

Estimates Committee 2011

Questions Taken On Notice

(14/06/2011 to 23/06/2011)

Date: 22/06/2011

Output:

Sub Output:

Subject: Psychologists in Corrections

From: Mr John Elferink to Hon Gerry McCarthy
Department of Justice

8-19

Question:

How many psychologists are on the Corrections service establishment?
How much time has been lost due to unfilled vacancies? And how many
courses have been cancelled and/or truncated as a direct result of the
absence of psychologists?

Answer:

Answered On: 02/08/2011

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Date:

Output: 1.0 – Correctional Services
Sub Output: 1.1 – Custodial Services

Subject:

From:

To:

Department: Department of Justice

Number: 8.19

Question:

How many psychologists are on the Corrections Service establishment? How much time has been lost due to unfilled vacancies? And how many courses have been cancelled and/or truncated as direct result of the absence of psychologists?

Answer:

Position	Filled	Vacant
Senior Psychologists (SP01)	5	0
Psychologist (P03)	1	4

During 2010-11, Northern Territory Correctional Services (NTCS) re-structured the area of operations delivering services and programs to inmates, which interrupted the collation of statistical data. Accordingly, it is not possible to advise about specific course truncation or cancellation during 2010-11.

The recently established Offender Programs unit within NTCS is responsible for developing program schedules for 2011-12. This will enable course-related information to be collected, recorded and analysed.

The continuing high prisoner numbers have reduced the capacity of the two prisons to provide programs, with some education and program rooms being converted to dormitories. This will be an ongoing issue until the new Darwin correctional facility is commissioned in 2014-15.

All outstanding professional positions have been advertised or are currently going through the recruitment process. Treatment programs are scheduled to commence in July 2011.