

AMOONGUNA COMMUNITY INCORPORATED



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Senator Nigel Scullion,
GPO Box 882,
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Re: Legal Services Survey

Att: Ms. B. Cubillo

Amoonguna Community is situated only 15 minutes from the CBD of Alice Springs.

Due to the proximity of the community to Alice Springs we do not encounter many of the problems experienced by communities that are more remote.

If and when any resident of Amoonguna needs legal advice/help they are taken to Alice Springs and the matter is dealt with forthwith. Should the individual need any further follow ups for court appearance etc legal aid always come and pick them up or make arrangements for them to get into court.

As most of the offences at Amoonguna are minor breaches of the law most of the clients meet the lawyer from legal aid at the courthouse at 10.00 o'clock on the day of appearance.

Court appearances are sometimes immediate but in the past 8 years since working at Amoonguna the time lapse between offence and court day has never been very lengthy.

This community has English as it's first language and does not need to use the interpreter service.

Amoonguna has a Night Patrol and most domestic violence issues are diffused before there is a need to involve the law.

In closing I think Amoonguna is well served by the legal system as a whole. All staff employed on the community have a great working relationship with police, legal aid and the court system.

Regards,

KAY BYERLEY.
Office Manager.

25th. February 2004.