

FEMALE PRISONERS — RECIDIVISM

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

- (1) What percentage of female adult prisoners re-offend, resulting in a new custodial sentence, after having completed their first custodial sentence (including each exit and/or return, but excluding imprisonment for fine default only and returns for fine default or breach of early release order)?
- (2) What percentage of female adult prisoners re-offend within one year of release, resulting in a new custodial sentence, after having completed their first custodial sentence?
- (3) What percentage of female adult prisoners re-offend within two years of release, resulting in a new custodial sentence, after having completed their first custodial sentence?
- (4) What percentage of female adult prisoners re-offend within five years of release, resulting in a new custodial sentence, after having completed their first custodial sentence?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

- (1) 34.38% of female adult prisoners who were released on or after 1 January 1976 returned to custody. 1 January 1976 is the earliest date of available records on the record keeping system.
- (2)–(4) Any data provided for a particular year of release for offenders would not be statistically significant without having a discrete series of years in order to make a comparison. The member may wish to specify a release year or a series of years in order for statistical comparisons between release cohorts to be made.