



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

MRS KIKKERT MLA: To ask the Minister for Justice Health

Ref: Budget Statement C: 2022-2023, Output 1.2: Mental Health, Justice Health and Alcohol and Drug Services

In relation to: cooperation between Justice Health and Corrections

- 1) In the case that a detainee is eligible for opioid replacement treatment, are they subsequently referred to Corrections for participation in relevant programs such as the 'First Steps Alcohol and Drug Program'?
- 2) Are detainees, as a matter of procedure, referred by Justice Health to Corrections for program participation relevant to their issue? For instance, will a detainee who has been revealed to have poor parenting skills in discussions with their psychologist be referred by Justice Health to Corrections for participation in the 'Being a Man and a Dad' program?
- 3) What aspects of the AMC Smoke Free Project will Justice Health be taking carriage of?
- 4) Does Justice Health take primary responsibility for running any of the programs in the ACT Corrective Services Compendium of Programs?
- 5) Who conducts the physical health and mental health screenings of detainees at the induction phase? Justice Health employees or Corrections employees?
 - a) If it is the Corrections employees, are these employees require to have medical qualifications to run these screenings?
 - b) In the case of FASD screening at the induction phase, is it Justice Health or Corrections that take carriage of the screening?
 - i) Can the minister attach in their response, a copy of any health forms that are filled out as part of the induction phase?

MS DAVIDSON MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

- 1) Referral to ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) programs such as 'First Steps Alcohol and Drug Program' is initiated by the detainees' custodial case officer (ACTCS). Justice Health Services (JHS) offer a referral pathway to Alcohol and other Drug (AOD counselling) which is facilitated by Alcohol and other Drug Service (ADS). ADS provide AOD counselling to sentenced clients only. Sessions are capped at six, however if more sessions are clinically indicated, an increase in sessions can be facilitated.
- 2) If a detainee who is clinically managed by Custodial Mental Health (CMH) is found suitable to benefit from an ACTCS program, the CMH clinician will liaise with the detainee's ACTCS Sentence Management Officer (SMO) regarding a referral to the relevant program.

- 3) A Working Group meeting between Canberra Health Services/JHS and ACTCS has been scheduled for 8 September 2022 to discuss and allocate roles and responsibilities for the implementation of the AMC Smoke Free Project.
- 4) No. ACTCS are primarily responsible for running the ACT Corrective Services Compendium of Programs.
- 5) Every individual entering custody at the AMC receives a Health Admission Assessment by JHS. The admission assessment is undertaken jointly by a Primary Health registered nurse and a CMH mental health clinician, who assess all aspects of both physical and mental health wellbeing.
 - a) N/A.
 - b) Screening for FASD is not part of routine JHS induction, however where indicated or where concerns are raised, this is referred to the appropriate specialty area of Justice Health Services/Canberra Health Services.
 - i) Please see Attachment A 'Admission Assessment Form' and Attachment B 'Primary Health Notification Form'.

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

Signature: *Emma Davidson*

Date: 9 September 2022

By the Minister for Justice Health, Emma Davidson MLA