



OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER
BUREAU DU DIRECTEUR PARLEMENTAIRE DU BUDGET

May 10, 2021

The Honourable Bill Blair
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
Public Safety Canada
269 Laurier Avenue West
Building 19, 16th Floor,
Ottawa ON K1A 0P8

hon.bill.blair@canada.ca

Information Request: IR0596

Dear Minister Blair:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent and non-partisan analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about matters related to the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates, certain other government documents, and the cost of proposals. In carrying out my mandate, I often require information held by government departments and Crown corporations and I am entitled to free and timely access – subject to limited exceptions – to such information under section 79.4 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

I am currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to paragraph 79.2(1)(b) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports on matters of particular significance relating to the nation's finances or economy that are listed in an annual work plan.

For this analysis, I am requesting the following information:

- Any estimates Correctional Services Canada (CSC) has prepared on the incremental cost of structured intervention units (SIUs) as proposed in Bill C-83 including any supporting data and analysis. This should include, but is not limited to:
 - The number of SIUs implemented/to be implemented with comparison to the number of administrative segregated units previously available;
 - Infrastructure costs;
 - The number of additional FTEs required per SIU in men's institutions and women's institution, average salary rate per FTE, including the number of and cost per Independent External Decision Maker;
 - The cost to relocate a new FTE and the cost of training and recruiting a new FTE;

- Additional resource costs per SIU including the cost of Elders/Chaplaincy services, mental health services and health assessments, and any other programs and interventions that differ in cost from those pre-SIU;
 - The frequency and cost associated with the transfer of an inmate from non-SIU site to SIU site.
- Any information or data not provided above on the difference in total cost and cost drivers from maintaining an SIU versus an administrative segregated unit.
 - Updated estimates on the Cost of Maintaining an Offender (COMO), including the cost of maintaining offenders in Indigenous communities under Section 81 agreements.
 - The estimated cost to keep inmates with disabling mental health issues in provincial psychiatric care.
 - Any information or data on the number of and cost of those who are in conditions of segregation/isolation outside SIUs (including but not limited to the cost of inmates subject to restricted movement in non-SIU sites) and how these differ from pre-SIU.

In order to provide the analysis to parliamentarians in a timely manner, I ask the information to be provided to my office no later than **May 28, 2021**. If access to the requested information cannot be granted by that date, a response must be provided by you or your deputy minister as soon as possible.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Jamie Forsyth can be contacted directly at Jamie.Forsyth@parl.gc.ca, 613-295-2908.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by May 28, 2021, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. Should you refuse to provide access to the requested information, you or your deputy minister must provide a written justification for the refusal as required under section 79.41 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

The response letter will be posted on the PBO website and, therefore, it should not be marked "confidential". As well, the requested information should be attached separately. If this information is confidential, please clearly mark it as such, either on the electronic spreadsheet or the hard copy version.

Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons and promoting greater budget transparency and accountability are the PBO's primary objectives. The degree to which this is possible depends, to a large extent, on free and timely access to quality information held by government departments. In doing so, you are assisting us in better serving the Senate, the House of Commons, and their members.

Yours Sincerely,



Yves Giroux

Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Antoine Brunelle-Côté, Privy Council Office, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Rob Stewart, Deputy Minister, Public Safety Canada

Anne Kelly, Commissioner, Correctional Service Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0596