

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### WRITTEN QUESTION

Ms Fyles to the Minister for Correctional Services:

#### Boot Camps

1. Why did only 55 out of a projected 92 youth justice detainees participate in Boot camps as outlined in the Department of Correctional Services Annual Report 2014/15?

#### Answer:

The Early Intervention Youth Boot Camp (EIYBC) program is a voluntary program for young Territorians between the ages of 12 and 17 who are at risk of entering the justice system. An inter-agency panel assessed referrals against a specific eligibility criteria. Additional information on the referral and selection process is available in the program guidelines - <http://www.correctionalservices.nt.gov.au/YouthJustice/programsandservices/Documents/EIYBC/EIYBC%20Program%20Guidelines%20-%202015.pdf>

The 2014/2015 budget, as indicated in the NTDCS Annual Report, allowed for up to 92 participants. 55 young people attended the wilderness camp component of the program during the 2014/2015 financial year. The post-camp 12 week intensive support component of the camp accounts for some variability in figures that fall outside of the financial year timeframe.

In forecasting participant numbers it was expected that the program may fall slightly under the target as the program was in its infancy. Further to that, a number of unforeseen challenges were encountered with the first service provider resulting in one of the scheduled camps being cancelled. These issues were explored extensively in the program implementation review and government made the decision to replace the service provider.

The full review is available on the NTDCS website – <http://www.correctionalservices.nt.gov.au/YouthJustice/programsandservices/Documents/EIYBC/2014%20EIYBC%20Program%20Implementation%20Report.pdf>

The new provider, Operation Flinders delivered camps in August and September 2014 to 36 participants out of the targeted 40.