

Submission
No 273

INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND PRISON-RELATED SERVICES

Organisation: State Parole Authority
Name: Mr Paul Byrnes
Position: Director and Secretary
Date received: 25/02/2009

NSW**STATE PAROLE AUTHORITY**

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Ref: PB

25/02/2009

The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC
Committee Chair
General Purpose Standing
Committee No 3
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Fazio

Re: Inquiry into the privatisation of prisons and prison related services

I refer to your letter dated 20 January 2009 in which you extend an invitation for the NSW State Parole Authority to make a submission to the inquiry.

As you are aware the Parole Authority relies on all correctional centres and in particular the Probation and Parole Service to prepare reports to assist the Authority in its deliberations regarding offenders eligible for release on parole. In this regard the Authority is pleased with the co-operation and assistance it receives from the Department of Corrective Services.

The Authority's experience in obtaining reports from the privately operated correctional centre at Junee is equally satisfactory.

The Authority's main concern is that all medium and high risk offenders eligible for parole have been given the opportunity to undertake programs to address their offending behaviour at a time prior to the expiry of their non parole period. A general comment could be made that access to specialist therapeutic programs (i.e. CUBIT for sex offenders, Ngara Nura for alcohol and drug issues and the Violent Offenders Treatment Program) is not always available to higher risk offenders and that a system of priority access does often mean that some serious offenders do not complete these programs until after their non parole period has expired.

In making this comment the Authority is conscious of the costs involved in developing and maintaining quality specialist therapeutic programs and the constraints imposed on all government Departments in meeting their budget and corporate obligations.

I trust that the above brief comments may be of assistance.

Yours faithfully


P Byrnes
Director and Secretary

COVER	FAX
SHEET	

NEW SOUTH WALES STATE PAROLE AUTHORITY

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TO: The Hon Amanda Fazio

FAX NO: 9230 3416 / 9230 2981

SUBJECT: Inquiry into the privatisation of prisons

DATE: 25/02/2009

FROM: Paul Byrnes

PAGES: 2 (including this cover sheet)

COMMENTS:

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