

INDIGENOUS PRISONERS — OVERREPRESENTATION IN SYSTEM

1165. Hon Giz Watson to the Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services

I refer to the response to question without notice No. 653, asked in the Legislative Council on 23 June 2009, in which Hon Simon O'Brien listed the initiatives undertaken and to be undertaken by the Government to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in Western Australian prisons. I ask -

- (1) Where is the allocation for the following initiatives in the budget for 2009-2010 for, -
- (a) the appointment of Community Justice Services Family and Domestic Officers to Family and Domestic Violence Courts in a number of courts in the metropolitan area and Geraldton;
 - (b) support for four metropolitan Indigenous Family Violence Groups, running in the community to support the operation of Family Violence Courts;
 - (c) the appointment of Community Supervision Agreement Officers across the State;
 - (d) the appointment of Sheriff/Community Development Officer positions across the State;
 - (e) the development of Aboriginal Justice Agreements with local communities;
 - (f) the appointment of Transitional Officers within each prison;
 - (g) assisting Indigenous prisoners with travel back to their homes upon release;
 - (h) provision of five Indigenous Men Managing Anger and Substance Abuse programs in prisons across the State;
 - (i) provision of over 20 programs and interventions such as Building on Aboriginal Skills; a new Indigenous Cognitive Skills Intervention; Indigenous Family Violence; Indigenous Men Managing Anger and Substance Abuse;
 - (j) the Indigenous Sex Offender Medium Intensity Program;
 - (k) the expansion of the Roebourne Regional Prison vocational training program to include the Decca Station Project;
 - (l) the establishment of the Prisoner Employment Program in five regional prisons;
 - (m) the provision of high quality education services to Aboriginal prisoners;
 - (n) the creation of an Aboriginal Bail Coordinator;
 - (o) the development of prisoner employment programs in partnership with mining companies;
 - (p) the construction of an Indigenous meeting place at Casuarina Prison, in full consultation with Indigenous prisoners; and
 - (q) the establishment of a unit to specifically address the program needs of Aboriginal offenders?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

- (1) The allocation for each requested item in the 2009/10 budget is in:
- (a)-(d) The Department of Corrective Services' service appropriation.
 - (e) The Department of the Attorney General's service appropriation.
 - (f)-(o) The Department of Corrective Services' service appropriation.
 - (p) The Department of Corrective Services' Asset Investment Program with the Infrastructure and Systems Upgrade and Replacement Programmes line.
 - (q) The Department of Corrective Services' service appropriation.