



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2022-2023

Mr James Milligan MLA (Chair), Mr Andrew Braddock MLA (Deputy Chair),
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

ELIZABETH KICKERT MLA: To ask the Minister for Corrections

Ref: Budget Statement D 2022-2023, Output 2.1, Corrections Hearing

In relation to: Education Contract for the AMC

1. During the Corrections Hearing, the Commissioner stated that the contract to provide educational services at the AMC expired in June 2021. It was extended for 6 months to give time to find a new contractor. Foresite did not continue with the contract for that withdrew from the contract in October 2021. Why did they withdraw before the 6-month extension had passed?
2. During the same hearing, the Commissioner stated that three construction programs were run on an ad-hoc basis during the time that Foresite was not providing services. Who facilitated the construction programs and how many detainees were enrolled in each one?
 - a. What was the name and type of each construction program – can the Minister please provide further details about each program?
 - b. When did each of the 3 programs commence and end, and what were the participation rates of each program?
 - c. Were any of the programs available to female detainees? If so, which ones and how many females participated in each program?
3. What education and vocational training has been offered at the AMC in the absence of Foresite's services?
 - a. Who are the providers of this education and vocational training?
 - b. How many detainees are still participating in education or vocational training?
4. How are detainees doing tertiary studies being supported at this time?
5. How many organisations have put forward bids for the contract or submitted an expression of interest?
 - a. How many organisations who submitted bids did not provide enough information to be seriously considered?
6. How many detainees have not been enrolled in any vocational or education programs since June 2021?

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

- 1) Foresite formally withdrew their services in early October 2021. Foresite's contract had expired on 30 June 2021 and while a new Deed of Variation to extend them until 31 December 2021 had been prepared, this was not signed by Foresite as they were unable to provide the required services due to staffing availability issues and an inability to deliver services remotely when required due to COVID-19.
- 2) Education provider Quality Training in Construction (QTIC) has been delivering units in Certificate II Construction at the AMC.
 - a. Certificate II Construction.
 - b. The program commencement dates and participation rates are below. However, whilst the Certificate II Construction is a 14 week fulltime course, completion dates may vary depending on the provider's ability to attend the AMC and a participant's ability to attend the course or any catch-up sessions required
 - i. May/August 2021 (seven female participants)
 - ii. January 2022 (40 male participants)
 - iii. July 2022 (20 male participants).
 - c. Yes, please see 2(b)(i) above.
- 3) See questions 2 and 6.
- 4) A Senior Education Officer at the AMC provides support to detainees undertaking distance tertiary studies as required. Detainees also continue to have access to the library, which is stocked with educational and legal resources. The library staff member can also print required materials for detainee studies, when necessary.
- 5) Five (5) organisations submitted a bid for the provision of Educational and Vocational Training Services at the AMC Procurement Tender.
 - a. The tender process for the provision of Educational and Vocational Training Services at the AMC is still an active process and as such, information of this nature cannot be disclosed at this time.
- 6) Detainee participation rates may fluctuate; however, as at 14 September 2022, there are 12 detainees engaged in distance tertiary education. As per answer 2)b. another 67 detainees were/are? enrolled in vocational training.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2022-2023

Signature: 

Date: 15/9/2022

By the Minister for Corrections, Mick Gentleman MLA