

INDONESIAN PRISONERS — UNDERAGE DETAINEES IN ADULT PRISONS

1115. Hon ALISON XAMON to the Minister for Child Protection:

I refer to the 14 Indonesian prisoners currently being detained in Western Australian adult prisons on people-smuggling offences who claim to be under 18 years of age, and whose cases are currently being investigated by the Indonesian consulate.

- (1) Does the minister have any jurisdictional responsibility for the welfare of these detainees?
- (2) Will the minister take any action to protect the Indonesian prisoners in adult prisons who claim to be under 18 years of age?

Hon ROBYN McSWEENEY replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) No, I do not have any jurisdictional responsibility.
- (2) No. If specific cases were referred by the Department of Corrective Services or the commonwealth authorities, consideration would be given as to whether the Department for Child Protection has a role; but, at present, no.