

**WEST KIMBERLEY REGIONAL PRISON**

*Statement by Minister for Corrective Services*

**MR F.M. LOGAN (Cockburn — Minister for Corrective Services)** [12.37 pm]: I would like to take the opportunity to inform the house about the introduction of innovative programs at the West Kimberley Regional Prison to increase prisoner access to training and positive community engagement. The first of these programs is the introduction of a beehive training program that provides training and skills development for prisoners. The program also trains prisoners in the management of beehives, including safety protocols, types of bees, use of equipment and how to extract honey from a hive.

There are currently 12 hives throughout the prison and last year the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development donated \$60 000 worth of semi-commercial industrial extraction equipment to the prison to assist it with its program. As of 1 October 2020, one prisoner had completed a certificate III in beekeeping, with nine male prisoners having completed the introduction to beekeeping program, and five female prisoners scheduled to commence the theory component of the program in the second week of October 2020. Once harvested, the honey is bottled and used to expand the hives. The last extraction produced 70 kilograms of honey from 40 frames and the eventual aim is to supply other sites in the custodial estate with honey.

The second program introduced by the West Kimberley Regional Prison is the Containers for Change program, which allows prisoners to contribute to the community by cleaning up the environment. The money received will go to prison and community projects. Container litter is collected at the Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation collection point for both the Derby and Looma communities. Section 95 prisoners collect the litter from the collection point in Derby and it is then sorted by a five-prisoner team at West Kimberley Regional Prison. The money received is then used to assist with projects such as banners for White Ribbon Day, Mental Health Week posters, materials for wildlife pouches, supplies for bike restoration and donations to the Indigenous day care centre.

I want to thank the staff at West Kimberley Regional Prison for taking the initiative to provide prisoners with broader opportunities for meaningful engagement and, in particular, Superintendent Gemma Barry, who informed me of these initiatives on my most recent visit to the prison.