

PRISONS — DRUG TESTING

2473. Mr P. Papalia to the Minister for Corrective Services:

On how many occasions each year are rounds of random drug urinalysis testing conducted across the prison system?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

Section 26B (1) of the Prisons Regulations 1982 authorises the Superintendent to direct the random testing of prisoners, including urinalysis. Random testing involves capturing a particular percentage across a mixture of prisoners at each prison for urinalysis and provides a gauge of drug usage trends.

As advised in response to Supplementary Information No. A42 asked in Division 68 of Legislative Assembly Estimates Committee A, drug prevalence testing is undertaken four times per year. Targeted testing can and does regularly occur at any time.