

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — *FOUR CORNERS* REPORT —
“FOLDING UP” RESTRAINT METHODOLOGY

703. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to a statement from the Department of Justice to ABC *Four Corners* advising that the use of folding up as a restraint process was authorised for officers to use only as a last resort in the most extreme circumstances for as little time as possible when there was a safety risk to staff and other detainees.

- (1) Has the minister now requested a briefing from his department on this form of restraint?
- (2) Is there a formal policy in place for officers to use, and will the minister table it in Parliament?
- (3) Is a record maintained of the use of this type of restraint?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON replied:

- (1)–(3) I confirm that the Commissioner for Corrective Services, I am told, issued an order in January 2021, when I was not the Minister for Corrective Services, regarding the narrowing of the use of this particular methodology; that is to say that prior to January 2021, the capacity for trained staff to use this procedure was wider than it is currently, or was until now. Of course, we have now asked the department to cease using this methodology.

All critical incidents are reported. Therefore, there is a report of every interaction between detainees and officers. For example, the situation that occurred in February this year that was highlighted by the *Four Corners* report on Monday night was widely recorded in the system, including by video. I make the point that that video was not leaked to the ABC; it was given to the lawyers of the youth detainee who was involved in the incident. By the way, the incident was also investigated by the police and I am advised that no staff involved in that incident were subject to any adverse findings following that police investigation. I will not be tabling the procedures because it is not the practice to table the confidential procedures of the department because, of course, they are about the operating procedures in each individual facility and there are obviously reasons that the department does not want unedited versions of the procedures becoming public.