

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PRISONS — STAFFING LEVELS

847. Hon ED DERMER to the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer the minister to the current levels of staffing in Western Australian prisons and ask for each Western Australian prison —

- (1) Is the prison fully staffed with staff employed by the Department of Corrective Services and staff employed by other government agencies?
- (2) Does the prison currently have a superintendent on staff?
- (3) Which commissioned officer has overall responsibility for the daily operations within the prison?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

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

- (1) Yes. Each WA public prison is fully staffed with staff employed by the Department of Corrective Services. Acacia Prison is privately run and staff are employed by the private operator, Serco.
- (2) Yes. Each WA public prison, with the exception of Acacia Prison, has a superintendent on staff. Serco at Acacia Prison employs a director, which is the equivalent of the superintendent position in the public prisons. The position is currently occupied on a permanent basis.
- (3) It is unclear what is meant by “commissioned officer”. However, the person responsible for the daily operations of all public prisons in WA is the designated superintendent. The daily operations of Acacia Prison are under the responsibility of the private contractor, Serco Australia Pty Ltd. The director at Acacia Prison has overall responsibility for operations at the facility.