

CORRECTIVE SERVICES — ADULT OFFENDERS

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

- (1) What is the current adult prison population?
- (2) What number (expressed both as a raw figure and percentage) of adult offenders entering prison between 1 November 2008 and the present time:
 - (a) have a diagnosed mental illness;
 - (b) are intellectually disabled;
 - (c) have, as a component of their sentence of imprisonment, a sentence of prison time for the failure to pay outstanding fines;
 - (d) are serving a term of imprisonment solely for the failure to pay outstanding fines;
 - (e) were recorded as having no fixed abode at the time of their sentencing; and
 - (f) were sentenced for a crime subject to a maximum penalty of two years or less?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

- (1) As at 7 May 2013, the prison population was 5,003.
- (2) (a)–(b) This information is not recorded in a manner that is easily retrievable. The information is not contained in any electronic form and would require the Department to look at every individual file of a detainee from 1 November 2008 to present. On that basis, the Department can advise on statistics of those being treated by medication, up to 15% of prisoners in the major metropolitan centres have a diagnosed mental illness. However this excludes many as illness such as personality disorder is managed behaviourally rather than through medication.
 - (b) The Department does not routinely screen all prisoners for intellectual disability across the State. As such, it is not possible to provide a clear number. The Department can advise that there were 259 prisoners who entered prison within the specified date range that are identified with a Disability Services Unit Alert on the Department's Total Offender Management Solution database.
- (c) 13,060 cases or 38.62% (including cases with suspension/cancellation of Early Release Orders).
- (d) 5,017 cases or 14.84% (excluding cases where there was a remand warrant current during the imprisonment period). It is noted that such sentences result in only short periods of imprisonment, an average of four days.
- (e) Only 24 cases of 'No Fixed Abode' are recorded. If WA addresses (excluding Aboriginal Community addresses) with a known town/suburb but without a street name are included, the number increases to 1,232 or 3.64%.
- (f) 10,071 cases or 29.78% (excluding Fine Default Only cases but including Suspension/Cancellation Early Release Order). Please note that where the detainee was received more than once each reception is counted.