

Question on Notice
No. 1065
Asked on 15 September 2021

MR D LAST ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise, since the appointment of Youth Justice Prosecutors, funded by the Queensland Police Service (a) how many reviews, under Section 19B of the Bail Act, have been lodged (broken down by region) and (b) how many of those reviews were successful?

ANSWER:

I note that the Member was not aware that a dedicated Queensland Police Service (QPS) Youth Justice Prosecutor works in Townsville¹ and therefore the Member may not fully understand the role of Youth Justice Prosecutors.

The QPS has advised that the work of Youth Justice Prosecutors includes identifying matters where significant concerns are held about the risk a youth offenders could pose if they were granted bail, appear on those bail applications (where practical) or brief other prosecutors, assist respective police districts with important bail compliance work, provide guidance to police around the preparation of effective bail affidavits in relation to youth offenders and where appropriate, seek a review in the Supreme Court of the Childrens Court Magistrate's decision to grant bail.

I appreciate the Member's recent interest in this matter and am advised by the QPS that the QPS made 17 applications in the Supreme Court under section 19B of the Bail Act to review bail decisions made by the court.

I am further advised by the QPS that ten of those matters were from the Far North Region, three were from the Northern Region, two from the Brisbane Region, one from the Southern Region and one from the South Eastern Region.

I am informed by the QPS that 12 applications were successful and resulted in the Supreme Court setting aside the order made by the Childrens Court Magistrate.

¹ Townsville Bulletin (August 21, 2021) – Specialist prosecutor' in youth courts already in NQ