



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Redirected to:

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 21]

In relation to: City Safe Campaign

Hearing Date: 2 August 2024

QTON lodgement date: 5 August 2024

Answer Due Date: 8 August 2024

DR PATERSON: The recent City Safe Campaign. I saw an article that said in the first week or something, 25 arrests. What sort of crimes are being—what is going on in the city?

Mr Lee: Yes, certainly. Thanks, doctor. I might pass to the Acting DCPO, who can provide you with the updated statistics on the outcome of that operation for the past four weeks. I would also just highlight that we are also in the process at the moment of consulting with the business leaders in the city just to understand how they now feel about the overall situation in the city and the impact of our police operation, and we will use that consultation to inform our ongoing police operation, with the intention of, regardless of that posture, we will certainly be maintaining a high visibility presence in the city.

Mr Bailey: Thanks, CPO. Thank you. A number of members were drawn in from around the stations in addition to our usual Territory Targeting Team. The results I have as of yesterday are 45 arrests, 16 formal cautions, 43 moveon directions, six court attendance notices and 14 diversions to support services. The statistics analyse—so far indicate that that activity is occurring between 8 am and 5 pm during the day.

As the CPO said, in the coming week there will be consultation with business owners seeking feedback and some sentiment analysis on how they viewed it, and I have a meeting with various government agencies involved in the operation next week to do a bit of a review and see how it has been carried out, its effectiveness, where we can learn from it, et cetera.

DR PATERSON: Just to go back, you are saying that these arrests and these activities are happening in the daytime as opposed to the night-time?

Mr Bailey: Yes.

DR PATERSON: Okay. With the arrests, what are people being arrested for?

Mr Bailey: I would take that on notice and get you a breakdown. I have certainly seen some examples of offensive behaviour, drug possession, et cetera, but I will take it on notice.

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In June 2024, the Chief Police Officer (CPO) authorised the instigation of the ACT Policing 'City Safe Campaign' in response to concerns raised by community and business groups of the impacts of street level crime, anti-social and perceptions of poor levels of safety in the Canberra Central Business District (CBD).

The CPO advised ACT Government and key stakeholders via various media channels the campaign would be in place for the month of July.

The City Safe Campaign commenced operations on Monday 8 July 2024. The campaign operated on a flexible 24-hour roster, staffed by the two fulltime Territory Targeting Teams (TTT), and a third team comprising members volunteered by the four other ACT Policing stations.

The implementation of the third team provided greater coverage throughout day and afternoon hours, particularly mid-week, and allowed the fulltime TTT capability to maintain their day-to-day functions of policing the licenced premises and entertainment precinct during high volume times (Thursday – Saturday nights).

The campaign was more broadly supported by elements from the Proactive Intervention & Diversion Team (PIDT), City Intelligence Response Team, ACT Policing Media and Traffic Operations.

During the campaign the following key statistics were collated:

- 45 arrests
- 16 formal cautions
- 43 move on directions
- 6 Court Attendance Notices (CANs)
- 14 diversions to support services

The statistics also provided a 'picture of crime' which highlighted more than half (62) of the involvements of police were during the hours of 8am to 5pm, the traditional business and high-volume time for traders and the community in the CBD.

Please find a breakdown of arrests made by ACT Policing from the City Safe Campaign below.

Arrest warrant	1
Assault	1
Breach of bail	5
Breach of parole	2
Deface public property	1
Fail to quit	1
Fight in public place	1
First instance warrant	2
Family violence assault	1
Intoxicated and disorderly (I&D)	6
Intoxicated and in need of protection (I&P)	2
Knife in a public place	1
Multiple charges	7
Possession of stolen property	1
Theft	7
Not recorded	6
Total	45

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature:



Date: 8/8/2024

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Mr Mick Gentleman MLA