

DANGEROUS SEXUAL OFFENDERS — CHEMICAL CASTRATION

214. Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General:

I refer to the Attorney General's claims reported in PerthNow on 18 August 2012, while he was shadow Attorney General, that it should be mandatory for dangerous repeat sex offenders to undergo chemical castration before being released, and specifically his remark —

“Without this, the danger to our children far outweighs any consideration or concerns of the offenders,” ...

- (1) Does he maintain the view that all dangerous repeat sex offenders should undergo chemical castration before release, or was that just another of his comments made to pretend to the public that he was tough on criminals?
- (2) If he meant what he said, what steps has he taken to ensure that all dangerous repeat sex offenders undergo chemical castration before release?
- (3) How many dangerous repeat sex offenders have been released during his term of office without having been chemically castrated?
- (4) If he does not maintain that view, why not?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)–(4) The government has introduced a range of amendments to the Dangerous Sexual Offenders Act 2006 and will continue to regularly consider this legislation to ensure that it provides a high level of protection to the community. Chemical castration can include libido-limiting medication, which is required on a case-by-case basis. Some offenders are required to take libido-limiting medication as a condition of their supervision order as determined by the court. However, not all DSOs are able to be administered some form of medication due to underlying medical issues or because the nature of their offending is such that reducing their libido is not considered relevant to reducing their risk of sexual recidivism.

Between 13 March 2017 and 13 March 2019—bearing in mind that this question was lodged on 12 March 2019—as accurately as can be determined on short notice, 10 DSOs were released into the community on supervision orders, with five of those DSOs being released into the community with no condition mandating their use of anti-libidinal medication. Further, one of the 10 DSOs released to community supervision is now deceased. Four DSOs had their supervision orders amended following contravention proceedings, with two of those DSOs being released into the community with no condition mandating their use of anti-libidinal medication. One of those two DSOs is now deceased. No DSOs released in this period have been charged with committing any sex offences since their release on supervision orders.