



Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2022-2023

ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

Asked by Ms Kikkert MLA on Tuesday, 14 November 2023: [NAME OF WITNESS] took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard [uncorrected] proof transcript 14 November 2023 [PAGE #15]

In relation to: Since the commencement of the 'Smoke-free AMC' Policy, have there been any breaches of this Policy by detainees?

MRS KIKKERT: Supplementary. Thank you, Chair.

Has there ever been any breach of the new policy smoke free.

Mr Aloisi: I would have to get the specifics. I suppose what I would just say in response to that, I think what we have tried to do is transition the response. So, we have not wanted to start, I think, too heavy-handed in terms of, you know, for example, the discovery of contraband tobacco or tobacco related products.

I think we really wanted to promote it was a significant change for detainees. We definitely have taken that approach but obviously at some point we do have to move into, sort of, that sort of unfortunately discipline phase. But to the best of my knowledge I am not aware of any specific breaches. I am not sure if we take it on notice.

MRS KIKKERT: Thank you. Has there been any noticeable increase in tobacco being smuggled into the prison?


Mr Aloisi: Again, this is only preliminary but as far as we are aware there is no indication, you know, what we detected of an increase in tobacco products. I mean, obviously prior they were allowed in the prison but there is no indication at this stage that there is an issue of contraband but, again, that is only based on the information we have.

MICK GENTLEMAN: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) records indicate there has been no formal disciplinary action taken for breaches of the *Smoke-Free Policy 2023* by detainees. As ACTCS continues to transition detainees into a smoke-free environment, Correctional Officers have begun issuing Official Warnings to detainees for

breaches of the policy however, no formal disciplines have been issued yet. ACTCS continues to provide various supports for detainees during this period of transition including access to Nicotine Replacement Therapies (NRT).

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

Signature: 

Date: 23/11/2023

By the Minister for Corrections, Mick Gentleman MLA