

Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
Right to Information Services

GPO Box 308, Hobart, Tas. 7001
Phone: (03) 61732257 | Fax: (03) 62302601
Email: rti@dpfem.tas.gov.au
Web: www.dpfem.tas.gov.au



Our ref: RTI 47/19
TRIM ref: A19/43199
Your ref:
Enquiries: (03) 61732453

6 March 2019

Adam Holmes
2/113 Cimitiere Street
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Dear Mr Holmes,

APPLICATION FOR ASSESSED DISCLOSURE - RTI 47/19

I am writing in response to your application for assessed disclosure pursuant to the *Right to Information Act 2009* (the Act), dated 31 January 2019, and part transferred to the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management (DPFEM) on 20 February 2019.

The information sought is, '*Data regarding the strip search of minors by Tasmania Police and in the custody of Tasmania Prison Service*'. Specifically you request;

1. *The number of minors subject to a strip search in Tasmania in the latest 12 month period (either 2018 or 2017/18);*
2. *The number of indigenous minors subject to a strip search in Tasmania in the same period;*
3. *The number of minors by age subject to strip search in Tasmania in the same period as above;*
4. *The number of minors by Tasmania Police region subject to a strip search in the same period as above.*

I can advise that information regarding point's 1 through to 3 of your application are being assessed and processed by the Department of Justice, the custodian of the information you seek. A response to point 4 has been assessed by Tasmania Police with the results listed below.

Enquiries and searches of DPFEM information systems has **not** located any information specifically relevant to your request as data in relation to point 4 of your application is not required to be captured by Tasmania Police information systems.

However, I have provided the table below for your information which details statistics in relation to the number of youths, (defined as people less than the age of 18 years) detained for court by Tasmania Police in each operational district.

Youth Offenders Charged and Presented for Court by Tasmania Police

Charge District > Offence Category	2017-18	2018-19 (to 31 Dec)
Northern	38	23
Southern	78	52
Western	44	15
State-wide	160	90

Source: Online Charging System, 20 February 2019

These figures **do not** represent the number of strip searches of youths conducted by Tasmania Police.

In assessing the information for disclosure, I am exercising powers delegated to me by the Principal Officer of DPFEM under Section 21 and 24 of the *Right to Information Act 2009*.

Tasmania Police, which forms part of DPFEM, is the custodian of the information you seek and therefore is required to comply with the Act and the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.

Right of Review

You have the right under Section 43 of the Act to apply for a review of this assessment. To apply for a review you must write to the Secretary of DPFEM within 20 working days of receiving this letter.

Yours sincerely

Lee Taylor
Sergeant No. 1801
Right to Information Delegate