

Questions taken on notice – Corrections Portfolio – 24 October 2022

Question 1 – mobile phones found in prisons (page 3)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I am interested to hear more about that as well, but just sticking with the phones for the moment, as of about roughly a month ago, I understand there were about 94 phones found. Have there been more found since then? I mean, two years ago there were nearly 300.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Are we checking for them properly? What are the current numbers?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I'll have to take that one on notice. We don't have that number in my documents, sorry.

Answer:

I am advised:

There were 112 mobile phones (including mobile phone components) found between 1 January 2022 and 24 October 2022. See Attachment 1, Table 1.

Question 2 – use of contraband mobile phones in prisons (page 3)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: But, I mean, there was a guy in Parklea who had a phone and was broadcasting TikTok videos to his over 11,000 followers. He posted a number of videos before he was caught. How is that possible?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Well, it's possible because they are able to access the internet with phones, so once they get a phone in, they can access the internet.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Why is that not rolled out across the whole system?

KEVIN CORCORAN: That technology is only in two facilities at the moment, Lithgow and the Goulburn facility. We're examining other methodologies which we can use to intercept phones. I've got my security people working on it at the moment. It's an incredibly expensive operation to block mobile phones. If we were to roll that out right across the system, we'd be up for significant ongoing maintenance costs and every time we get a new—I guess, what would you call it?

LEON TAYLOR: New generation.

KEVIN CORCORAN: New generation of—we'd have to then upgrade the technology. So incredibly expensive if we're going to roll that across the whole system—so we are concerned about that and we are looking at whether we can come up with some other form of technology that would be a lot cheaper than we could roll out.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Sure. But surely the Minister can help you with that expense, because—you know what my follow-up question is going to be. It's all well and good for one man to be filming TikTok videos, but what else are these phones being used for? Are people contacting victims? Are they contacting their families? Are they conducting business?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Probably all of the above. But that's the reason we are going all out to try to prevent phones from getting in—number one—through those new technologies we've put in place and try to detect phones whilst they're in the centres. Because a lot of times they will hide them internally and now we've got the technology to actually find them.

Dr GEOFF LEE: Can I say for the benefit of the Committee and specifically for you, Tara, that we're more than happy—I think during this session we'll get the details on that specific Parklea incident. From memory—and that's why I'd like to be able to get back to the Committee—I think that was a historical case. That TikTok video that he put out there was done a number of years ago. It hasn't been a recent occasion, but I'm more than happy if one of the people can get that. I don't think it's been a recent one. I think it's two years old.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I think that one is more recent but there's been another person at Goulburn who—he's out now as I understand it. But he's reported that he made an entire rap album and posted it online from Goulburn. So it's more than one incident.

Dr GEOFF LEE: If we can't get it today, I'm more than happy to take it on notice and report on those specific incidents. I just think there's a historical nature to some of those comments in the media. I saw that in the media as well. Obviously, we were concerned at that time.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Sure. I'm asking about, again, TikTok videos but, really, there are much more serious concerns about these phones. Social media is one thing. Making rap music and being able to broadcast an entire album from your cell is pretty crazy, but that's another thing.

Dr GEOFF LEE: I appreciate that.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: But if people have access to mobile phones, can you guarantee that they're not calling their victims or calling witnesses if they're on remand or conducting criminal activities via prison?

Dr GEOFF LEE: Obviously, mobile phones pose a significant security risk. I can just say that the officers I've seen—the targeted searches have been able to locate many of those phone and other contraband items as they do their searches. I think that's one of the benefits of those body scanners—to eliminate significant numbers of pieces of contraband coming in. But there are lots of other ways that people—people are very ingenious these days, especially when they've got a lot of time on their hands. But we'll do everything we can.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I'm interested in getting the numbers of the phones, which I think you've already taken on notice. Can you guarantee that there aren't phones being used to contact victims or witnesses or conduct illegal activity from inside of prisons?

