



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Corrections

In relation to: Corrections and Chaplaincy Program at the AMC

Hearing: 20 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 9

Transcript provided: 24/11/2025

Answer Due: 01/12/2025

MR RATTENBURY: Okay. Can you tell me when the chaplains were informed of the ceasing of this program? And how were they told?

Ms Close: I asked my team to speak to them personally, which they did. And I also sent the chaplains a letter from my office.

MR RATTENBURY: And when did that occur?

Ms Close: About three weeks ago. I could take on notice the exact date. But within the last month.

DR MARISA PATERSON MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The chaplains were verbally informed about the ceasing of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) chaplaincy program on 28 October 2025, and formally in a letter from the ACT Corrective Services Commissioner on 4 November 2025, noting that service delivery would cease effective 14 November 2025. It is noted that chaplaincy services are currently being provided voluntarily, including from Christian chaplains, an Imam and Yeddung Mura, while ACT Corrective Services explore options for detainees to access any additional spiritual support services.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 

Date: 02/12/25

By the Minister for Corrections, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA