

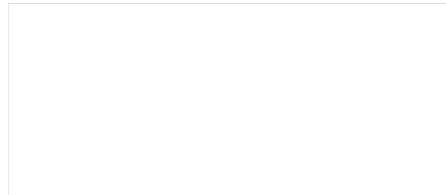
Question No : 278

Question : Home Detention Staff Salaries

Question Date : 18/05/93

Member : Mr BELL

To : MINISTER for CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



1. What is the rate of pay for staff responsible for the supervision of persons who are subject to home detention.
2. How many Correctional Services staff are engaged in these duties -
 - (a) on a full-time basis;
 - (b) on a part-time basis; and
 - (c) on a casual basis.
3. How much are the staff paid for out-of-hours supervision.
4. What is the 1992-93 budget for supervision of those on home detention.

ANSWER

1. The actual face-to-face supervision of persons on home detention orders is performed for the most part by paid Surveillance Officers who are employed on a casual basis. Their rates of pay are \$15.50 per hour for the hours of 7 am to 9 pm and \$23.25 for the hours 9 pm to 7 am. Surveillance Officers visit home detainees at any time of the day or night. Home detainees are seen on an average of 10 times per week.

The actual administration of the program, which includes investigations and court reports, case work and liaison with police and other agencies as well as supervising Surveillance Officers, is conducted by full-time Probation and Parole staff. In all centres except Darwin, Probation and Parole staff perform these duties as well as similar duties in regard to all community based programs.

In Darwin there is a Home Detention and Community Service Order unit which comprises 2 staff devoted to home detention, supervised by a manager who also oversees 2 staff who run the Community Service Order program in Darwin. The rates of pay depend on the administrative grade of the officer concerned. Probation and Parole Officers range from

level A04 (salary ranges from \$29 564 - \$34 679) to A06 (salary range - \$39 357 to \$43 997).

2. On a full-time basis there are only 2 officers in the department, one an A04 and the other an A05 Probation and Parole Officer.

On a part-time basis in regions outside of Darwin there are 6 staff ranging in levels from A04 to A06 who perform home detention related duties as part of their general probation and parole work.

On a casual basis there are a total of 16 Surveillance Officers available. It is rare for more than 4 or 5 to be working on any given day. The department keeps a pool of 16 Surveillance Officers scattered around the Territory to ensure that orders of the court can be enforced on short notice. These officers are paid only when they are actually performing surveillance duties.

3. As noted previously, for the hours outside of 7 am to 9 pm Surveillance Officers receive \$23.25 per hour. When Probation and Parole Officers are required for out-of-hours duties such as breath-testing of home detainees for alcohol consumption or dealing with urgent issues related to the enforcement of home detention orders, they are paid at the standard Public Service emergency overtime rate which is double the hourly rate of salary (for an A04, approximately \$34 per hour). In the Darwin area there is also an on-call officer who can be reached by beeper at any time by home detainees or Surveillance Officers in case of emergencies. The on-call staff member is paid at a rate of \$1 per hour for all hours outside of normal working hours. Should a call result in an officer performing out-of-hours work and having to leave their home, they are also paid at the standard emergency overtime rate.

4. As mentioned earlier, outside of Darwin the Home Detention Program is incorporated amongst all other programs operated by Probation and Parole staff such as community service orders, probation, parole and bail supervision. In the smaller pay centres it is therefore difficult to provide absolutely accurate information on the costs of the Home Detention Program.

In the Darwin area where approximately 80% of people on the Home Detention Program reside, the cost can be broken down as follows for 1992-93 -

. annual cost for Surveillance Officer (casual)	\$ 46 800
. vehicle cost for same	\$ 10 900
. salary cost - A05 Probation and Parole Officer	\$ 36 700
. salary cost - A04 Probation and Parole Officer	\$ 31 500
. salary cost - one-half A06 Probation and Parole Officer (Manager HD/CSO Unit)	\$ 21 600
. oncosts (superannuation paid entitlements)	\$ 35 680

TOTAL estimated cost for the Home Detention Program in the Darwin area	\$182 580
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Costs for the program for the balance of the Northern Territory are
estimated to be as follows -

Surveillance Officers	\$ 20 500
Vehicle costs	\$ 3 750
Proportion of salary for full-time probation and parole officers in regard to home detention	\$ 28 880
TOTAL Estimated 1992-93 expenditure	\$ 53 130

The estimated total cost therefore for home detention program on an
annual basis is \$235 710.

The budget is approximately \$250 000 for the entire Home Detention
Program for 1992-93, of which about \$70 000 is budgeted for the direct
supervision of those on home detention.