



STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr Jeremy Hanson MLA (Chair), Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Ms Jo Clay MLA

**Inquiry into ACT Budget 2021–22**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**  
**27 October 2021**

Asked by Jo Clay MLA on 27 October 2021: Mick Gentleman MLA took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 27 October 2021 [PAGE 48]]

In relation to:

**MS CLAY:** Thank you, Chair. I might actually supplement on the old one in the remaining minute we have. We heard another couple of interesting things from the DPP yesterday. We heard that domestic violence matters were up, which makes good but sad sense to me, and we also heard that proceeds of crime matters were up, which I would imagine is about white-collar crime and about intelligence. But I was just wondering if I could get your reflections on those two figures?

**Mr Crozier:** Over the COVID period, in terms of domestic and family violence, there was not a significant change in our statistics that gave us—there would be certain matters within that. It might be assaults that are non-DV related and the like. And I do not have the exact stats in front of me, but I can provide them to you on notice.

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

**Family violence**

- A total of 3324 family violence related incidents were reported to ACT Policing in 2020-21, this is a slight increase when compared to the 3212 reports received in 2019-20.
- 1097 family violence related assaults were reported in 2020-21, a decrease of nine per cent when compared to the 1213 assaults reported in the 2019-20 financial year.
- Throughout lockdown, ACT Policing members continued to attend family violence related incidents where victims are at risk, as a priority. ACT Policing also emphasised that people did not need to stay home if they did not feel safe during the ACT lockdown, through both social and traditional media messaging.
- ACT Policing also continues to use social and traditional media opportunities to educate the public about what family violence is, encourage its reporting and advise how support services can be accessed in a discreet manner if needed.

**Proceeds of criminal assets matters**

- ACT Policing utilises the powers under the *Confiscation of Criminal Assets Act 2003* (ACT) (COCA), to restrain and forfeit provisions acquired via criminal activity.

- COCA proceedings are complex, often lengthy matters. Values of assets in COCA proceedings are approximations only and final asset values realised can be higher or lower than initial estimations in both the civil and criminal jurisdictions.
- In the 2020 -21 financial year, ACT Policing has restrained \$14,437,938 of assets under ongoing COCA proceedings. This compares to \$2,766,482.00 worth of assets restrained in the 2019-20 financial year.
  - Approximately \$13.6 million of the 2020-21 amount is attributed to real estate, with increasing real estate prices likely contributing to the upsurge in restrained value from the previous years. In 2020-21, ACT Policing restrained seven properties between March and May 2021, all relating to Operation Goeben.
- Between 1 July 2021 and 11 August 2021, prior to the ACT lockdown, ACT Policing's Financial Investigations Team (FIT) restrained approximately \$1.32 million in various property, which included \$550,000 of real estate, \$342,000 of vehicles, and \$439,000 in cash and accounts.
- From 12 August to 1 November 2021, ACT Policing restrained a further \$714,250 worth of property. \$700,000 of this amount was a single house, which was already under investigation prior to the start of the ACT lockdown period.
- This amounts to approximately \$2.034 million in various restrained property, from 1 July to 1 November 2021. This demonstrates ACT Policing's ongoing commitment – even throughout the lockdown period - to reduce the appetite and appeal of organised crime in the ACT.

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

Signature:



Date: 5/11/2021

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services