



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

BUDGET ESTIMATES 2019-2020 Supplementary Questions

Portfolio Committee No. 5– Legal Affairs

COUNTER TERRORISM AND CORRECTIONS

Hearing: Wednesday 4 March 2020

Answers due by: Thursday, 1 April 2020

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CORRECTIONS

Questions from Mr David Shoebridge MLC

Prison officer training and complaints

1. Regarding prison officer shifts you have advised that in publicly operated prisons “If all other options have been exhausted and in emergency situations, staff may work beyond 16 hours continuously until they can be relieved” – how many occasions did officers work more than 16 hours in the last year?

Private prisons

2. How much of the infrastructure expenditure in the last financial year was expended for private prisons?
3. What is the total cost per prisoner day in the private prisons in NSW?
4. What is the total cost per prisoner day in the public prisons in NSW?
5. How many inmates are currently in private prisons in NSW?
6. Of these how many are on remand?
7. How many inmates are currently in public prisons in NSW?
8. Of these how many are on remand?

Women in prison with children

9. What data is collected on the amount of visits mothers get with their dependent children with a view to providing assistance and programs where needed?

Double up cells

10. How many cells and which kinds are over capacity?

Prisons and COVID-19

11. What plans are in place for protecting inmates and prison officers from exposure to COVID-19?
12. How vulnerable are prisons to outbreaks?
13. Are there plans to suspend visits to inmates to protect from outbreaks?
14. What alternative arrangements will be put in place to ensure inmates continue to have meaningful contact with their families?
15. Will isolation of infected prisoners be possible?

16. Will this primarily involve lock down procedures?
17. What plans are there to ensure inmates can still have time out of cells even if outbreaks occur in prisons?
18. What enforcement of hygiene procedures is anticipated?
19. How many cases would it take for prison hospital facilities to be over capacity?
20. What plans are currently in place to deal with this?
21. Given the experience in China showed prison officers incompletely reported their contact history and that this caused outbreaks that affected hundreds of inmates and officers, what additional directions and protections have you provided to prison officers?
22. The Italian experience showed that the tension of reduced family visits and the knowledge of inmates greater vulnerability to viruses caused riots in multiple facilities, what steps are you taking to ensure inmates have the appropriate support, information and protection to guard against unrest?