

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

**Date of Hearing:** Monday 14 May 2018

**Session Two:** Public

**Question on Notice 1**

**Transcript of Evidence Page No: 9**

***The Chair asked:** Would you be able to tell the committee how many complaints were received about WorkSafe WA in the 2016-17 financial year? ... If you could go back for five years, that would be appreciated if it does not place too big a burden.*

**Answer:** The number of complaints the Ombudsman has received about WorkSafe WA in the 2016-17 financial year is three. The previous four financial years are as follows:

- 2012-13: 5
- 2013-14: 4
- 2014-15: 2
- 2015-16: 1

## Question on Notice 2

**Transcript of Evidence Page No: 10**

**The Chair asked:** *Would you be able to tell the committee whether there are any maladministration matters you have handled in relation to the police internal investigation unit?*

**Mr Field:** ... *[We] will take a note of that and look at everything for the past five years?*

**The Chair:** *Yes, that would be terrific, thank you.*

**Answer:** The number of complaints about maladministration matters the Ombudsman has handled in relation to the Police Complaints unit over the past five years are as follows:

- 2012-13: 0
- 2013-14: 2
- 2014-15: 1
- 2015-16: 4
- 2016-17: 2

There have been no complaints about maladministration matters the Ombudsman has handled in relation to the police internal investigation unit over the past five years.

### Question on Notice 3

#### Transcript of Evidence Page No: 17

**The Chair asked:** *I was stunned to see that between July 2012 and 30 June 2017, nine per cent of people who died from family and domestic violence were aged over 80. That is eight people who died from family and domestic violence aged 80 and over in a five-year period. I am surprised by that statistic and that the people are so old. Can you enlighten us for that in any way?*

#### **Answer:**

Of the eight fatalities of people aged 80 and over that occurred in circumstances of family and domestic violence between July 2012 and 30 June 2017:

- The Office was informed of two fatalities in 2013-14, two in 2014-15 and four in 2016-17. Four of the persons who died were women and four were men. Five of the fatalities occurred in the Perth metropolitan area and three in regional Western Australia. None of the persons who died were Aboriginal.
- An intimate partner fatality is a fatality that occurred between persons who, either at the time of death or at some earlier time, had been involved in a married, de facto or other intimate personal relationship. Non-intimate partner fatalities occurred between persons where the relationship was between a parent and their adult child or persons otherwise related (such as siblings and extended family relationships). There were five intimate partner fatalities and three non-intimate partner fatalities. In all cases there were no previous reports of alleged family and domestic violence between the parties.
- Of the five intimate partner fatalities, four deaths occurred in two cases of alleged homicide/suicide. In both cases, a female was allegedly killed by a male and the male subsequently died of apparent suicide, in circumstances where Western Australia Police informed the Ombudsman that the female had chronic health issues.
- Of the three non-intimate partner fatalities, two fatalities relate to incidents where an adult child allegedly killed their parent, in circumstances where Western Australia Police informed the Ombudsman that the adult child had mental health issues.

## Question on Notice 4

### Transcript of Evidence Page No: 17

**The Chair asked:** *I note that 25 per cent of the people who died from family and domestic violence were aged between 30 and 39. Is that fairly consistent?*

**Mr Field:** *... [We] will ... check the exact comparability of that with some national and international numbers. We can provide that as additional information for you.*

**The Chair:** *That would be great, and also if they are mainly women that fall within that category.*

### Answer:

Western Australian data is fairly consistent with jurisdictions where published data is comparable as indicated in the following table.

	Fatalities in circumstances of FDV		
	WA	NSW	NZ
<b>Adult Population aged 30-39</b>	19%	18%	17%
<b>Proportion aged 30-39</b>	25%	24%	25%
<b>Of those aged 30-39, proportion who are female</b>	59%	76%	Not available

In Western Australia, in the five years from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2017, there were 22 people aged 30-39 years who died in circumstances of family and domestic violence. Of these 22 fatalities, 13 people who died were women (59%) and nine were men (41%).