

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7th Assembly

27/11/1996

150. **Operation Canary Frequency of Audits**

Ms. MARTIN to MINISTER for CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

QUESTION

1. Have the recommendations of Operation Canary concerning frequency of audits, been implemented.

ANSWER

Answered on 12/02/97

As advised previously, during the period since 1990, a number of audits and reviews have occurred in various areas of Departmental operations, as part of the normal management process.

These were conducted using internal resources as well as those of the Internal Audit Bureau. The Auditor-General has also examined various issues and reported to Parliament.

Following the Departmental reorganisation in late 1995, a separate Internal Affairs Bureau was created under the management of a senior executive, which is now responsible for an ongoing program of control and evaluation audits over every aspect of operations. External audit resources will also be used as and when appropriate.

Audit and program review operations across the Department will in future be monitored by an Audit Committee comprising Departmental officers and an independent external adviser. This committee was also established during 1995/96.

Two (2) major program audits, covering probation, parole and community service orders and a further compliance audit of sick leave and overtime, are currently being undertaken by the Strategic and Audit Services Branch of the Department of the Chief Minister.