

PRISONS, OVERCROWDING

812. Mr RIEBELING to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Justice:

- (1) What is the projected numbers of prisoners that will be in the public prison system during and until Acacia Prison is filled with prisoners?
- (2) Will the public prison system have significant over crowding during this period?
- (3) If yes -
 - (a) what is the predicted percentage of double bunking within the secure prisons; and
 - (b) has the Ministry undertaken an evaluation of the associated risks involved in maintaining overcrowding through this period?
- (4) If yes, what are the associated risk management issues?
- (5) Can the Minister, in view of the recent breaches of security at Hakea Prison, guarantee the public of Western Australia that they can feel confident with the security within the public prison system during this period of record overcrowding?

Mr BARRON-SULLIVAN replied:

The Minister for Justice has supplied the following reply:

- (1) 3169 (lower bound) and 3318 (upper bound).
- (2) The public prison muster is predicted to be 25% above operational design capacity.
- (3)
 - (a) Approximately 20% to 26%
 - (b) The Ministry has assessed the risks and implemented appropriate strategies.
- (4) The need to provide constructive activities for Prisoners during this transition period.
- (5) Yes.