

Question on Notice

No. 527

Asked on 25 May 2022

MR T NICHOLLS ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

Will the Attorney-General advise how many wholly suspended sentences have been ordered for 2019 to 2022 to date (reported separately by year)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Clayfield for his question.

The *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992* (the Act) provides a Court with the power to impose a period of imprisonment as a sentence. Part 8 of the Act provides that a sentence imposing a period of imprisonment may be wholly or partly suspended.

The Act provides a Court may only impose a suspended sentence if the offender is sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 5 years or less and if the Court is satisfied that it is appropriate to do so in the circumstances.

If a court imposes a period of imprisonment that is suspended, whether wholly or partly, a court must record a conviction.

Suspended sentences are only one option the Court has available to it when sentencing an offender to a period of imprisonment.

I am advised that the following number of suspended sentences were ordered from 2019 to 2022:

Year	Number of wholly suspended sentences ordered
2019	11,201
2020	9,025
2021	11,480
2022 (to 25 May 2022)	3,917