Answer:

I am advised:

CSNSW continues to look for new ways to detect and prevent contraband, including mobile phones, from entering our facilities. There are a number of measures currently in place to address the risk of contraband entering correctional centres. These include:

- X-Ray body scanners
- Osprey aerial contraband and drone detection systems
- Mobile phone jamming at Lithgow and Goulburn Correctional Centres
- Mobile phone detection poles
- Mobile phone detection dogs
- Daily searches of inmates' cells
- Intelligence based operations
- Monthly correctional centre-wide searches
- Harsher sanctions for inmates found in possession of mobile phones

Question 3 – Contraband (page 5)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I will ask about other contraband. I understand you have talked about the mail. I understand that is an issue with drugs. But what other contraband have you found? You can take this on notice but, if you have it, I would appreciate the numbers, for example, of drugs that you have found, and weapons?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I would have to take that on notice if it is drugs and weapons you are looking at.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: All kinds of contraband. The details of all of it.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Sure. Yes, we certainly can.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Can you give us some information now?

KEVIN CORCORAN: We do thousands of searches a year, so obviously there is a lot of contraband found.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: But I am sure you record what you find and I am sure there are details that you can provide.

KEVIN CORCORAN: We absolutely do.

Dr GEOFF LEE: We are happy to take it on notice, Tara.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Sure. The numbers you can take on notice.

Dr GEOFF LEE: Just so we give you the numbers, that's all.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Sure, but what other things have you found over the course of, say, the last year?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Certainly tobacco is very popular as contraband and just drugs in general. I guess the drug of choice at the moment is buprenorphine strips. They are very difficult to detect, but we have had some success with the X-ray body scanners in detecting visitors bringing buprenorphine strips into facilities.

Dr GEOFF LEE: USBs, for some reason. I don't know why they are bringing USBs in.

KEVIN CORCORAN: USBs, yes.

Dr GEOFF LEE: If they don't have a computer, it is pretty hard to use a USB, I would have thought.

KEVIN CORCORAN: There are all sorts of things smuggled in or made in prison that we find in searches. We also have dogs that can sniff out mobile phones as well. So we're doing absolutely everything we can to make prisons as safe a place as possible for staff and inmates.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: What kinds of things are being made? There are home-brew alcohol or drug products, for want of a better way of describing them, and then I'll come to weapons after that.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes, that doesn't seem to be featuring too much, the alcoholic brews, in finds. But certainly the weapons that they make internally to protect themselves.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: What are some examples?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Well they choose, generally, iron bars that are sharpened at the end.

LEON TAYLOR: Toothbrush.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Toothbrush, yes. Anything they can get their hands on to make a weapon.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Can you tell me some circumstances where those have been found over the course of last year? Again, you'll give me numbers and details on notice, which I appreciate.

Answer:

Please refer to Attachment 1, Table 2.

Question 4 – assaults on inmates (page 13)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Assaults on inmates, inmate to inmate, have you got numbers on that for the past year?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: You'll take it on notice?

KEVIN CORCORAN: No wonder I couldn't find it.

Dr GEOFF LEE: It's not in the folder. We'll take that on notice and get back to the Committee.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: If you can give me an overall number, as well as by facility. It would be great to get it by this afternoon, but I'm sure your team will be working on that.

Answer:

Please refer to Attachment 2.

Question 5 – use of force incidents and breaches of policy (page 13)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I want to ask about your use-of-force policy. I assume the one that I have is currently in place. Is there any work being done on that? Do you stand by the current policy?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes, I do.

Dr GEOFF LEE: I was going to say it's an operational issue. The commissioner is best to—you wouldn't want a politician to run everything. Certainly, the commissioner is the expert, and his team are the experts, in looking at the operational policy, which I know he looks at on a regular basis and he upgrades it as required.

KEVIN CORCORAN: It has been the subject of a lot of consideration over the last few years. We had a steering committee that was looking at the implementation of recommendations as a result of a number of inquiries. We formed a use-of-force committee that meets regularly and reviews every use of force, which is divided into tiers. They're reviewed first by the governors of the centres and then referred through to the committee if they meet a certain threshold. We are able to examine those and determine whether they're meeting the policy or whether we need to have a look at that and investigate that further.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Are there any that haven't met the policy? Are there any events or incidents in recent times that have caused you to review the policy?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Not to review the policy, but there have been incidents of use of force that don't meet our policies. They have been referred through to investigation. In some instances, officers have been referred for misconduct.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: How many times has that happened?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I'll have to take that one on notice.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: If you can take the numbers and whatever details you can provide?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Your officers went on strike in August because of an issue in this regard.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I'm not going to discuss an issue that is before the court, so I don't want the details about that. I want to ask if that has caused any reason to review the policy?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Obviously, we, as an executive, have been looking at this very closely over the last five or six months. In the same context, I really don't want to comment on—

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I'm not asking about the specifics, but I'm asking about any reviews.

