

## Question on Notice

No. 403

Asked on Thursday 24 March 2011

**MR BLEIJIE** asked the Deputy Premier and Attorney-General, Minister for Local Government and Special Minister of State (**MR LUCAS**)—

QUESTION:

With reference to drink driving offences—

- (1) How many defendants appearing in court were sentenced for a drink driving-related offence in 2009-10 and 2010-11 to date (reported by year)?
- (2) How many defendants in (1) were (a) sentenced and fined, (b) sentenced to probation, (c) sentenced to a wholly suspended sentence and (d) sentenced to an actual term of imprisonment (reported by year and sentence type)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kawana for his question.

Drink driving is one of the major killers on our roads and this Government has been toughening drink driving laws to ensure those who put themselves and others at risk face serious consequences.

The Government has committed to giving police the power to immediately suspend drivers with a Blood Alcohol Limit of 0.10, down from the current limit of 0.15.

Further, since August 2010, alcohol ignition interlocks have been a mandatory license condition for high risk drink drivers returning to the roads, including:

- first time offenders with a blood alcohol reading more than 0.150 percent;
- those with a second drink driving offence within five years;
- offenders charged with dangerous driving while adversely affected by alcohol; and
- drivers who fail to provide a specimen of blood or breath.

(1)

| Number of defendants sentenced for a drink driving related offence |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>2009-10</b>                                                     | 31,978 |
| <b>2010-11 (as at 28 February 2011)</b>                            | 18,721 |

(2)

| Breakdown of specific sentences in (1) above |                |                                         |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------|
|                                              | <b>2009-10</b> | <b>2010-11 (as at 28 February 2011)</b> |
| <b>Sentenced and fined</b>                   | 28,747         | 16,893                                  |
| <b>Sentenced to probation</b>                | 1,497          | 833                                     |

|                                                    |     |     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| <b>Sentenced to a wholly suspended sentence</b>    | 332 | 209 |
| <b>Sentenced to an actual term of imprisonment</b> | 715 | 391 |

Notes:

1. If a defendant received more than a single sentence they have been counted in each sentence category.
3. All data is current as at 28 February 2011.