

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — MEETING

**327. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Premier:**

I refer to reports of a second Banksia Hill Detention Centre crisis meeting on 10 May that would be attended by the Premier, the Minister for Corrective Services, a representative of the Department of Justice and the Commissioner of Police, Col Blanch. Has this meeting occurred; and, if yes, what were the outcomes?

**Mr M. McGOWAN replied:**

I had a meeting on the day after the riot at Banksia Hill Detention Centre. Present were the Minister for Corrective Services, the police commissioner, the head of the Department of Justice and a range of other staff members. We discussed various things that can be done, including the fact that we were bringing forward legislation to ensure that adult detainees would move to adult custodial facilities. We will introduce those laws. That is something that will proceed. We discussed a range of other issues surrounding the events on the day in question. I learnt a lot about what occurred on that particular evening and how the events came to pass. As I have said many times in this house—I will repeat it because it is important to note—it is very important that we continue to invest in measures to rehabilitate, educate, train and provide opportunities for detainees. I think it is an opportunity for those detainees in Banksia Hill to have some structure and routine in their lives and therefore some hope of turning around a life that has been punctuated by committing offences. That is point one.

Point two is that we will continue to invest in measures in the broader community, particularly the Target 120 program, to ensure that young people and families are given the opportunity to divert a pathway that is directed towards the justice system.

Point three, and I think it is important, is that everyone uses the appropriate language. The language needs to be about responsibility and consequence, and accepting responsibility for your actions. If no-one ever accepts responsibility for their actions or accepts that anything they do is wrong, people will continue to do the wrong thing. If excuses are continually made, how do people ever learn that what they are doing is not the right thing?