

LEGAL AFFAIRS — HIGH RISK SERIOUS OFFENDERS BOARD

1423. Hon Dr Brad Pettitt to the parliamentary secretary to the Attorney General:

I refer to the High Risk Serious Offenders Board (HRSO), established under s 14 of the *High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020*, which has the knowledge development, facilitation and co-ordination functions set out in s 15 of the Act. Under s 17 of the Act, it may comprise any number of community members, which the Minister may appoint if they have any one or more of the attributes set out in s 18 of the Act. Two of those attributes are: (a) a knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture local to this State; (b) a knowledge and understanding of risk assessment and management frameworks that are appropriate for Aboriginal people. I also refer to the answer given to question without notice 909, and I ask:

- (a) what relationship, if any, does the HRSO Board have to the High Risk Serious Offenders Review Committee (HRSORC);
- (b) what criteria does the HRSORC consider when making a referral to the State Solicitor's Office; and
- (c) is there a person on the HRSORC which has one of the following two attributes:
 - (i) a knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture local to this State;
 - (ii) a knowledge and understanding of risk assessment and management frameworks that are appropriate for Aboriginal people; and
 - (iii) how many distinct individuals fall under the categories or (i) or (ii), and what are their names?

Hon Matthew Swinbourn replied:

- (a) The High Risk Serious Offenders Board (HRSO Board) was established as a statutory requirement under the High Risk Serious Offenders Act 2020 (the Act). The High Risk Serious Offenders Review Committee (HRSORC) is not a statutory body defined under the Act and there is no direct relationship between the HRSO Board and the HRSORC.
- (b) In making a referral to the State Solicitor's Office, the HRSORC keeps their consideration in line with what the Court must consider should an application be made under the Act. This is detailed in section 7(3) of the Act, with the Committee giving consideration to the criteria listed in section 7(3)(b) through to section 7(3)(j) of the Act.
- (c) Four of the HRSORC members work within the Department of Justice (the Department) and therefore, have first-hand experience in working with, and the management of, Aboriginal offenders.