



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 60

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MARISA PATERSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JO CLAY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by ELIZABETH KIKKERT:

In relation to: Resourcing for OICS

1. With the addition of Bimberi reviews to the OICS, would the addition of more funding, personnel or resources assist OICS in performing their new duties?
 - a. What additional resources would best help the OICS in the performing of their duties?
2. Before the addition of Bimberi to the duties of the OICS, did you feel that your organisation was being adequately funded?
3. Have you identified any areas that are not being adequately investigated due to funding or resource issues?

[NEIL MCALLISTER]: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

1. Yes. I refer the Member to Section C2 of the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services Annual Report 2019-20.
 - a. Funding of an ongoing ASO6 position (1 FTE) as described in Section C2 of the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services Annual Report 2019-20.
2. Yes
3. Because the ASO6 position has been funded from the OICS operational budget on rolling six month contracts, we have been able to meet our statutory obligations to perform whole of Bimberi review (currently underway) and critical incident reviews (including using a contractor for one review). However, there have been additional functions that have had to be put on hold whilst focusing on Bimberi, including ongoing work to validate whether recommendations from the Healthy Prison Review 2019 have been implemented, and doing ad hoc visits to look at certain areas (the outcomes of which would inform the next Healthy Prison Review). In terms of staffing, whilst the temporary ASO6 position has suited the current occupant (departing in August 2021), it does not provide certainty of employment and may result in a high turnover of occupants in whom we will have invested significant training and development time and energy. I continue to seek to have a permanent staff complement of 2.8 FTE total.



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 60

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MARISA PATERSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JO CLAY MLA

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

Signature:

Date:

By Neil McAllister, Inspector of Correctional Services

3 March 2021