

**Question on Notice
No. 1144
Asked on 10 December 2024**

MS G GRACE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND VICTIM SUPPORT AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON L GERBER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise the (a) expenditure to date, (b) updated project budget and (c) expected completion date for the Townsville Correctional Precinct Expansion?

ANSWER:

Well-functioning correctional centres are vital to restoring community safety. They can deliver effective interventions to rehabilitate prisoners, reducing reoffending and ensuring community safety.

Since 2015, the adult correctional system has grown at a sustained and intractable rate, which has not been matched by investment in the prison infrastructure necessary to restore community safety, including in the Townsville Correctional Precinct Expansion.

I am advised:

- a) Pre-commencement funding of \$20 million was provided in the 2022-23 budget process in order to develop the design further and improve the cost certainty, however following completion of this work a decision regarding building and funding approval was not subsequently made.

\$10.84 million was spent to 28 October 2024 on schematic design ready for consideration of funding to construct.

No further funding was provided in the 2023-24 or 2024-25 budgets to actually deliver the Townsville Correctional Precinct Expansion.

- b) Given building works for the Townsville Correctional Precinct Expansion has been unfunded for two budgets, significant work is required before an updated project budget can be developed.
- c) For the same reasons, an expected completion date for the Expansion cannot be provided.