

Estimates and Financial Operations Committee
2022-23 Budget estimates - additional questions
Western Australia Police Force

Hon Dr Brad Pettit asked:

Question:

10) I refer to Budget Paper No. 2 Vol. 2, Target 120 Expansion on page 520, and Significant Issues Impacting the Agency point 6 on page 522. Given key outcomes of the Target 120 are to

reduce the frequency and/or severity of the offending behaviour. I ask:

a) How many young people aged 10 to 14 years old have been cautioned by police across the past three financial years; and

b) Of these young people aged 10 to 14 years old, how many have:

(i) had subsequent contact with police within 12 or 24 months; and

(ii) committed an offence within 12 or 24 months?

Answer:

The measure of success for Target 120 should be the improvement in behaviour of children in Target 120. The Member has asked about global juvenile offending.

		2019-20 FY	2020-21 FY	2021-22 FY
10(a)	Distinct count of offenders aged between 10 and 14 who were cautioned by police	2,080	2,223	2,421
10(b)(ii)	Distinct count of offenders in 10(a) who subsequently offended and were processed by police within 12 months	984	1,105	**
10(b)(ii)	Distinct count of offenders in 10(a) who subsequently offended and were processed by police within 24 months	1,228	*	**

* The distinct count of offenders is unable to be determined for the 24-month period as 24 months has not elapsed since the conclusion of the 2020-21 financial year.

** The distinct count of offenders is unable to be determined for the 12 and 24-month periods as 12 and 24 months have not elapsed since the conclusion of the 2021-22 financial year.

10(b)(i)

A person may come into contact with police as a person of interest, witness or victim of a criminal incident, or for matters unrelated to a criminal incident such as proactive community engagement strategies. Such proactive contacts may not be recorded in corporate systems. Where a person does come into contact with police in relation to a criminal incident, the contact may be recorded across multiple corporate systems. For example, an offender processed for an offence will be recorded in the Incident Management System, but may also be recorded in the Custodial Management Application if they are taken in to custody for that same offence. As a consequence, the number of contacts a person has with police cannot be determined in a systematic and reliable manner.

Notes:

1. Statistics are provisional and subject to revision.

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2. Statistics in 10 (a) are a count of unique offenders processed with an outcome of 'Caution – Young Offender (Written)', 'Caution – Young Offender (Oral)', 'Caution - Liquor Act', 'Cautioned – Traffic', 'Emergency Management Act – Caution', and 'No Action Taken' between 01 July 2019 and 30 June 2022, and where the offender was aged between 10 and 14 at the time they were processed.
3. Statistics in 10(b)(ii) are count of unique offenders in 10(a) who were subsequently processed with any outcome (including, but not limited to cautions as defined in 10(a), arrests, summonsed, drug diversions, and infringements) for an offence within 12 or 24 months of the date they were first processed with a caution outcome in each financial year.
4. An offender is counted once in each financial year, regardless of the number of times they are processed in that year. An offender processed for offences across multiple financial years will be counted once in each financial year. As a consequence, financial years should not be summed.
5. Age has been determined as the age of the person at the time they were processed for the offence. The recorded date of birth of a person may be updated over time. Offender age is based on the most recent information recorded against that person's identifier in the Incident Management System and may be different to information recorded for the person at the time of processing. There are instances where a person's date of birth is no longer available for the identifier used at the time of processing.

Source: Data extracted from the Incident Management System (IMS) on 22 July 2022.

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