

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mr Maley to the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice:

**Darwin Correctional Centre**

In May 2020, 21 prisoners from the Darwin Correctional Centre broke out of their cells, rioted and set fire to a number of the Centre's buildings.

Several months later it was estimated that the damage bill was in the order of \$30 million to repair the riot damage caused to the facility which is owned by the Sentinel Group and leased to the NT Government through a public-private-partnership arrangement.

The \$30 million cost estimate was confirmed by the [Acting] Corrections Commissioner David Thompson during estimates hearings in 2021.

- 1. Why hasn't the independent review into the 2020 riot at the Darwin Correctional Centre by independent Professor John Paget been released publically?**

The Paget Review remains Cabinet-in-Confidence.

- 2. The Chief Minister and Attorney-General have both previously promised to release a summary of the findings from the Paget Review but have failed to do so. When will this promise be honoured?**

As above.

- 3. Why was a copy of the Paget Review released to NT Ombudsman Peter Shoyer on the proviso that he not release it to anyone else?**

As above.

- 4. How many recommendations were made in the Paget Review, and how many of these recommendations have been implemented?**

As above.

- 5. How many have not been implemented? Why not?**

As above.

- 6. It is understood the primary area impacted during the riot fires were educational and program delivery spaces. Is it correct that these activities are now being delivered in industry spaces outside of the prison?**

Interim programs and temporary education rooms were quickly established in one of the industries sheds. Six demountables were installed for education / offender group program delivery rooms and two rooms established for individual assessments, interviews and treatment.

- 7. What impact has this had on the delivery of these services to prisoners?**

It is not possible to isolate the impact due to the concurrent effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on program delivery.

In 2020-21, 1278 prisoners participated in education programs and 11 591 hours of offender programs were delivered. In 2021-22, 1350 prisoners participated in education programs and 13 778 hours of offender programs were delivered.

- 8. Has the relocation of educational programs to industry had any other effect on the vocational programs in the Centre?**

No.

- 9. Is the Darwin Correctional Centre covered by insurance?**

Yes.

- 10. Has either the NT Government or the Sentinel Group made any insurance claims for the cost of repairing the damages?**

Yes.

- 11. Have any insurance claims been paid to date?**

Yes.

- 12. Have any repairs been made to date? If so what has been repaired and what was the cost? Who has paid for these repairs?**

Expenditure to date for the main reinstatement works is \$5.54 million.

- Significant works were undertaken to date to prepare the site including fencing, contents removal and demolition.
- Repairs to Sector 8, Sports and Recreation Officer Post.
- Concrete pavement, fencing and gates completed to Movement Control.

- Shade structures (50 per cent completed) with temporary officer posts fabricated ready for installation on site.
- Sector 5 structural blockwork completed.
- Sector 2 placing of structural steel nearing completion for roofing scheduled early April 2023.
- Alternate temporary accommodation to accommodate staff and prisoner program activities for the duration of the repair works (Lease arrangements).

**13. What repairs to damage remain outstanding? How much will these repairs cost?**

The main reinstatement works to Sectors 2 and 5 at the DCP is a large project with works to continue over the next 18 months. The full cost of the works will not be known until the works are complete.

**14. Has there been any project and cost variations to the repairs to damage still to be done?**

The consulting engineers for the Loss Adjuster had previously specified additional scope to the works following site visits arising from inspection of the work fronts onsite.

**15. When will the repairs commence and when will they be completed?**

The reinstatement works by Sitzler commenced on 12 September 2022, with completion expected by May 2024.