



Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Inquiry into Penalties for Minor Offences and Vulnerable People

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Paterson, Marisa MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Business and Better Regulation

Reference: Access Canberra questions

Hearing Date: 21 June 2023

In relation to:

1. In last 12 months (or financial year), how many Traffic Infringement Notices (TIN) notices did Access Canberra serve?
2. In the last 12 months, how many TIN reminder notices did Access Canberra serve?
3. In last 12 months, how many licence's, registration or right to drive were suspended because of failure to pay a fine? (is there a break down of licence's vs registration)
4. In last 12 months, how many people proceeded to court proceedings as a result of failure to pay a TIN?
5. In last 12 months, how many residents went on payment plans for TIN?
6. In last 12 months, what were the top three reasons a waiver of a TIN was sought?
7. In last 12 months, how many residents were served a reminder notice on their registration?
8. In the last 12 months, How many residents had their registration suspended because of failure to pay?
9. Is there any data on the average length of registration suspension before registration is reinstated?

Ms Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

1. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, Access Canberra served 117,638 Traffic Infringement Notices.
2. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, Access Canberra served 27,562 Traffic Reminder Notices.
3. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023:
 - 2,673 ACT registrations were suspended
 - 18,958 interstate drivers had their right to drive in the ACT suspended.
 - 5832 ACT licences were suspended due to non-payment of an infringement notice. Of these, 1744 are still suspended.
4. Prosecutions are not commenced for non-payment of traffic infringement notices. The *Road Transport (General) Act 1999* states that for non-payment of infringement notice penalties, the Road Transport Authority must do one of the following:
 - suspend the holder's driver licence, or
 - suspend the vehicle's registration, or
 - suspend the person's right to drive in the ACT.

When a person disputes liability for a traffic infringement notice this may result in a court process. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, 30 traffic matters were heard by the ACT Magistrates Court relating to a dispute of a Traffic Infringement Notice.
5. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, Access Canberra created 14,658 payment plans.
6. Individuals must provide evidence in relation to three criteria to be eligible for a waiver of the penalty amount. Therefore, all applications should contain evidence in relation to the following three grounds (reasons):
 - Financial circumstances
 - Relevant circumstances (substance abuse, domestic violence, physical/mental disability or impairment, homelessness etc)
 - Inability to complete a Work or Development Plan.
7. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, Access Canberra served:
 - 599,254 Registration Renewal Reminders
 - 94,804 Late Renewal Reminders
8. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, 2,673 ACT registrations were suspended.
9. Between 1 July 2022 and 26 June 2023, ACT registrations were suspended for an average of 74 days before being reinstated.

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

Signature: 

Date: 3/7/23

By the Minister for Business and Better Regulation, Tara Cheyne MLA