



Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021 **ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Elizabeth Kikkert MLA:

Ref: Corrections, JACS hearing 1400-1515 23 February 2022

In relation to: Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) Policy

1. When does the minister expect that the IEP policy will be notified and implemented?
2. Can the minister attach a copy of the most current draft IEP policy?
3. When did ACTCS first start working on the IEP referred to in the Inspectors 2019 Healthy Prison Review?
4. Which groups are being consulted with about the development of the IEP?

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

1. The IEP policy development is well advanced and is currently expected to be settled by the end of April 2022. There will then need to be work completed in terms of staff training, process development and detainee education prior to full implementation.
2. Releasing the policy in draft form before it is settled by all stakeholders would be premature.
3. The development of the IEP began in early 2019, however progression was slowed by the progression of other key policies. It also became clear that implementing an IEP required interdependent policies and processes to be finalised first, for example the Property and Discipline and Classification policies. With the establishment of the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Policy Unit in late 2020, ACTCS developed greater capacity to progress policy development and implementation. The IEP policy was identified as a priority policy in the Blueprint for Change process.
4. ACTCS has consulted staff, senior management, detainees, the Community and Public Sector Union, the Human Rights Commission and Official Visitors.

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

Signature: 

Date: 21/3/2022

By the Minister for Corrections, Mick Gentleman MLA