

ROEBOURNE REGIONAL PRISON

**379. Hon MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM to the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services:**

I refer to the statement made by the Inspector of Custodial Services in his report on Roebourne Regional Prison in which he condemns the prison as suffering from ailing and outdated infrastructure, a lack of investment and a lack of clear strategic direction for the future.

- (1) What will the minister do to ensure that the Department of Corrective Services implements the 17 recommendations in the report, given that it has done nothing since receiving it?
- (2) What will the minister do to address the serious management issues identified at Roebourne prison, which suffers from low morale and poor relationships with staff and simple issues such as lack of maintenance and poor hygiene?
- (3) What will the minister do to address the inspector's criticism that there is no prison support officer, women's support officer or Aboriginal visitor scheme in this facility that has a 95 per cent Indigenous population?

**Hon NORMAN MOORE replied:**

I answer on behalf of the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services. I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) It is noted that a response was provided to the inspector as outlined in his report to Parliament on 5 April 2011. Detailed action plans are being created in order to operationally implement the actions detailed in the report. The Department of Corrective Services has a thorough critical review process to ensure action plans are monitored and implemented.
- (2) The department has and is working closely with the Roebourne management team to address current issues and enhance management, leadership, communications and teamwork capabilities. Training, team building, change management and leadership development is part of an overall program to enhance capabilities, management stability and harmonisation within the team.
- (3) The prison support officer commenced on Tuesday, 8 March 2011. The women's support officer commenced on Monday, 21 March 2011 and two Aboriginal visitor scheme staff commenced on Monday, 14 March 2011.