

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIVE SERVICES — PRISONER TRANSPORTATION POLICY

2395. Ms J. Farrer to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to the Department of Corrective Service's policy that prisoners (even of a minor conviction) are transported in hand and ankle cuffs, and I ask:

- (a) when was this policy implemented;
- (b) how many injuries have arisen from this method during that period; and
- (c) if there have been injuries, can the Minister please detail them?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

The Department of Corrective Services advises:

- (a) The Department has always used restraints during the escort of prisoners dependent on assessed risk to safety and security. Each escort is managed on a risk assessment basis and authorised by the Designated Superintendent in line with the Department's prisoner movement procedures. On this basis, restraints were not routinely applied to minimum security prisoners during escort.

On 21 July 2014, the movements policy was amended to require all prisoners, including minimum security, to be restrained using two points of restraint (i.e. using a combination of hand cuffs, leg chains, or hand cuffed to an officer) at the appropriate times during an escort.
- (b) Data specifically relating to injuries resulting from the use of mechanical restraints during escorts are not recorded in a manner that can readily be accessed for statistical purposes.
- (c) Not applicable.