

CORRECTIVE SERVICES — PUPS IN PRISON PROGRAM

19. Mr P. PAPALIA to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I have a supplementary question. Noting that Minister Redman's press release indicated that the program would extend for a further 14 to 16 months, is it not true that the current minister oversaw the extension of the Pups in Prison program at Wooroloo Prison Farm and allowed Neumann to get onto this program?

Mr J.M. FRANCIS replied:

I am not knocking the program. I am not knocking section 95 prisoners. I am not knocking the work that they do. It is a good program. The whole gamut of programs in minimum-security prisons—there are literally hundreds of them out in the community—that allow prisoners to be rehabilitated closer to their release date, including prisoners interacting with animals whether it be —

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, you are not answering the question. I call you to order for the first time.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: Whether it be working with animals at Karnet Prison Farm, training —

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, I call you to order for the second time.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: Regardless of whether the program involves training guide dogs or not, there is a lot of merit in all of them. I will not have a knee-jerk reaction against all of these programs that actually deliver good results. The problem —

Mr P. Papalia interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warnbro, I call you to order for the third time. I would not shout out again if I were you unless you want to have an early afternoon.

Mr J.M. FRANCIS: The problem with what happened in this instance is not caused by the program, but the assessment of the person's eligibility to be out in the community doing the program.