

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

20/05/1996

123. Alice Springs Gaol Project

Ms. MARTIN to MINISTER for TRANSPORT and WORKS

QUESTION

1. Did the then Minister for Correctional Services announce in 1992 that the new Alice Springs Gaol would be completed by late 1994 and is the completion date now estimated to be mid-1996; if so, why has this project been delayed by almost two years.
2. Did the then Minister for Correctional Services announce in 1992 that the new Alice Springs Gaol would cost a total of \$20million and has that figure been recently confirmed as having an increase of \$9million; if so, what are the itemised cost increases to the original figure.
3. What is the total amount of funds paid to consultants involved in the Alice Springs Gaol project.
4. What are:
 - (a) the itemised funds received by each consultant;
 - (b) the purpose for which the funds were expended; and
 - (c) how much did each consultant receive.
5. Were either the original design consultants, or other consultants, paid to reduce the scale of works of the Alice Springs Gaol project at any time during the course of the project; if so:
 - (a) which consultants were they;
 - (b) how many times;
 - (c) at what cost;
 - (d) what was the effect of each consultancy on the total scale of works; and
 - (e) what was the total cost of the project on each occasion.
6. Did Cabinet receive any submissions from the Department of Transport and Works regarding the Alice Springs Gaol that specifically referred to the escalation in cost and the scale of the work involved with the project; if so, how many submissions were received and when were they received.
7. In comparison to the original design of the Alice Springs Gaol, which elements of this project have been cut and which elements have been added.

ANSWER

Answered on 22/08/96

1 and 2 are the responsibility of my Colleague, the Minister for Correctional Services.

3 \$3.117m.

4 1. Preliminary Design and Planning of Prison Facilities involved a team of Consultants:

Acer, Forbes, SDT, Gymer, Platt, CCD, EcoSystems.

TOTAL COST

\$277,000.00

2. Detail design and Contract Documentation involved a team of Consultants:

Platt, Forrester, Acer, CCD.

TOTAL COST

\$2,635,000.00

3. Construction Management and Design Assistance during construction phase involved a team of Consultants:

Callcord, Acer, MDA, Woods Bagot.

TOTAL COST

\$205,000.00

\$3,117,000.00

5 The original consultants were paid to reduce the scale of works at the Alice Springs Prison.

(a) Platt consultants plus specialists sub-consultants Acer Vaughan and Foresters;

(b) Once;

(c) \$29,343.00;

(d) The effect of this action was to re-document the female/Juvenile building to a reduced size; and

(e) \$29,342.000.

6 Cabinet deliberations are confidential.

7 The original prison concept provided for a prison capacity of 150 inmates in a low/medium facility.

At the initial design stage the security level was increased to add a maximum security facility within a medium security fence.

The capacity was also increased at this stage to provide a single bunked capacity of 250 with design provision for a double bunked limit of 500 inmates.

In creating the increased capacity the basic floor area of the prison increased from 8,000 m² to 13,000 m².

In addition the Royal Commission into Deaths in Custody recommendations imposed increased costs in the upgrading required to meet its objectives.

The increase in area of approximately 60% was reflected in an overall increase in construction cost.

A decision to reduce the scope of works to delete the dog squad building, some staff amenities and industrial buildings and recreation hall was necessary to contain the cost of the project.

The addition of perimeter security system and the additional internal secure perimeter fence to ensure maximum security of this facility resulted in the final cost of \$26.13M.