged where the circumstance of aggravation under the *Vicious Lawless Association Disestablishment Act 2013* (VLAD) has been applied. This has been in relation to a total of 29 charges.
- (2) No matters have been withdrawn for the purpose of allowing for a lesser penalty to be imposed.
- (3) The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has carriage of the matters, which are currently before the courts.
- (4) To establish the membership status of the 654 persons prior to September 2013 would require a manual search of data bases. This would require significant resources and time to complete and would divert resources from areas of critical need such as being on the frontline and keeping our community safe.