

## Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3

## INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND PRISON-RELATED SERVICES

Ms Amanda Fazio MLC, Chair of NSW Upper House General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3, has announced that public hearings will commence for the inquiry into the privatisation of prisons and prison-related services on Monday 23 February 2009.

Two additional hearings will be held on Friday 20 March and Friday 27 March 2009. All three hearings will be held in the Jubilee Room at Parliament House.

'On the first day the Committee will be hearing from witnesses such as the Department of Corrective Services and the prison officers union,' said Ms Fazio. 'The Committee intends to hear from a wide range of stakeholders throughout the course of the inquiry, including correctional officers, operators of private prisons, academics, justice groups, and hopefully some interstate witnesses who can inform the Committee about the experience of private prisons and prison-related services in other jurisdictions.'

'We are still accepting written submissions to the inquiry, and I would strongly encourage anyone who has an interest in this important matter to write to the Committee.'

Ms Fazio added: 'If submission authors would prefer to remain anonymous, they can request that their submission be made partially or fully confidential'.

The closing date for written submissions is **Friday 27 February 2009**. Submissions can be provided to:

- Email gpscno3@parliament.nsw.gov.au
- Website www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3
- Mail The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

Information about the public hearings and submissions published to date is available at the Committee's website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc3

For comment please contact Ms Amanda Fazio MLC, Committee Chair, on (02) 9230 3592 or 0409121595