KEVIN CORCORAN: I can certainly brief you outside of this on what we are contemplating. But it would be inappropriate to say anything at this stage in public.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Which I can appreciate. I am genuinely not asking for specifics but in general terms about reviews. Anytime there is an incident I would have thought that these things are looked at and reviewed. I think that's an appropriate thing to do. You should treat these things as living, breathing documents because you always have to have best practice in place. I'll accept that because I know this is going to sound weird for the transcript. I don't want to talk about the specific matter that's before the courts, but I do want to make sure that these things are being looked at.

KEVIN CORCORAN: They're definitely being looked at very seriously, with the intent to make sure that staff are in the best possible position to understand their responsibilities and that we have the mechanisms in place to support staff.

Answer:

I am advised:

In the 2021/2022 financial year, the Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW) Professional Standards Branch received 13 referrals regarding allegations of excessive/unlawful use of force.

Of these 13 matters, five matters have been closed due to insufficient evidence and eight matters remain ongoing.

No changes have made to the CSNSW Use of Force policy arising from these incidents.

Question 6 – Coronial inquest recommendations and placing Aboriginal inmates on country (page 17)

The ACTING CHAIR: Minister, have you read the most recent Coroner's report?

Dr GEOFF LEE: Which one, sorry?

The ACTING CHAIR: The 2021 Coroner's report that was tabled in relation to the findings around a Wiradjuri man, Bailey Mackander, and the tragic circumstances of that young chap. Did you find the Coroner's findings concerning? She made findings particularly on the risk intervention team and the management plan. In her words, "He was expected to tough it out. Suck it up." In the most significant part of those findings, Minister, if this will assist, she said: These findings and recommendations will not stop the courts sending young Baileys to prison. They will not cause the correctional system to cater for all kinds in better and more ways or cause the government to invest more money in alternatives so that young people with drug problems are not treated like criminals and I suspect they will not even result in better mental health and psychological support in prisons which are full of people who need it. But perhaps they will save one or two from being placed in a RIT cell to battle their demons alone.

Dr GEOFF LEE: I will ask Commissioner Corcoran to talk about that specific case in terms of our response to the Coroner's findings.

KEVIN CORCORAN: What we do with all those Coroner's findings is review them and undertake to deal with them. That is a process that we are going through at the moment. I don't believe we have concluded that process on that particular individual.

The ACTING CHAIR: But you are cognisant of the findings around this risk intervention team and the way they conduct these brutal, quite gruesome, heartless and quiet foul plans, perhaps, for people dealing with chronic mental health issues?

KEVIN CORCORAN: We do our best. I think it is probably not a good way to describe it, but they are teams that look at an individual's circumstances and come up with the best opportunity to protect that particular individual. We are looking at other mechanisms to deal with people in those unfortunate circumstances where they are at risk of self-harm. In fact, we are looking at a whole range of plans, but we are also looking at some technologies which will enable us to put people into a normal circumstance, in a cell, with access to the normal things that they would have in a cell, rather than taking everything off them. That is work that we are actively looking at at the moment. In fact, we have a trial kicking off in the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre at the moment. I might hand over to Assistant Commissioner Taylor to talk about that trial.

LEON TAYLOR: We mentioned a couple of the other technologies that we are trialling. The commissioner, as one of his strategic priorities that the executive is really focused on, is reducing deaths in custody, and that is all deaths in custody. The trial that the commissioner mentioned is at the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre. It uses radar technology fitted within the light fitting to monitor inmates 24/7 while they are in their cell in a very unobtrusive way. It is not a camera; it is a radar. It detects vital signs in real time. We have deployed it into one cell and it is working. We are deploying it into six cells at the moment and it appears very successful at the moment.

Telstra is leading that trial. It has all the strength of its research and development behind it, and a couple of international partners. That technology, along with our risk intervention protocols that we use for managing at-risk inmates, is part of a suite of measures that are working to that strategic priority of doing everything we can to reduce the deaths in custody for those who are identified as at risk, but also for inmates who have not necessarily been identified as at risk—methods that we can use, in a cost-effective way, to monitor inmates' health, be it through self-harm or even natural causes, so that we can intervene when people in our care become unwell for any reason.

