

Submission
No 158

INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND PRISON-RELATED SERVICES

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially Confidential

I would like to express my grave concerns regarding the privatisation of Parklea and Cessnock gaols. As my husband and many close friends have been employed by Corrective services and worked at Parklea for many years, whom all take pride working within the department. Since the announcement of the privatisation my husband has constant concerns and worries on a daily basis, what his future will hold within the corrective services, this has impacted greatly on our family, as i can imagine it has to all persons that are involved, he says if he didn't love his job he probably wouldn't care, I would just get another job he would say. It is unclear to all parties that are involved wives, husbands, friends and family members what our futures will hold. It has been stated that no officer will loose his or her job, and will be retained within the system, this need clarifying. It has also been stated that after a period of twelve months officers can be deemed excess staff therefore the possibility of loosing there jobs this also needs clarifying. I believe it has been stated that officers from Parklea would not be transfer out of the metropolitan area, this is still unclear to me this is something that also needs clarifying. What if my Husband is told you can keep your job but you have to move to a country location. How do I leave my job and career and disrupt our children and family to relocate to another town. I understand that the staff that are currently located at Cessnock Correctional Centre are under an enormous amount of stress, were do they go from there. They have limited oportunities as to were they can relocate to, how are they as a community to be expected to sell up and move away from a town were they have chosen to to live and call home, they really dont have much choice, transfer to another gaol or stay and take a pay cut to work for a private provider with no real job security. I feel for the communities both at Parklea and Cessnock, this effects hundreds of people not just the staff currently working at these two centres.

Why has my husband and staff been told to put preferences into were they would like to transfer to, but still haven't been told were or when they will be going, is there a chance these two locations can stay public our families need to know these questions. I strongly oppose the intended privatisation of these two gaols and any other public sector. My husband and all staff members need some answers they need the truth, they need to know what the future holds for them, there families and friends.