

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 911

asked on Tuesday, 22 August 2023

MR T NICHOLLS ASKED MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS, MINISTER FOR TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE (HON D FARMER)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Minister's comments in the Youth Justice Estimates Hearing that, 'every single serious repeat offender now has an addiction to substance of some kind'—

Will the Minister provide the data the department has on serious repeat offenders' substance use (reported separately by year) for the last three years?

ANSWER:

The Minister's comments were "anecdotally, every serious repeat offender now has an addiction to substance of some kind".

All 28 young people (100%) declared as Serious Repeat Offenders by courts (as at 25 August 2023) were recorded to have used substances on the 2022 Youth Justice census or a previous Youth Justice census.

More broadly, of young people classified as a Serious Repeat Offender, based on the Serious Repeat Offender Index, in the 2022 Youth Justice census, 94% were recorded to have used substances on that or a previous census (2018 to 2022 census).