

CASUARINA PRISON — ADDITIONAL BEDS

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

I refer the minister to the Labor government's commitment in April 2019 to another 344 new beds to be added to Casuarina Prison by 2023 due to the fact that "demand for male prisoner beds would have exceeded supply by mid-2022".

- (1) Have the 344 new beds been added to Casuarina Prison?
- (2) If no to (1), when will they be added?
- (3) If no to (1), has a tender been advertised and a contract signed; and, if so, when?

Hon KYLE MCGINN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing. The following answer has been provided to me by the Minister for Corrective Services.

The number of adult male prisoners declined during the COVID-19 period and therefore the expected growth in demand referred to did not eventuate.

- (1)–(2) It is expected 294 beds will be added by end July 2023, with a further 79 beds expected to be added by mid-2026.
- (3) The construction contract associated with adding the 294 beds was awarded in January 2021. The construction contract associated with adding the further 79 beds is expected to be advertised in May 2023, with a contract awarded in late 2023.