

PRISONER-ON-PRISONER ASSAULTS

4781. Hon Giz Watson to the Minister for Finance representing the Minister for Corrective Services

I refer to the statement by the Attorney General on 21 September 2011 in the other place that ‘the number of serious prisoner-on-prisoner assaults for 2007–2008, 2008–2009, 2009–10 and 2010–11 is 25, 31, four and 16’, and I ask —

- (1) Will you please table full details of all prisoner-on-prisoner assaults in Western Australian prisons and juvenile detention centres for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2011 inclusive, including but not limited to the following (if known) —
 - (a) nature of assault;
 - (b) age of victim;
 - (c) at which prison or juvenile detention centre the assault took place; and
 - (d) whether the victim had newly arrived in the prison or juvenile detention centre (whether as a first time prisoner or as transferee from another facility)?
- (2) Given that prisoners may not feel safe to report assaults while still serving their sentence, how were these statistics obtained?

Hon SIMON O’BRIEN replied:

The Department of Corrective Services (the Department) has separated the response into two parts — for adults and juveniles.

ADULTS

- (1) [See paper 4007.]
 - (a)–(d) It is not feasible to provide the requested information as it would require extensive analysis which would divert an unreasonable portion of the Department’s resources from its day to day business operations.
- (2) These statistics were obtained from staff incident reports from the Total Offender Management Solution (TOMS).

JUVENILES

- (1) (a)–(c) [See paper 4007.]
 - (d) The Department is unable to provide this information as youth custodial offender management tools do not allow for extraction of this type of information.
- (2) Youth Custodial Services extracted this information from TOMS. It is operational procedure for officers to record in TOMS any assault that comes to their attention regardless of whether the victim reports the incident or not. This includes where the officer views the assault, or identifies that an assault has occurred based, for example, on information from other detainees or noticing bruises consistent with an assault on a young person.