

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — TRANSITION SUPPORT

**1218. Hon PETER COLLIER to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Corrective Services:**

- (1) After juveniles are released from Banksia Hill Detention Centre, are they provided with any support as they transition back into the community?
- (2) If yes to (1), what support is provided?
- (3) If no to (1), why not?

**Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:**

I thank the member for some notice of the question. The following answer, which is very long, is based on information provided to me by the Minister for Corrective Services.

- (1) Yes.
- (2) The Department of Justice provides release support, dependent on the manner in which a young person is released—that is, to freedom, on bail, sentenced to a community-based order or early release on a supervised release order.

When a young person is released to freedom, there is no legal remit for continued engagement with the department. In instances when there have been or continue to be self-harm or suicide concerns, parents and caregivers are informed both verbally and in writing to be in early contact with a GP to facilitate a mental health plan, or emergency services if risk is acute.

Interventions for young people on bail are short term and focus on stabilising accommodation placements and behaviours. They also focus on laying groundwork for a potential community-based outcome. Goals, however, need to be achievable in a short-term window of opportunity.

Young people who are sentenced from custody to a community-based order or released on a supervised release order have an allocated youth justice officer who provides comprehensive individualised case management addressing all matters relevant to that particular young person. This can include, but is not limited to, accommodation, structured recreation, education and vocational pursuits, mental health and disability supports, alcohol and other drug counselling and therapeutic programs targeting their offence-specific behaviour.

The Department of Education has youth transition coordinators who work with education and training services, youth justice services and the Banksia Hill Detention Centre Education Service, to research, develop, implement and monitor educational reintegration plans to support young people to access appropriate pathways to a range of training and employment options upon release from custody.

The youth transition coordinators commence working with a young person and youth justice staff up to six weeks prior to a young person's release from custody to support and refer the young person to appropriate pathways. In addition, a co-located child protection and family services case manager provides a conduit between the Department of Communities, Banksia Hill and youth justice services in terms of case managing young people in custody or being released from custody who are in the care of the CEO of the Department of Communities.

A justice liaison officer from the National Disability Insurance Agency is also co-located at Banksia Hill Detention Centre, who assists in the reviews of young people in custody to identify those registered with the NDIS, updates their justice interface and reviews support plans with the aim to link youth justice services to address any gaps in service.

- (3) Not applicable.

**The PRESIDENT:** You were not wrong about the length of that question, member.