



STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
Mr Peter Cain, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA, Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Inquiry into Community Corrections 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
16-17 February 2022

Asked by Mr Cain MLA on 16 February 2022: took on notice the following question(s):

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 16 February 2022 [PAGE #3]]

In relation to:

Drug/Alcohol Sentencing orders

Are there any reviews or projects underway to actually increase the pool who can be subject to such orders?

Minister Gentleman: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

Responsibility for this matter falls to the Attorney-General.

I am advised that the Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List offers an alternative approach to rehabilitating offenders whose crime is related to drug or alcohol dependency. The DASL is funded for a maximum of 30 participants. As at 22 February 2022 the program is at capacity with 30 active participants. There are 18 identified suitable defendants awaiting the outcome of sentence. Those defendants may become eligible once sentenced.

The Court seeks to identify potential participants for the program at initial procedural hearings. However, a participant may also be identified at the time of a sentencing hearing. Referrals can be made by the parties or on the Court's initiative. Otherwise, I note the requirement for a review of drug and alcohol treatment order provisions at section 80ZQ of the *Crimes (Sentencing) Act 2005*.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Signature:

Date: 23/3/2022

By the Minister for Corrections, Mick Gentleman MLA