

CORRUPTION AND CRIME COMMISSION REPORT — PRISONER SUPERVISION

416. Hon JIM CHOWN to the minister representing the Minister for Corrective Services:

I refer to parliamentary question without notice 388 regarding the Corruption and Crime Commission's "Report into inadequate supervision of prisoners whilst in the community".

- (1) Please detail the developed action plan as stated in the answer to parliamentary question 388?
- (2) Please also detail the actions underway to mitigate drug incursions into Western Australian prisons?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

The Department of Justice advises the following.

- (1) The details of the action plan cannot be provided due to security reasons.
- (2) The department has implemented a number of initiatives to reduce the supply and use of drugs and alcohol in prison. In response to the Western Australian Auditor General's report "Minimising Drugs and Alcohol in Prisons", tabled in Parliament in November 2017, the Department of Justice is currently developing a drug and alcohol strategy specific to prisons, which addresses supply control, demand reduction, harm reduction and monitoring and innovation; reviews its procedure and legal powers for searching and drug testing to ensure that processes are consistent and robust and current penalties and sanctions are an effective deterrent to the trafficking of drugs in prisons; improves the way prisoners are drug tested, which will result in more frequent and consistent testing, and a trial of staff and drug and alcohol testing was recently completed and will inform future testing of staff; and undertakes a trial of new drug detection technology, which includes instruments which are less invasive, more difficult to adulterate and more resource efficient than those currently used.

In December 2017, the department commenced Operation Contra, which was a three-month concentrated statewide search program aimed at reducing the volume of drugs and other contraband from entering and being trafficked within custodial facilities. In addition, Operation Contra identified ways in which search practices could be enhanced and improved. The creation of dedicated alcohol and drug rehabilitation prisons at Wandoo Reintegration Facility and Casuarina Prison will also address demand as well as treatment approaches for prisoners.