

**Submission
No 46**

**INQUIRY INTO THE CLOSURE OR DOWNSIZING OF
CORRECTIVE SERVICES NSW FACILITIES**

Name: Ms Kay Hughes

Date received: 14/11/2012

I would like to tell the government about the ramifications of the closing of Grafton Jail. This along with other closures in country NSW of late is having a detrimental effect on the communities regardless of their size. The jobs lost and the following consequences of people leaving towns to pursue work has a follow on effect of families leaving these communities.

This flow on effect has major impacts on any country town:

*Less children flow on effect, pre-schools and schools flow on less teachers, they leave town

*Less families shopping flow on effect, less shop assistants

*Less rates paid flow on effect, less staff required on councils so services to communities drops

*Less patients for hospitals flow on effect, less nursing staff required and less births

*Less patients flow on effect, less doctors required to service the hospital and GPs surplus to communities

*Less housing required flow on effect, more houses on the market less real estate agents needed

*Less teenagers flow on effect, teenagers leave towns to go to the city for work opportunities

*Less kids playing sport flow on effect, boredom, crime and sporting fields left idle on crown land that could be sold

*Overall less of everything comes to haunt the town and often towns suffer greatly.

The only jobs available in Grafton are the CSG that is in the pipeline, and that is to the detriment of the water supply, so country towns could be decimated

anyway as the water could end up undrinkable and then where do we get water from.

The local National Party could end up decimated by the the voters, every town could and would turn against their local member. The decisions that Barry O'Farrell

is having on small and large communities in NSW could end up doing great harm that could take another 100 years to build up. One of the bigger problems

that Grafton families face is the break up of family and close friends that forge communities.

Having no jail in the town means those incarcerated need to be visited and for relatives and friends need to travel on the roads to visit their loved ones.

All of these things and more are the reason that we sit and write these submissions to continue our fight for our communities.

Kay Hughes