

Question on Notice
No. 496
Asked on Wednesday 16 April 2008

MS PALASZCZUK asked the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Sport (MS SPENCE)-

QUESTION:

How many Corrective Services officers have graduated over the past year from the Wacol Corrections Academy?

ANSWER:

From 1 July 2007 until present, the Academy at Wacol has trained a total of 279 Custodial Correctional Officers, 86 of these officers were female. Graduation ceremonies were held at the Academy on 31 August 2007, 26 October 2007, 20 December 2007, 1 February 2008 and 18 March 2008.

The Academy also oversaw the conduct of two entry level programs that were delivered in Townsville. In total 44 officers of whom 20 were female, graduated on the 18 January and the 26 March 2008.

The Custodial Entry Level Program is conducted over a 10 week period. The Entry Level Program provides staff with the skills and knowledge to work safely in a custodial correctional environment. To exemplify, officers are trained in areas such as; legislation, communication, assertiveness, observation skills, officer safety, control and restraint, Integrated Offender Management Systems, report writing, firearms and situational response to force.

Currently, three custodial entry level training programs are being conducted at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre, Townsville and the Academy. Potentially 114 officers will graduate from these programs before the 30 June.

It is estimated that by the end of the 2007-08 financial year, in excess of \$6 million will have been invested into custodial entry level training with potentially 439 additional officers trained. This represents a substantial increase on the previous financial year when 166 officers participated in custodial entry level training, with a budget of \$2 257 700. Recruitment and training of officers for the two new correctional centres, Brisbane Correctional Centre and Townsville Women's Correctional Centre has contributed to this increase.