

## **Support for Children of Imprisoned Parents**

**Hearing – 14 May 2021**

### **Supplementary question**

#### **QUESTION**

1. What diversion and drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs are available to imprisoned parents in NSW?
  - a) Would there be a benefit to providing residential drug and alcohol treatment for mothers in Jacaranda Cottages?
  - b) Can you outline the drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs that are available to people on community-based orders?
  - c) Is the Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) program being fully utilised?
    - i. Does this program adequately cover remote, regional and metropolitan areas?

#### **ANSWER**

1. (a) – (c)

Corrective Services NSW is responsible for delivering psychosocial interventions and programs for people in custody. This question should be referred to Corrective Services NSW.

MERIT is a voluntary, pre-plea program for adults in the Local Court who have issues related to their alcohol and other drug use. MERIT is available at 62 Local Courts in NSW. There is at least one MERIT team in each local health district.