

ACON Questions on Notice

Question 1:

What was the exact date work commenced on ACON's Dossiers?

The first collaborative community stakeholder meeting to discuss gay hate killings and concerns that homophobia was publically being discounted as a motive in gay men's deaths was held Wednesday 29 April 2015. A dossier template was prepared and work commenced to review each of the cases in July 2015.

Question 2:

Provide an estimate of the number of serious violent injuries in this period (1970 – 2010).

Between 2003 and 2009 ACON had 570 people report an LGBTIQ hate related crime through our Anti-Violence Project. We suggest that caution would be necessary if using this figure to extrapolate on the levels of violence that were being experienced by members of our communities during this period, or the 40 year timeframe being examined by the Inquiry. As we know, many people were fearful of reporting violence for a range of reasons including fear of police reprimand, fear of being publically 'outed', not being believed, not knowing how to make a report, etc.

ACON is committed to fully understanding the extent - and impact - of historical LGBTIQ violence in our communities, which is reflected in Recommendations 1.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 of our In Pursuit of Truth and Justice Report, where we have advocated for further research, as well as the establishment of a formal process to support victims to come forward and share their experiences of historical violence.