KEVIN CORCORAN: But it is all about making sure that we can treat people appropriately and not take everything off them, which is what we have had to do in the past to protect them from self-harm.

Dr GEOFF LEE: Can I say, for the benefit of you, Chair, if you like, my office has just informed me that on that specific case we have some note that will be brought down and we can further our response, if you like? I think they are going to bring it down.

The ACTING CHAIR: Thank you very much. I think it is in everyone's best interest if this is brought to the cold light of day because the reading, as everyone knows—and it was featured—even brought the Coroner to absolute tears and despair with this case and this tragic loss of a young person's life. What about simple things, can I just ask? Sorry, I don't mean to trivialise it at all, but it seemed like a relatively achievable but tangible measure to me—for somebody coming into this space relatively recently—when a First Nations prisoner is asked, or where we ask and their family asks if they could be placed in a facility that is on country that they belong to and that is close to family. Recently I wrote to you and you said no, that wasn't possible. It wasn't remotely clear to me why it wasn't possible. It was simply an answer of, "No, we've looked at that and we are satisfied he is in the appropriate facility." It's literally not an appropriate facility because there is a desire to be on country, wherever you are and in whatever condition.

Dr GEOFF LEE: I think they'll give me a note about that specific letter, the one that I remember you writing to me about that. I'll just check. I think—and I'll be corrected later on if I make a mistake, because I wouldn't like to mislead you—that that inmate did not want to be located on country, and they wanted to be located where they were. They didn't want to move back on country where they came from. But, in general, I would suggest to you—barring operational risks or operational requirements, and I'll let the commissioner talk about the placing of prisons—we do amazing things in terms of locating people right around the State. In fact, we often accept or recommend people who transfer to go to other jurisdictions and territories to actually locate them in the best possible environment, where they want and their choice. Obviously that's not always possible with 12½-odd thousand prisoners, but we do what we can to locate them in the best possible place.

Our whole focus is that the incarceration is the punishment that the judicial system has ordered. What we're trying to do is rehabilitate people to give them the best chance of not offending again so, when they come out, they can just go back into society and live as productive members. But in general I'd say we go to great lengths to, whenever we can, accommodate the wishes of our inmates in terms of moves. But I'm more than happy for the commissioner—

Answer:

I am advised:

Information about specific coronial recommendations and responses, can be found on the NSW Department of Communities and Justice, Government Responses to Coronial Recommendations webpage.

In accordance with the Correctives Services NSW (CSNSW) Classification and Placement policy, where possible, CSNSW endeavours to place and maintain Aboriginal people on country connected to immediate family, relative and kin. CSNSW takes a holistic approach when considering placement of inmates, assessing all elements, including safety, security, program needs, work opportunities, education needs and/or health requirements. CSNSW has a dedicated Aboriginal team that provide advice on placement of Aboriginal inmates, taking all factors into consideration.

Question 7 – staff culture (page 21)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Going back to the process of dealing with the complaints that have come in, were there any consequences? Has anyone been sacked as a result of allegations? Has anyone been reprimanded in any way?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Well, yes, they have. If you want details, we will have to take that on notice.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: You can take it on notice, but I can also give you examples and case studies. I spoke to a person last week who raised issues of assault—or sexual harassment, sorry. I'll have to decide if I name the facility, but she was threatened with a weapon.

Answer:

I am advised:

The 570 sexual harassment complaints and 1,647 bullying and harassment complaints referred to by the Hon Tara Moriarty on page 19 were anonymous responses to the 2020 People Matter Employment survey, rather than formal complaints to CSNSW. Please refer to pages 19 to 21 of the transcript for the Commissioner's response setting out actions taken to address key 2020 survey results.

Question 8 – Mr Brett Fitzpatrick (page 24)

Dr GEOFF LEE: Chair, if it aids yourself or the Opposition, we're more than happy to offer a briefing on that specific—there are a few technical things that we have to work through. That's the difficulty. An ex gratia payment, I believe, is warranted.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: You have to pay him. This is ridiculous. You have to sort this out.

Dr GEOFF LEE: I agree. Personally, I agree. I just have to work through the process, and we're more than happy after this Committee to offer a briefing about what has transpired, but we've put a lot of work in to try and resolve this matter in favour of Mr Fitzpatrick.

