

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — *FOUR CORNERS* REPORT

687. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I have a supplementary question. Practices at Banksia Hill Detention Centre have been likened to child abuse and deemed unlawful. The centre is at risk of being in contempt of court. Does the minister stand by his comments that he has achieved a much better environment for everybody?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON replied:

I will remind the member of what Terry Redman said in the media on 8 October 2011 —

Corrective Services Minister Terry Redman said the call to shut juvenile detention centres was “nonsense in the extreme”.

Mr Redman said the centres were needed to ensure the safety of the general community by isolating violent offenders.

He rejected claims of excessive violence within the centres.

In 2012, the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services tabled its seventy-sixth report, which detailed a series of unreasonable practices by the Liberal–National government in that detention centre. Again, I remind the member that the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services in April last year tabled a report detailing that Banksia Hill was in good condition. On a number of occasions, I have said why that ceased to be the case. The idea that you can just come in here, invent nonsense, attack the staff of the centre, tell them that you do not support them —

Several members interjected.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: You say that their safety is not important; I am not going to have that.