



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbins MLA
(Deputy Chair), Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA (Member)

Inquiry into Bail Amendment Bill 2026

Question Taken on Notice (Committee)

Asked by: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Redirection:

Reference: Bail Amendment Bill 2026

Hearing Date: 25/06/2026

In relation to: ACT Policing and Bail compensation over last 5 years

Question Lodgement Date: 25/06/2026

Date Answer Due: 09/07/2026

UPT, p 82

THE CHAIR: Thank you. And just for my own benefit, for people who have been held on remand, and who have then subsequently been found not guilty, is there a compensation scheme, or how does that work if someone has been held on remand and then subsequently found not guilty? It is clearly around the loss of personal liberty.

Ms Cheyne: I do not know. I can take it on notice, unless—

Ms Haigh: To defer to colleagues from police, but I think generally if the process has been followed properly, there would be no automatic recourse to compensation as the starting proposition.

THE CHAIR: Thank you. Okay. Yes.

Mr Lee: But I think, Chair, depending on the circumstances, it is open to a person to seek or to undertake some type of a settlement for costs or other litigation action if they believe there are grounds, in terms of police action. So in that situation where a person was remanded and then found not guilty, it would depend on the circumstances of the case and whether there were grounds for that person to bring a claim against the police or the prosecution. But it would depend on the circumstances.

THE CHAIR: Where would I go to find that information? Who would hold that?

Mr Lee: Well in terms of our own guidelines, we would hold some of that information, in terms of the process, if you like, that might be open to a person.

THE CHAIR: Yes. Is it all right if you provide that on notice? So in the last five years anyone who was found—

Mr Lee: Yes, it will be publicly available. But we can work through that and happy to provide that you, yes.

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

ACT Policing does not hold a readily reportable dataset showing the number of people who, in the last five years, were remanded in custody, later found not guilty, and then sought compensation or commenced litigation to recover costs or lost income.

Where a person has been remanded and is later found not guilty, there is no automatic entitlement to compensation. ACT Policing's costs information is not recorded in a way that identifies whether a claim relates specifically to a person who was remanded, later found not guilty, and then sought compensation or recovery of costs or lost income.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 

Date: 14/7/26

By the A/g Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Tara Cheyne MLA