

Supplementary
Submission
No 31a

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially Confidential

Mr WOODHAM has stated that staff play games on Departmental computers, this may be so. But will Mr WOODHAM acknowledge that quite a number of his executive staff also play these games, and have been caught doing so by ordinary Prison Officers. Would Mr Woodham be comfortable having Government auditors (Not Corrective Services) come in and check executive staff computers. Secondly why does the Department throw millions of dollars a year away, to keep an academy operating at Eastwood in Sydney. When in fact most staff think its a joke, where you learn nothing of substance, and the place is seen as a big white elephant. Most courses at the academy can be done through TAFE or onsite training at their workplaces. Why hasnt the training been moved to Windsor Jail where prospective students have access to the the Sate Training Unit who are onsite. There are established Correctional Centres at the site for students to gain practical experience,,,and a myriad of rooms than can be used as lecture theatres. Why isn't TAFE utilised for staff to provide courses via distance learning etc?. Inmates do courses through TAFE AND University via correspondence and they cope with it quite well. And most of those inmates are from lower socio economic backgrounds. Why did Silverwater jail close only to re-open under another name with dozens of staff members displaced in the process. Why now does COS or Community Offender Services (Not Correctional Officers)now run half of old Silverwater jail with three to five times the staff plus, as opposed to the the other half of the jail which is managed by Correcional Officers that get paid less on an hourly basis. (This is NOT cost effective) Why did the Department pull down a clinic at Silverwater Womens Correctional Centre and replace it with a high cost U -beaut clinic, that holds no more inmates than the last one did. In essence it does exactly the same as what the last one did...only this one is shinier and cost many more millions of dollars to build. Not only that but it is no safer for staff both custodial and non custodial alike. Is Mr Woodham confident that Private Contractors can provide the same level of security, education and conditions for both inmates and staff, if so then how is it cheaper to have private contractors doing what Government employees are trained to do? Why does the Department persist with purchasing senior executive staff with ridiculous looking Mess Dress Uniforms that cost several hundred dollars and are worn once in a blue moon at exclusive dinner party's etc? Why is it after ALL these years in The Department Mr WOODHAM now sees fit to reform the department, has not Mr Woodham benefited from the extensive overtime over the years he has been in the job? Why only now has he grown a conscience about the fiscal responsibility the Department has to the NSW taxpayer, is it because a pre-retirement bonus is in the offing?