

Question on Notice

No. 37

Asked on 13 February 2024

MR S ANDREW ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON Y D'ATH)

QUESTION:

With reference to ongoing complaints received by the Legal Services Commission since 2019 for which formal disciplinary proceedings have not yet commenced —

Will the Attorney-General advise (reported separately by the actual number of complaints, not as a percentage) the number of complaints (a) that are between two to three years old, (b) that are between three to four years old and (c) that are more than four years old?

ANSWER:

I thank the member for the question.

I am advised that, with regards to complaints received by the Legal Services Commission for which an investigation is ongoing,

- (a) there are 52 complaints that are between two to three years old,
- (b) there are 14 complaints that are between three to four years old,
- (c) there are 2 complaints that are over four years old.

I am also advised that a variety of factors can impact on the length of time an investigation into a complaint is taken to complete, including:

- the co-operation and responsiveness of the complainant, respondent and third parties to requests for information, which can include health matters and family circumstances;
- the volume and quality of evidence provided;
- the complexity of the matters alleged in the complaint;
- delays to prevent the tainting of evidence or ongoing investigations by other agencies such as the Queensland Police Service or the Crime and Corruption Commission; where there may be related ongoing court proceedings