



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Shane Rattenbury

Addressed to: Attorney-General

In relation to: Attorney-General and Alternative reporting sites for First Nations people

Hearing: 20 November 2025

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Answer Due: 04/12/2025

MR RATTENBURY: Thank you. I wanted to ask about alternative reporting sites for First Nations people who are having to report when they are on parole particularly, but also for bail. I know there have been some set up. I wanted to seek an update on how many are running now, where they are, and whether there has been any evaluation of the value of those sites.

Mr Johnson: Perhaps I can address that. I guess also technically this is in the Corrections Minister's space and so my answer would be out of portfolio. But I think I can say there are three sites, the three sites that have existed previously.

Ms Cheyne: Yes, ...(indistinct)... [2.19.07]

Mr Johnson: And those three sites are Yeddung Mura, Winnunga and a site in Belconnen called CAHMS, which is less—

MR RATTENBURY: CAHMA.

Mr Johnson: CAHMA.

MR RATTENBURY: Yes, thanks.

Mr Johnson: There was some evaluation work done some time ago. I do not have that, and we would have to get that on notice, but we can provide that in terms of the evaluation of the success of it. But broadly the success was high. It was high in part due to the fact that people were coming to a place that could service them not only in the context of their parole or bail, but also in other things. So you could do medical services whilst you were there. So it proved very efficient and actually brought people to a place where they might not have otherwise come to have a medical examination or have vaccinations done or a range of other things.

So there was some consequent value in that exercise, probably was not contemplated originally but I think we see that as a real strength in the model. Also it was seen very positively by those involved in

it, they were not necessarily in police stations or trying to get transport into the city or so forth. So it likely led to a more successful parole outcome, but the evaluation is a little dated now and I have to take it on notice to come back with what the valuation said.

MR RATTENBURY: Right. No, thank you. One of the things I am keen to understand is whether there is any measure of whether it has been successful in reducing justice procedure offences which we know are common particularly for Indigenous Canberrans and whether that is what the metrics of the evaluation and whether we are seeing progress in the space?

Mr Johnson: Yes, I think we need to take that on notice. I cannot remember the actual detail of the evaluation and whether we had enough data to say that because I think time—of course, when it comes to recidivism time it needs to pass a little bit by getting a sense of it. So I am not sure we—

Ms Cheyne: We will take it on notice and see what we can get you.

MS TARA CHEYNE MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. To facilitate culturally appropriate supervision of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders subject to community-based orders or bail orders with reporting requirements, three Alternative Reporting Sites have been established across Canberra at:
 - Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services
 - Yeddung Mura
 - Canberra Alliance for Harm Minimisation and Advocacy (CAHMA).

An evaluation of the Yeddung Mura reporting site was conducted in 2023. The evaluation found that clients, stakeholders, and Yeddung Mura staff were overwhelmingly supportive of the reporting site, which provided a culturally supportive approach to case management and supervision by working with the clients on building positive relationships and reporting outcomes.

2. Data required to determine whether alternative reporting sites have reduced the number of Justice Procedure Offences is not readily available to ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS).

The abovementioned evaluation did not establish whether there was a reduction in the number of Justice Procedure Offences due to data limitations, the small sample size and the limited timeframe.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 
By the Attorney-General, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA

Date: 28/11/25