

Page 3

The Hon Charlie Lynn: What were the staffing levels at Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007?

Staffing levels at Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre were as follows:

- 2003/04 113.33 FTE
- 2004/05 116.83 FTE
- 2005/06 139.24 FTE
- 2006/07 149.23 FTE

All figures are provided by financial year and include permanent, temporary and casual Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees.

Page 4

The Hon David Clarke: Have there been other lockdowns? (*in other centres other than Cobham due to staff shortages*)

There have not been lockdowns at other centres due to staff shortages.

Page 5

The Hon David Clarke: When you say your representative met with a lot of people, was that a lot of people over this issue of the office being relocated with the police youth centre?

The Hon David Clarke: Thank you, and who those parents purported to represent. Were they representing organisations or were they representing other parents?

On 26 September 2007 the department's Regional Director, Northern Region met with the Tweed Heads Pre-school Executive, interested parents, Police and Police Citizen Youth Club representatives. The Department of Community Services were also contacted and liaised with.

I understand that of the parents who attended the meeting, one was the pre-schools' President, one was the Treasurer and two were parents of pre-schoolers. The pre-school's Director also attended the meeting.

Page 7

The Hon David Clarke: That is something to consider but would you take on notice this issue and provide us with information that you have on all those employed at Cobham detention facility who have been placed on this register?

Ms Mason: adding to what the Minister said, I am happy to provide some detail, but I would prefer not to name people or disclose their details.

The Hon David Clarke: the statistics, the numbers?

Ms Mason: yes, sure.

The Hon David Clarke: and the nature of the charges?

Ms Mason: Yes, I can do that too.

In the 2006/2007 Financial Year, five staff members from Cobham JJC were reported to the CCYP as Category Two notifications. Four staff were notified in relation to issues of neglect and one in relation to assault on a detainee.

From 1 July 2007 to 31 October 2007 two staff members from Cobham JJC have been notified to the CCYP as Category 2.

Page 12

Ms Sylvia Hale: How many of those were in custody for the second or third time? What was the recidivism rate?

Ms Sylvia Hale: Would you also take on notice the proportion in each of those aged categories that were in maximum security, medium security or minimum security?

The re-offending rate for young people on sentenced orders is 63.9% within 12 months.

This figure is for young people who received a control order in 2003-04 and is the most recent figure available. The re-offending rate is calculated on convictions or conferences for offences committed after release from custody.

This information is sourced from the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research - Re-Offending Database (ROD).

The percentage of young people in custody on 22 October 2007, by classification and age group, was:

10 – 15 years

- High A1(b) 2%
- High A1(o) 0.6%
- High/Medium (A2) 4.1%
- Medium (B1) 12.5%
- Low/Medium (B2) 2.6%
- Low (B3) 4.4%

16 – 18 years

- High A1(b) 0.3%
- High A1(o) 0%
- High/Medium (A2) 12%
- Medium (B1) 22.4%
- Low/Medium (B2) 5.8%

- Low (B3) 16%

19 years and older

- High A1(b) 0%
- High A1(o) 0%
- High/Medium (A2) 0.3%
- Medium (B1) 0.3%
- Low/Medium (B2) 1.2%
- Low (B3) 0%

Page 14

Ms Sylvia Hale: Of those who are on remand, how many are subsequently released from detention and how many are incarcerated or detained for some time?

In 2006/07, 17.8% of young people who were in remand subsequently received a control order within 12 months.

Page 17

The Hon David Clarke: Can you confirm that at least 50 caseworkers at Cobham facility have resigned this year?

The Hon David Clarke: Are you aware of any problem involving a large number of resignations?

The Hon David Clarke: Are you aware of a large number of resignations from the facility (*Cobham*)?

The Hon David Clarke: Have you heard of one instance of bullying or misconduct or a number of instances at the Cobham Facility?

Between 1 January 2007 and 30 October 2007 I am advised there were twenty-three (23) staff separations from Cobham.

Of those 23 staff:

- Four (4) people resigned or were dismissed as a result of Professional Conduct investigations
- Ten (10) people found alternative employment in other areas, including transfers or promotions to other government departments
- Five (5) people relocated intra/interstate
- One person (1) ceased accepting casual shifts
- Two people (2) died, not work related
- One person (1) accepted medical retirement

In 2006-2007 there were two disciplinary investigations and one protected disclosure investigation dealing with, amongst other allegations, specific allegations of staff bullying at the Cobham facility.

The protected disclosure allegation investigation was found to be without substance. Two staff members subject to the bullying allegations subsequently resigned in September 2007.

Page 21

The Hon David Clarke: Was a prisoner convicted of murder transferred from a juvenile detention centre to an adult prison?

During the 2006/2007 financial year 1 detainee convicted of murder was transferred from juvenile detention to adult corrections.

The detainee was transferred to adult custody at the expiration of his Section 19 order, on his twenty first birthday, which ordered him to serve the first part of his sentence in a juvenile detention centre. His transfer to an adult correctional centre was a routine transport movement in line with an order of the Court.

Page 22

Ms Sylvia Hale: What is the proportion of people who have not moved on to certificate IV and those who have moved on and above it?

Ms Sylvia Hale: What is the average turnover of trained workers in the centres each year?

Ms Sylvia Hale: And if you could do it for the last three or four years?

I am advised that the Department of Juvenile Justice introduced the Certificate IV qualification in November 2004.

Twenty five percent (25%) of centre and transport staff have attained this qualification and fifty-seven percent (57%) of centre and transport staff are working towards gaining this qualification.

I am advised the turnover rate for permanent and temporary staff has been:

- 2003/04 12.5%
- 2004/05 9.5%
- 2005/06 10.7%
- 2006/07 11.9%

Vacant positions are often filled by casual staff until permanent/temporary recruitment is completed.

Page 23

Ms Sylvia Hale: How do these figures compare with those of, say three years ago? Are the numbers increasing, decreasing or remaining constant? (*Proportion of detainees over the past 12 months of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background*).

Ms Sylvia Hale: Could you also take on notice how the proportion compares with the level prior to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody?

In 2003/04, 48.8% of young people in custody on control orders, and 39.6% in custody on remand, were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders.

In 2006/07, 54.7% of young people in custody on control orders, and 37.8% in custody on remand, were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders.

This indicates a 5.9% increase in ATSI young people in custody on control orders, and 1.8% decrease in ATSI young people in custody on remand.

The department has no data as the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (1987-1990) pre-dated the establishment of the NSW Department of Juvenile Justice in 1993.

Page 24

Ms Sylvia Hale: I wanted to know the representation of people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background in terms of the degree of security in which they are held, whether they are over-represented in one category as opposed to another.

The percentage of young people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background in custody on 22 October 2007, by classification, was:

- High A1(b) 0.6%
- High/Medium (A2) 8.7%
- Medium (B1) 21.9%
- Low/Medium (B2) 5.5%
- Low (B3) 10.2%

Page 29

Ms Sylvia Hale: Minister, what figures do you have of the level of mortgage defaults in Western Sydney over the last 12 months?

Ms Sylvia Hale: What proportion of renters in Western Sydney is spending more than 30 per percent of their income on rent? That is, how many are under stress?

How many blocks of land are currently available for immediate sale and commencement of building in the Western Sydney growth centres?

(1) - (2) The Office of the Minister for Western Sydney does not collect its own data on mortgage defaults and rental stress.

(3) This question should be directed to the Minister for Planning.