Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 12 August 2020] p4860a-4860a Mr Sean L'Estrange; Hon Fran Logan

CORRECTIVE SERVICES — PRISON OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

6320. Mr S.K. L'Estrange to the Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services:

I refer to the Department of Corrective Services, and I ask:

- (a) What professional qualified personnel shortages exist, by rank/trade for:
 - (i) Prison officer;
 - (ii) Senior officer; and
 - (iii) Prison employee?

Mr F.M. Logan replied:

The following information is provided for all adult prisons within Corrective Services. The staffing level requirements reflects the positions required to manage a public prison population of 6415. The Department has a public prisoner population of 5257 (82% prison capacity). The Department has approximately 93% of all required positions for service delivery of a public prison population of 6415.

Occupational Group	FTE Vacancies @ 30 June 2020 for population of 6415
(i)	
Prison Officer	-112.1
(ii)	
Principal Officer	0
Senior Officer	-49
(iii)	
Vocational and Support Officer (VSO)	-85
Aboriginal Visitors	_9
Nurses	-25.1
Medical Practitioners	-6.65
Senior Public Service	-2
Public Service General	-31
Aboriginal Health Worker	-3
Counsellor	_9
Group Program Officers	-4.6
Psychologists	-1
Total	-337.45

Notes on data:

Prison Officer, Principal Officer and Senior Officer numbers are based on vacancies against the current Staffing Level Agreements (SLA) for 6415. Short and medium term vacancies that cannot be filled via redeployment are filled with overtime on an ad hoc basis.

The table does not include the 116 Prison Officer recruits undergoing, or soon to commence, training at the Academy as a part of the Department's continuous recruitment strategy.

A current VSO Recruitment Pool is being finalised which will significantly reduce the number of vacant VSO positions.