



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 05

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MARISA PATERSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JO CLAY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
19 FEBRUARY 2021

Question taken on notice by Ms Amanda Nuttall, Acting Principal Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the ACT Courts and Tribunal, p.21 of Uncorrected Transcript:

Asked by Mr Jeremy Hanson MLA:

In relation to: **Court case backlog – historical vs current (incl. ACAT)**

What are the numbers? Current compared to 'normal' rates. How long before the backlog is reduced to a 'usual' level? Including ACAT.

Shane Rattenbury MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

Below is a table showing the number of pending matters at the end of 2018/19; 2019/20 Financial years; and as at 31 December 2020. 'Pending matters' includes all applications lodged that have not been finalised.

	Supreme+ Court Criminal	Magistrates Court Criminal *	Supreme+ Court Civil	Magistrates Court Civil*	ACAT
2018-19	284	2641	660	1042	1025
2019-20	358	3462	627	1422	1310
As at 31 December 2020	350	3288	537	1235	1151

* includes Children's court

+ includes Court of Appeal

The COVID impact on the number of pending matters was felt most acutely during the latter part of the 2019-20 financial year. It is difficult to be precise about when the COVID impact will cease. At present, the Supreme Court and ACAT are well placed to be back to pre-COVID levels within the next months. However, the Magistrates Court anticipates a more persistent impact.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Signature:

Date: 2/3/21

By the Attorney-General, Shane Rattenbury MLA