

Question on Notice
No. 1159
Asked on 10 December 2024

MR P RUSSO ASKED THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND VICTIM SUPPORT AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON L GERBER)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise on the progress of upgrades, as at 28 October 2024 to the (a) Palen Creek Correctional Centre, (b) Townsville Correctional Centre, (c) Numinbah Correctional Centre and (d) Lotus Glen Correctional Centre?

ANSWER:

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

In 2014, the then Government identified the need for new prison infrastructure and commissioned a business case for this.

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

The prison capacity uplift to Palen Creek, Townsville, Numinbah and Lotus Glen correctional centres will increase low security capacity and provide upgrades to varying support services infrastructure at each site such as kitchen capacity, education and programs buildings, satellite medical, bulk stores, operational housing, and construction of contraband fencing.

As at the end of October 2024, 15 beds had been installed in the Townsville Correctional Centre.

Design for support services expansions is underway at each location with these works to progress over this year and next financial year, together with the remaining 64 beds to Palen Creek Correctional Centre and 32 beds to Numinbah Correctional Centre.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to providing QCS with the support they need to deliver meaningful intervention and rehabilitation to restore community safety.