Answer:

I am advised:

This application remains under consideration in accordance with the requirements of the *Government Sector Finance Act 2018*.

Question 9 – funding for removal of hanging points (page 27)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: To continue with that line, it's not happening fast enough and that is, I accept, because of the budget. So if I'm reading this year's budget correctly, you've got \$6 million this year to do that?

LEON TAYLOR: Yes. I think—and I'm happy to answer on notice—there is another \$2 million to make that \$8 million, that has been made available for that program through the DCJ minor works program.

Answer:

I am advised:

There is a total of \$8 million allocated to cell refurbishment works in the 2022/23 financial year.

Question 10 Number of cells refurbished (page 27)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Does that mean this financial year there'll be 600 more cells with all of that done, based on this budget?

KEVIN CORCORAN: They won't have that. We'll have to go for separate funding for that.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: This is the new furniture and taking stuff off the walls?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes. But in reality, when you ask how many cells we have got left, some of those cells are cells that we want to retire as well. We don't want to be throwing good money away after—it's a very expensive process. We want to make sure that we come up with something that's going to work properly. We've got other mechanisms where we would only put people that weren't at risk into those particular cells. Have you got a number?

LEON TAYLOR: I'm happy to respond on notice. There are around 5,500 cells that are between 1880 and the early 2000s. I'm happy to respond on notice. If all of those needed a full refurb, at 600 a year, that's eight or 10 years, but it's a little more nuanced than that, Ms Moriarty.

Answer:

I am advised:

There are approximately 8,500 maximum and medium security cells in NSW prisons. Of these, approximately:

- 43% were constructed between 1880 and 2000
- 17% were constructed between 2000 and 2015
- 40% were constructed between 2016 and 2021

Cells constructed prior to 2000 typically require the complete refurbishment of the cell to remove obvious hanging points.

Cells constructed between 2000 and 2015 typically require modest refurbishment work to remove obvious hanging points.

Cells constructed after 2015 are compliant with the current cell standards and do not require refurbishment.

Subject to funding, a program to refurbish all maximum and medium security cells constructed prior to 2016, at a rate of 600 cells per year, would take around 9 years to complete.

Question 11 – Project 800 – training statistics (page 30)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: How many people started training but didn't complete it?

MICHAEL TIDBALL: I do not have that on me.

Dr GEOFF LEE: We'll take it on notice, unless someone has that.

Answer:

Refer to page 31 of the transcript for the answer.

Question 12 – metropolitan and region recruitment – Project 800 (page 30)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: What's the breakdown? Because this was going to be— correct me if I'm wrong, but the project was supposed to be spread. Your facilities are spread across regional New South Wales—

KEVIN CORCORAN: They are, yes.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: —and metropolitan. What's the breakdown in terms of recruitment? Is it easier, I assume, to fill the roles in metropolitan Sydney compared to regional New South Wales. How is that going?

KEVIN CORCORAN: It certainly is. We're having significant difficulties getting regional applicants.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Can you give us a breakdown on the numbers recruited? You can take it on notice if you want.

Dr GEOFF LEE: We'll take it on notice.

KEVIN CORCORAN: I meet every couple of weeks with the team that's responsible for this and those numbers—we can take it on notice, but in the region of like 40 or 50 here that are vacant in those regional areas. So it really is difficult to continue staffing those areas at the moment, which results in lockdowns and things of that nature.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: That is a problem that I'm going to come to because there are some that are suffering that more than others. Just to wrap up on this project, I accept you'll take it on notice, but what are we thinking, like 80 per cent are metropolitan?

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes. I'd have to take that one on notice, but we're having a lot more luck getting people into metropolitan vacancies than we are in regional. Regional is a real problem. We've undertaken a lot of different mechanisms to try to interest people. That's almost 7,000 people that have applied. The bar is set, as the Minister said, higher because—

Answer:

I am advised:

As at 31 October 2022, 362 positions have been filled:

- 143 positions in regional NSW
- 219 in metropolitan NSW including Newcastle and Wollongong

There are currently 263 vacancies in correctional centres that are the subject of recruitment:

- 181 in Regional NSW
- 82 in Metropolitan NSW including Newcastle and Wollongong

134 people are currently undertaking custodial primary training with the Brush Farm Corrective Services Academy.

