

Dear Senator

I apologise for the long delay in replying to your questionnaire regarding the provision of legal services in Timber Creek and the Victoria River region.

I have been consulting with the Elders, and they have asked that I respond as follows.

1.. The community is satisfied with the availability of lawyers. There is a very good service which operates through KRALAS at Katherine, managed by George Campbell.

2.. They are very satisfied with the quality of the service provided.

3.. The community has access by phone and this is not a problem.

4.. The lawyers who attend to people here (or in Katherine when they are in there) all display a sound awareness of cultural matters.

5.. There are circuit courts that sit at Timber Creek. I have not identified how often this happens but I understand that the people do not have an issue with this matter.

6.. I can't answer this question. My understanding of the situation is that lockups are taken through to Katherine.

7.. For this answer, see 6 above.

8.. KRALAS provides assistance across the whole range, criminal and civil, and there does not appear to be an issue with this.

9.. I can't answer this question properly, but I have discussed some of the issues with George Campbell and from that I understand that KRALAS is impartial and that services are provided to all who request it.

In summary, the people here are more than happy with the service that George manages and they spoke very highly of it.

I hope that this assists, and again, sorry about the delay.

Yours Sincerely
Henk Rhee

CEO, Timber Creek Council