



Department of Corrective Services
Government of Western Australia

PUBLIC

Office of the Commissioner

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Ms Renae Jewell
Committee Clerk
Estimates and Financial Operations Committee
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Jewell

I acknowledge your correspondence dated 31 March 2009 concerning my appearance at the Estimates and Financial Operations Committee Subcommittee hearing held on 24 March 2009.

Please find attached the signed and amended copy of the Hansard transcript and the Department of Corrective Services' response to the highlighted questions in the transcript and the additional questions forwarded by Members.

Yours sincerely


Ian Johnson
Commissioner

17 April 2009

**Responses to further information requested by
Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations**

1.1 When will the current intake of 170 officers-in-training complete the training?

47 prison officers graduated from their Academy-based training on 3rd April. Another 129 officers will complete their training on 29th April, comprising 74 prison officers, 9 juvenile justice officers, 23 community corrections officers and 23 juvenile custodial officers.

1.2 How will you achieve your goal of cutting 20% of overtime costs to save \$1.870 million by 30 June if those officers in training are not online yet?

The Department has implemented this savings initiative with a concerted campaign to recruit additional prison officers to cover substantial staff shortages, rather than curtailing regimes within prisons which, at this point in time, may have been extremely problematic given current high population. The additional officers have filled roster lines that would otherwise have been filled by staff on overtime. By the end of the financial year the Department will have recruited 258 prison officers.

The recruitment of 258 officers (96 FTE's), offset by 30 FTE officers who have left the service has resulted in an estimated net budget saving of \$5.9m and has an estimated net budget saving of \$1.36m in 2008/09.

1.3 If you do not reduce 20% of your overtime costs by 30 June 2009, or by \$1.87million you not meet the 3% efficiency dividend for this financial year, is that correct? If not, why not?

If we don't make the \$1.87m savings from overtime our target is to still achieve that amount of savings. The overall budget position of the Department is closely monitored, including each of the targeted savings measures, with the aim of not exceeding the total budget.

1.4 Is the use of overtime spread evenly over all facilities? If not, please provide a breakdown of how much overtime is used at each facility.

Use of overtime is spread evenly across all facilities.

Additional questions taken from transcript:

1. Provide more detailed information on the modelling on projected future increases in the prison population

Attachment 1

2. Are you able to provide figures on what level of unmet or overdue cases there are in terms of managing them? (People on community-based orders).

As at 3 April 2009, the number of adult offenders being managed by Community Justice Services across the State was 5698 (6174 orders). Of these, 411 were being managed through the "monitored" caseload. These offenders are still required to report in accordance with their order and to fulfil all requirements of the order. They do not have a dedicated case manager, but are seen by the duty officer. Their compliance is monitored by a monitoring officer and any issues regarding compliance/needs are escalated to the supervisory team for action or re-allocation.

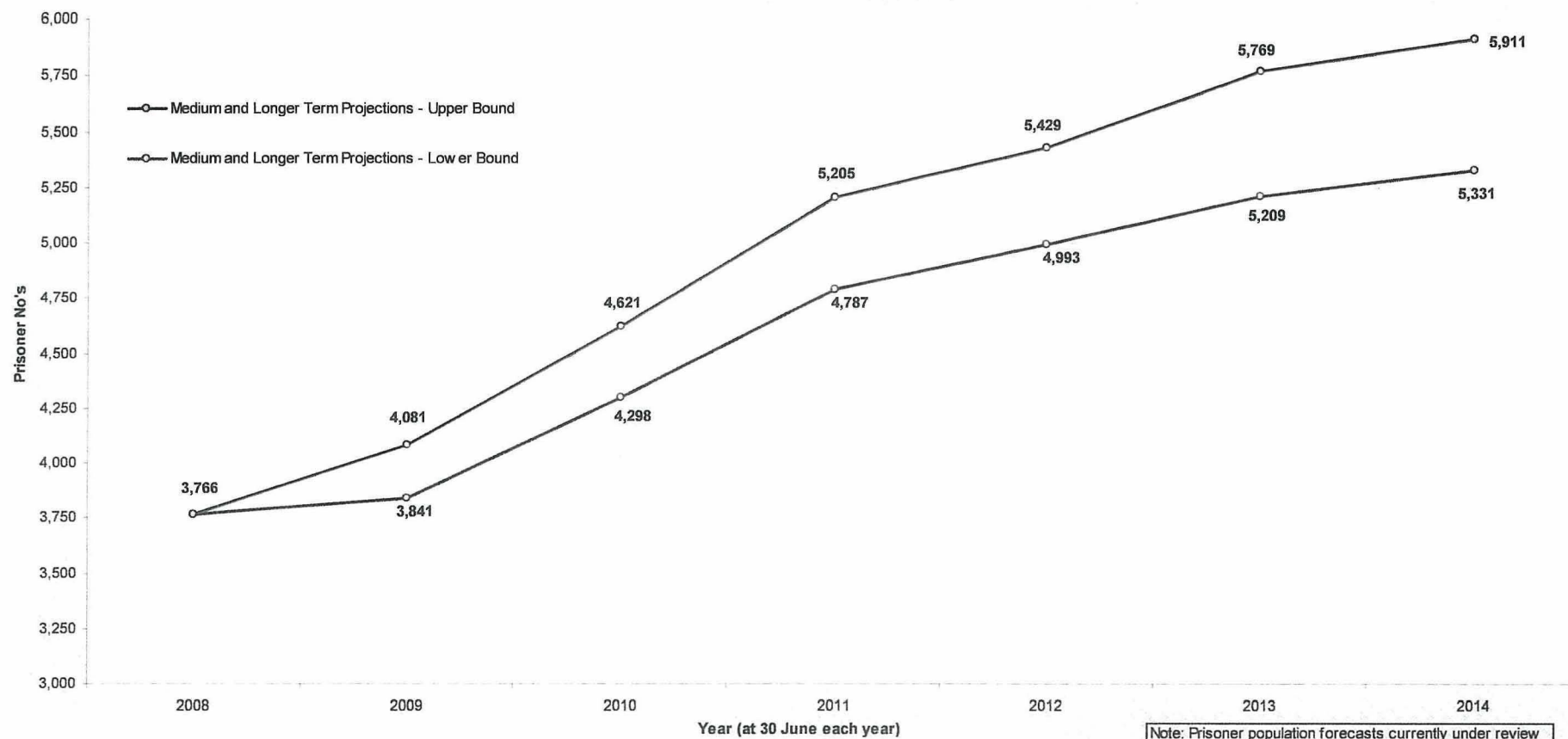
3. Are you able to provide figures of where you expect to meet, in the short term, the bed numbers?

Part of the Department's budget submission involves double-bunking at various locations. Therefore, we are unable to release details of those locations until after the budget announcement in May.

4. Are you able to provide us with areas for the 3% efficiency savings and the amount for each?

Attachment 2

Projected Prisoner Numbers
All Prisoners WA - 2008 to 2014



ATTACHMENT 2

2009/10 BUDGET SUBMISSION – ACHIEVEMENT OF THE 3% EFFICIENCY DIVIDEND

Department of Corrective Services

	2008/09 \$'000	2009/10 \$'000
a. Vacancy Management	3,887	4,550
b. Prison Officer / JCO Overtime	1,870	3,716
c. Maintenance	400	0
d. Travel	320	659
e. Shared Services	146	296
f. Training	478	500
g. Vehicles and Associated Costs	490	1,010
h. Office Equipment	39	81
i. Acacia Prison increased muster	0	1,954
j. "In Reach" Program	0	2,774
(ii) TOTAL	7,630	15,540