Question 13 – recruitment of psychologists (page 39)

The Hon. Tara MORIARTY: Yes, it's a problem everywhere with that profession. I know there's not enough of them to go around. How are you going with it? How many vacancies are there? Where are they?

JENNIFER GALOUZIS: I would have to take that on notice. I wouldn't want to give you the wrong answer. But I do have those figures—just not with me at the moment.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Sure. That would be good.

JENNIFER GALOUZIS: When we started that campaign about 12 months ago—it has been very successful, but we still have a gap because we increased the number of positions that we had. The percentage is still higher than we would like it to be. But I'll take that on notice for the exact number.

Answer:

I am advised:

As at 31 October 2022, there were 42 entry level psychologist vacancies from a total of 185 roles (24.3% vacancy rate): 10 program-specific vacancies (Violent Offender programs, Sex Offender Program and Counter Violent Extremism) and 32 services-specific vacancies in correctional and community locations across NSW.

Question 14 – private areas for appointments (page 40)

JENNIFER GALOUZIS: If I can add to that too, one of the other initiatives we have is around technology, so using building alcoves within those regional centres so that people can access psychologists in the metropolitan area. We don't necessarily need psychologists at every single prison. We can still provide that emergency access and access to appointments to try and reduce the number of cancellations.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: This is a private room where people can meet with a medical professional online.

JENNIFER GALOUZIS: Or a psychologist.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: How many facilities do you have those facilities in?

JENNIFER GALOUZIS: I would have to take that on notice.

KEVIN CORCORAN: Yes, I'm not sure if I have that in the notes. Yes, we will have to take that one on notice.

Answer:

I am advised:

Corrective Services NSW offers psychology services and therapeutic group programs via videoconferencing on a platform called LiViT. **LiViT** stands for **Live** (each service or program is delivered by trained staff in real time), **Virtual** (it's online and can be accessed almost anywhere) and **Therapeutic** (services and programs are designed to reduce reoffending and assist in behaviour change).

LiViT Studios are purpose built and designed to support access to programs, psychology and education. There are currently 12 LiViT Studios across 6 correctional centres with plans to implement at additional locations.

In addition, there are Audio Visual Link (AVL) suites available for professional appointments at 35 NSW correctional centres.

Question 15 – retention of x-ray scans (page 42)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: That is still extraordinary. Why would you have to keep a scan for 45 years? You would know at that moment in time if there was an issue with the scan, if someone had something on their person.

KEVIN CORCORAN: No, it's not that. It's the fact that it's a radiation-producing device that's not being used for medical purposes; it is being used for security purposes. I think that's why the EPA chose to—

LEON TAYLOR: We can come back on notice. The EPA regulate us in this space.

Answer:

I am advised:

Retention periods are set by the State Archives and Records Authority (SARA), not CSNSW. CSNSW is guided by the relevant periods set by SARA when storing information, including x-ray scans.

Question 16 – complaints about access to disability assistance (page 45)

The ACTING CHAIR: How many messages, concerns, complaints, records are made to you? Just give us a wild estimate. How many are made to you or your governors about people with disability, in need of assistance, or not having what they believe they need?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I personally don't get a huge amount. I get complaints from people about placement, generally, as opposed to, you know, they want to go to another facility, or the parents would like them closer to them or something of that nature. But in terms of disabilities, not a huge amount, but I would have to take it on notice in terms of the numbers that are coming through to governors or to senior personnel in the agency.

Answer:

I am advised:

CSNSW estimates that approximately six formal complaints about inmates with disabilities are dealt with annually. However, CSNSW deals with a range of enquiries about inmate needs (not necessarily complaints) from inmates, solicitors, families and service providers which are not tracked centrally.

Question 17 – action against staff for unfair treatment of people with disabilities (page 45)

The ACTING CHAIR: I think that was the same study that found that there are high incidences of these people being kept in solitary confinement. But, yes, that is extremely good to know. Have you had to take any disciplinary action against anybody—I know that definition can be quite broad, but any action against anybody that has been found within the system for, perhaps, unfairly treating somebody with a disability?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I've not heard of any disciplinary action taken against anybody, but we can certainly take that one on notice because we could be talking 10 or 20 years ago. I wasn't around then. It may have occurred.

