New Sentencing Council for the Territory

A Sentencing Advisory Council will be established in the Territory to provide advice to Government on sentencing trends in criminal matters.

Attorney-General Delia Lawrie said the new initiative delivers on an election commitment to provide a platform for community views on court sentencing.

"The Territory Government regularly reviews laws and has toughened sentencing provisions, particularly for violent and sex offenders,” Ms Lawrie said.

“While Territory courts are the toughest in the nation, with people convicted four times more likely to go to jail than elsewhere in Australia, we understand the community has concerns about sentencing.

“This is why we are establishing a Sentencing Council, as an advisory body, to better inform Government about sentencing trends.

“The Council will be charged with researching sentencing data, trends and community perceptions.

“The Council will provide an important link between the courts, legislature and the community on areas of potential sentencing reform.”

The sentencing council will consist of a range of experience and perspectives, including:

- members of the general community
- current or former judicial officers
- a prosecutor
- a representative of a victims of crime organisation
- a representative of an Indigenous body
- a representative of correctional services
- a person with experience of juvenile justice issues

Nominations will be called for members through newspaper advertising. For more information visit www.nt.gov.au/justice

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