The ACTING CHAIR: Well, I'm talking perhaps more recently—in the last five years, I suppose. Because it's just that the studies are finding that this is a tendency. But if it's happening but we're not addressing it and we don't have actual instances of addressing it, that would perhaps suggest that it's not—

KEVIN CORCORAN: Detected, possibly.

The ACTING CHAIR: Yes. That would be good if we could know. Because if it is happening, then obviously it's important that it is being addressed. Obviously I don't want to know the names of anyone.

Answer:

I am advised:

CSNSW does not currently collect data in a way that can answer this question.

Question 18 – Mothers and Babies Unit – page 49

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Yes, I am happy to do that. We talked briefly about Emu Plains this morning, and we have talked about it before. What's happening with the mothers and babies unit? What's happening? What are the plans? It is being reviewed, yes?

KEVIN CORCORAN: I'm very keen on making sure that that facility is used to a much greater extent than it has been in the past. The restrictions on it in the past have been that it's like a minimum security area, so we can't be putting all sorts of classifications in there. I've asked Assistant Commissioner Taylor to come up with a plan to rectify that. What we're trying to do is put a fence far enough out from the facility so it doesn't impact on the aesthetics. I've even asked for it to be painted in a certain colour so it blends in with the background. What that will enable us to do is put inmates of all classifications into that. I'm hoping we can get up to that number of about 15 mothers with their children in that facility.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Is there a time line on that?

KEVIN CORCORAN: A time line?

LEON TAYLOR: I will take that one on notice. We are in the planning phase. It's a funded project, so I'll take that on notice.

Answer:

I am advised:

CSNSW has engaged the University of Newcastle to undertake a review of the program to explore ways to enable a larger cohort of women to participate, which may include women in higher security classifications and remand inmates.

The planned completion date for the renovation works is 30 June 2023.

Question 19 – numbers of people on Community Corrections orders (page 53)

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: I'm going to just come back to the community corrections questions I was raising before the lunchbreak. I want to just get some information about up-to-date numbers for people, first of all, who are on community corrections orders. Hopefully you've got some sort of breakdown or you can take it on notice.

SANDRA CRAWFORD: In terms of the numbers of people on the different types of orders, I do have those for 2021-22. Is that what you're seeking?

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: More up to date than that.

SANDRA CRAWFORD: In terms of more up-to-date figures, I would need to take that on notice.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: That's fine. I think the most recent published ones are up to March. That's what I have, so whatever you have between then and now. If you can give it to me broken down by the types of orders.

SANDRA CRAWFORD: Sure. We can do that by intensive corrections orders, community corrections orders, conditional release orders and parole.

The Hon. TARA MORIARTY: Yes please, and if you can do it by gender and Aboriginal people as well.

SANDRA CRAWFORD: Yes.

Answer: As at 1 November 2022

	Community Correction Orders	Intensive Correction Order	Parole	Conditional Release Orders
Male				
Aboriginal	1895	857	1150	92
Non-Aboriginal	4912	2635	2383	256
Unknown	287	54	4	62
Sub total male	7094	3546	3537	410
Female				
Aboriginal	658	288	131	62
Non-Aboriginal	959	505	201	95
Unknown	82	17	0	29
Sub total female	1699	810	332	186
Total	8793	4356	3869	596

** order type is based on order conditions. Unknown gender excluded.*

CORRECTIVE SERVICES NSW

Response date: 2/11/2022

CRES reference: Request_716

Table 1: Number of mobile phones found in prisons for calendar year 1 January 2022 to 24 October 2022

Agency Location	Description	Mobile phones
BTH	BATHURST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	9
CLA	CLARENCE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
COO	COOMA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	3
DDL	DAWN DE LOAS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	2
OMPC	GEOFFREY PEARCE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	25
GNS	GLEN INNES CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
HUN	HUNTER CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
JM1	JOHN MORONY 1 CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
MAN	MANNUS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	15
MWCC	MARY WADE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	2
MRR	METRO REMAND AND RECEPTION CENTRE	2
MSP	METROPOLITAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS CENTRE	2
MNC	MID NORTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	7
OBE	OBERON CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
PKA	PARKLEA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	19
SHLD	SHORTLAND CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	2
STHC	SOUTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
MBK	ST HELIERS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	17
TAM	TAMWORTH CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	1
Total		112

Table 2: All contraband located in prisons for the last 12 months to 24 October 2022

Agency Location	Description	Drugs and related*	Mobile phones	Weapons	Total**
BTH	BATHURST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	224	10	78	399
BRO	BROKEN HILL CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	11	0	3	20
CES	CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	72	1	17	125
CLA	CLARENCE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	251	3	88	536
CDT	COMPULSORY DRUG TREATMENT CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	18	1	0	39
COO	COOMA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	49	3	3	71
DDL	DAWN DE LOAS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	42	4	4	83
DIL	DILLWYNIA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	49	0	2	88
EMU	EMU PLAINS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	0	0	0	2
OMPC	GEOFFREY PEARCE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	68	30	4	171
GNS	GLEN INNES CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	11	1	8	38
GLB	GOULBURN CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	63	0	22	105
HRM	HIGH RISK MANAGEMENT CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	0	0	7	9
HUN	HUNTER CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	42	1	3	63
JM1	JOHN MORONY 1 CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	58	2	32	137
JUN	JUNEE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	146	0	67	329
KIR	KIRKCONNELL CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	2	0	1	10
LGW	LITHGOW CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	64	0	34	115
LBH	LONG BAY HOSPITAL	17	1	22	55
MCQ	MACQUARIE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	41	0	10	74
MAN	MANNUS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	63	15	0	127
MWCC	MARY WADE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	11	5	1	33
MRR	METRO REMAND AND RECEPTION CENTRE	114	2	43	218
MSP	METROPOLITAN SPECIAL PROGRAMS CENTRE	47	2	30	124
MNC	MID NORTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	242	7	108	502
OBE	OBERON CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	21	1	7	46
PKA	PARKLEA CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	285	19	144	678
SHLD	SHORTLAND CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	165	2	60	304
MUL	SILVERWATER WOMENS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	146	0	4	181
STHC	SOUTH COAST CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	114	3	46	233
MBK	ST HELIERS CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	116	18	10	208
TAM	TAMWORTH CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	65	1	3	90
WEL	WELLINGTON CORRECTIONAL CENTRE	51	0	10	79
Total		2668	132	871	5292

Note: * Drugs and related includes Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia items

** Total figures refer to all contraband incidents recorded.

*** A single incident of contraband discovery can result in multiple categories of contraband being recorded.

CORRECTIVE SERVICES NSW

Response date: 2/11/2022

CRES reference: D22_717

Table 1: Assaults on inmates by assault type in correctional centres for the last 12 months(from 24/10/2021 to24/10/2022).

Note: * According to ROGS, assaults on inmate represent the number of inmate injured in incidents involving violence (both assaults and fights)

** Assault type is categorized by the physical injury level : Serious, Assault (the figures provided not including 'No Injury').

Correctional Centre	Assault Type		Total
	Assault	Serious	
Bathurst Correctional Centre	147	5	152
Broken Hill Correctional Centre	8	0	8
Cessnock Correctional Centre	43	0	43
Clarence Correctional Centre	310	4	314
Cooma Correctional Centre	21	0	21
Dawn De Loas Correctional Centre	15	0	15
Dillwynia Correctional Centre	78	0	78
Emu Plains Correctional Centre	2	0	2
Geoffrey Pearce Correctional Centre	17	0	17
Glen Innes Correctional Centre	1	0	1
Goulburn Correctional Centre	60	3	63
High Risk Management Correctional Centre	4	0	4
Hunter Correctional Centre	28	0	28
John Morony Correctional Centre (I)	72	2	74
Junee Correctional Centre	210	4	214
Kirkconnell Correctional Centre	12	1	13
Lithgow Correctional Centre	40	3	43
Long Bay Hospital Area 1	32	0	32
Macquarie Correctional Centre	19	0	19
Mannus Correctional Centre	3	0	3
Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre	198	3	201
Metropolitan Special Programs Centre	58	2	60
Mid North Coast Correctional Centre	168	4	172
Oberon Correctional Centre	5	1	6
Parklea Correctional Centre	363	5	368
Shortland Correctional Centre	150	1	151
Silverwater Womens Correctional Centre	36	0	36
South Coast Correctional Centre	124	1	125
St Heliers Correctional Centre	8	0	8
Tamworth Correctional Centre	7	0	7
Wellington Correctional Centre	52	2	54
Grand Total	2291	41	2332